

**CITY OF SAN FERNANDO  
PARKS, WELLNESS & RECREATION COMMISSION  
APPROVED MEETING MINUTES**

**March 9, 2021  
ZOOM MEETING STREAMED ON YOUTUBE**

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE PARKS, WELLNESS & RECREATION COMMISSION. VIDEO AND AUDIO OF THE ACTUAL MEETING ARE AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING AT: <https://www.youtube.com/c/CityOfSanFernando>.

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Chair Sandie Richards called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. and conducted the roll call.

The following persons were recorded as present:

PRESENT: Chair Sandie Richards  
Commissioner Jason Hayes  
Commissioner Nina Herrera

ABSENT: Commissioner Joe Ponce  
Commissioner Saydith Navarro

ALSO PRESENT: Director of Recreation and Community  
Services Department, Julian Venegas  
Admin. Assistant, Linda Bowden-Moreno

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner J. Ponce led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Commissioner J. Hayes motioned to approve the agenda for the March 9, 2021 Parks, Wellness & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting. Commissioner N. Herrera seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: S. Richards, J. Hayes, N. Herrera

## **PARKS, WELLNESS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

Regular Meeting Minutes –March 9, 2021

Page 2 of 6

NOES:

ABSENT: S. Navarro, J. Ponce

ABSTAIN:

### **PUBLIC STATEMENTS – WRITTEN/ORAL**

Written Public Statement emailed by Dorothy White was read to the Commission. Ms. White requested that the Commission review an article regarding the groundwater capture and reclamation program at Willowbrook Park redesign.

Public Statement by Mr. Veto Ruiz, member of the Cesar Chavez Commemorative Committee, regarding the presentation of a plaque for the Cesar Chavez Memorial in San Fernando. This item will be addressed at the upcoming City Council Meeting.

### **CULTURAL ARTS LIASON REPORT**

Raul Herrera commented that he is available to support and collaborate with the Cesar Chavez Commemorative Committee in any way possible. Mr. Herrera will reach out the Committee to offer his support.

Mr. Herrera provided an update on various projects currently in the works. Practices for the Mesoamerican ballgame have slowly resumed. There has been a significant loss of membership due to the lockdown restrictions. The San Fernando Mesoamerican ball team has been invited to join other U.S. cities and cities in Mexico in an effort to build sister-city relationships. The team is preparing for a presentation in Las Vegas and preparing for the first national tournament in the U.S. projected to occur in 2022. The team is looking to host the first international Mesoamerican ballgame tournament in San Fernando.

Commissioner Hayes commented that building the sister-city relationship is a great idea and he will reach out the Cultural Arts Liaison should any relevant cultural arts projects come up.

Mr. Venegas added that formalizing partnerships would be added to the agenda for review and Commission recommendation.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner N. Herrera motioned to approve the minutes for the January 12, 2021, Parks, Wellness & Recreation Commission arch. Commissioner J. Ponce seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: S. Richards, N. Herrera, J. Hayes,

NOES:

ABSENT: S. Navarro, J. Ponce

ABSTAIN:

Minutes from the February 9, 2021 Commission meeting will be tabled due to lack of quorum.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **1. VETERANS BANNER PROGRAM**

J. Salas presented an agenda report to the Commission on the City's Veterans Banner Program honoring veterans who have served in the armed forces. The second round of this program is currently accepting applications for banners at a cost of \$135.00. Banners will be displayed along Maclay Ave. from May through November. Staff presented the PWRC with three design options for this year's program. Staff requested the Commission's recommendation on the selection of new design for this year's banner program. Upon discussion, the Commission unanimously recommended option "A".

Commissioner J. Hayes motioned to recommend design option "A" for this year's Veterans Banner Program. Commissioner N. Herrera seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: S. Richards, N. Herrera, J. Hayes,

NOES:

ABSENT: S. Navarro, J. Ponce

ABSTAIN:

#### **2. APPROVAL OF ART MURALS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY**

J. Venegas presented an agenda report to the Commission with the recommendation to form an Ad Hoc Committee composed of two Commissioners and the Cultural Arts Liaisons to review art mural permit applications. The art mural must meet certain criteria as per Ordinance 1700. The application will require a rendering of the art mural. This process will require the Ad Hoc Committee to make a recommendation to the PWRC who will be tasked with the approval or denial of the application.

