

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
TORRANCE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Torrance Parks and Recreation Commission convened in a regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 14, 2015 in the West Annex Meeting Room, Torrance City Hall. Due to the absence of Chairperson Baxter, Vice-Chairperson Greenberg led the meeting.

**2. ROLL CALL/MOTIONS FOR EXCUSED ABSENCE**

Present: Commissioners Hays, Love, Reilly,  
Uchima, and Vice-Chairperson Greenberg.

Absent: Commissioner Mayeda and Chairperson Baxter.

Also Present: Community Services Director Jones, Park Services  
Manager Carson, Senior Business Manager Minter,  
and Recreation Services Manager Brunette.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Hays moved to grant Commissioner Mayeda and Chairperson Baxter excused absences for the January 14, 2015 Commission meeting. Commissioner Uchima seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

**3. FLAG SALUTE**

Commissioner Love led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Reilly moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda. Commissioner Hays seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Mayeda and Chairperson Baxter).

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**5A. MINUTES OF DECEMBER 10, 2014**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Love moved to approve the Commission meeting minutes of December 10, 2014 as submitted. Commissioner Uchima seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Mayeda and Chairperson Baxter).

**6. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1**

**6A.** The Commission welcomed Torrance Youth Council members Michael Johanis and Hantao Wang from California Academy of Math and Science (CAMS) and Ryota Nishishiba from West High School.

**7. OLD BUSINESS**

**7A. UPDATE ON GREENWOOD PARK PLAY EQUIPMENT**

Community Services Director Jones reported that the new play equipment at Greenwood Park opened to the public on December 29. He distributed a photograph demonstrating how successful the new play equipment is to the local neighborhood.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

**8A. REVIEW AND APPROVE DRAFT AGENDA FOR THE JOINT MEETING WITH CITY COUNCIL**

Community Services Director Jones reported that the joint meeting with City Council is scheduled for Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. He presented a draft agenda for the Commission's input and briefly reviewed the five proposed topics. He suggested that each topic be assigned to a Commissioner, and that the presentation last 3 to 5 minutes. He offered to provide Commissioners with talking points in advance of the meeting.

Commissioner Hays volunteered to present the topic regarding grant funding for the Non-Profit Social Services Program.

Community Services Director Jones informed Commissioners that at their January 13, 2015 meeting, City Council requested that the Commission develop criteria to distinguish how much of the organization's value goes towards administrative costs versus operating expenses. He suggested that the Grants Committee meet to discuss the request before the joint meeting.

Commissioner Love suggested reorganizing the order of presentations, and Commissioner Reilly recommended presenting four topics instead of five due to time constraints. Commissioners agreed on the change in order, to shorten the first topic, and to combine the third and fourth topics.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Love moved to approve the agenda for the February 10, 2015 joint meeting with City Council with revisions as discussed. Commissioner Hays seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Mayeda and Chairperson Baxter).

**8B. REVIEW PROPOSAL FOR SPORTS LIGHTING AT LAGO SECO PARK**

Senior Business Manager Minter reported that City Council approved the four baseball organizations' new 5-year lease agreements on December 23. He presented a proposal from Riviera Little League to add sports lighting at the Lago Seco Park baseball fields. He described the notification process and asked that the Commission review the proposal and ask for community input.

Marc Danziger, Ladeene Avenue, President of Southwood Riviera Homeowners Association (HOA), stated that the HOA enthusiastically supports the proposal subject to three conditions: 1) lights out at 9:00 p.m., 2) lights directed as much as feasible away from residences, and 3) manage the public announcements from the snack bar after 7:00 p.m.

Jin Lee, Adolph Avenue (no speaker card), asked that the energy consumption rate be considered and raised the possibility of installing LED lights.

Community Services Director Jones stated that staff would only recommend accepting this proposal if the League agreed to pay for installation and electricity consumption.

John Merryman, Via Buena Ventura, Riviera Little League, provided background and discussed the challenge of scheduling games at South High School where there is lighting. He stated that the adding lighting would allow two more games per week and noted that a consultant from Musco Lighting was present to answer questions.

Brent Hannon, Macafee Road, President of Riviera Little League, thanked the Commission for considering the proposal. He noted that they canvassed 30 neighbors and received 29 signatures of support.

Cooper Hannon, Macafee Road, stated that there is no snack bar or bathrooms at the South High School fields and that he would like all games and practices to be at Lago Seco Park.

Commissioner Hays questioned the concern raised about public announcements and Mike, Los Codona Avenue (no speaker card), Riviera Little League board member, stated that he is working to lower the volume.

Senior Business Manager Minter stated that several steps need to be taken before approval, including an amendment to the lease agreement.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Uchima moved to recommend that staff move forward with the proposal for sports lighting at Lago Seco Park. Commissioner Hays seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Mayeda and Chairperson Baxter).

**9. STANDING COMMITTEE UPDATES**

**9A. FACILITIES COMMITTEE** - No report.

**9B. GRANTS COMMITTEE**

Staff reported that City Council approved the Commission's recommendation for grant funding at their January 13, 2015 meeting.

**9C. OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE** - No report.

**9D. PROGRAMS COMMITTEE** - No report.

**10. MONTHLY DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY**

**10A. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION**

Senior Business Manager Minter noted that the Administrative Services Division Report for December 2014 was included in agenda packets. He reported that construction officially began at McMaster Park on January 5 and he described the project. He stated that staff plans to schedule two more community meetings regarding playground equipment at Hickory Park and that sidewalk replacement at Torrance Park is scheduled for January 20.

**10B. PARK SERVICES DIVISION**

Park Services Manager Carson noted that the Park Services Division Report for December 2014 was included in attachments. He reported that replacement of the Sea Aire Golf Course safety netting and Phase 2 of the Sport Court Resurfacing project has been completed.

In response to Vice-Chairperson Greenberg's inquiry, he noted that rain has been beneficial to Madrona Marsh and that it is attracting ducks and new species of birds.

**10C. RECREATION SERVICES DIVISION**

Recreation Services Manager Brunette noted that the Recreation Services Division Report for December 2014 was included in agenda packets. He reported that the Plunge has been filled and will open on January 20. He highlighted the Youth Basketball program that has 2,020 participants enrolled, After School Club program with 397 youth enrolled, and annual Christmas luncheon that 80 seniors attended.

**11. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2**

**11A.** Staff and Commissioners wished each other a happy new year.

**11B.** Community Services Director Jones thanked Commissioners for attending the Pueblo Park dedication.

**11C.** Ryota Nishishiba, West High School, thanked the Commission and staff for supporting the baseball program that he has grown up with.

**11D.** Community Services Director Jones announced that Torrance Unified School District plans to build an aquatics center and is considering one of the adult schools as a location.

**11E.** Commissioner Reilly discussed the blue zone concept and initiated a brief discussion on ways to attract seniors to the City's parks and how the City can promote the concept.

Community Services Director Jones stated that staff is considering developing an adult fitness area at Columbia Park near the bocce ball courts that would be available to the community.

11F. Vice-Chairperson Greenberg stated that she enjoyed attending the Rose Float Officials' Night.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** At 8:17 p.m., Commissioner Love moved to adjourn the meeting to February 10, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. in the West Annex Meeting Room for a joint meeting with City Council. Commissioner Uchima seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Vice-Chairperson Greenberg so ordered.

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Approved as submitted March 11, 2015 s/ Rebecca Poirier, City Clerk
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