Commissioner J. Hayes expressed some reservations on moving forward with this item without the input of the full Commission. At the same time, this item has been previously tabled and if an application is pending, it is important to proceed with the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee.

Commissioners J. Ponce, J. Hayes and S. Richards expressed interest in serving on the Ad Hoc Commitment. Upon discussion, the Commission agreed to select Commissioners J. Ponce and J. Hayes to serve on the Ad Hoc Committee. Commissioner S. Richards will be available as an alternate in the event one of the other two commissioners are not available to serve.

Commissioner N. Herrera motioned to support the selection of Commissioner J. Hayes and Commissioner J. Ponce to be part of the Ad Hoc Committee to review Art Mural applications. Commissioner J. Hayes seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: S. Richards, J. Hayes, N. Herrera

NOES:

ABSENT: J. Ponce, S. Navarro,

ABSTAIN:

Commissioner J. Hayes motioned to nominate Cultural Arts Liaison, Raul Herrera, to serve on the Ad Hoc Committee to review Art Mural applications. Commissioner N. Herrera seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: S. Richards, J. Hayes, N. Herrera

NOES:

ABSENT: J. Ponce, S. Navarro,

ABSTAIN:

### **CONTINUED BUSINESS**

1. **STATEWIDE PARK DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION SPP GRANT –**

J. Venegas reported that the community engagement workshops have concluded. Five virtual meetings were held between November 2020 and February 2021. Staff collected feedback from the community on how to better serve the community's needs. This data was used as part of the grant application process, which included applications for Recreation Park, Las Palmas Park and Pioneer Park. The State will notify staff of the outcome sometime in the fall.

2. **VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING –**J. Venegas provided an update on virtual programming the Department continues to offer to keep our community members engaged. J. Venegas and staff provided descriptions of the activities and the number of participants. Registration and additional program information is available online or by calling Las Palmas Park at (818) 898-7340.

3. **DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19–**J. Venegas reported that Round 4 of the Residential Food Program held on February 20<sup>th</sup>served 87 families residing in the City of San Fernando. This program provides non-perishable food items and PPE to San Fernando households. Registration is required. The next distribution is scheduled for Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup>.

Staff has partnered with Providence to assist seniors 65 and older register for COVID-19 vaccinations. The vaccines are held at Vaugh school. The City is also collaborating with CVS to provide vaccines for the community. LAFD continues to provide testing and vaccines at Recreation Park. Individuals must register online. Information can be found on the City website at [www.sfcity.org](http://www.sfcity.org).

4. **REOPENING EFFORTS–** J. Venegas reported that the City is looking into moving forward with activities that follow guidelines and protocols of the Los Angeles Department of Public Health. Certain outdoor activities are set to resume. Staff is working to implement safe outdoor

activities for the public such as pickleball, tennis, and outdoor fitness classes.

Juan Salas Provided an update on the TBC group. The teens are planning an outdoor project with about 12 teen participants. The group will be working on a hand painted terra cotta pots containing succulent plants. Teens will be gifting these plants and pots to seniors.

R. Herrera, Cultural Arts Liaison, asked if the Veterans Banner Program information can be shared on social media. J. Salas will forward the flyer and the updated application to R. Herrera. Details are also available on the City website.

5. **LAYNE PARK REVITALIZATION PROJECT**—J. Venegas reported that Valley Care Community Consortium (VCCC) will be leading the community outreach efforts for this project. MIG and VCCC will be meeting with staff tomorrow to develop a strategy for this project.
6. **YOUTH REINVESTMENT GRANT PROGRAM (TUTCINT YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM) –**  
Per J. Venegas, this program is on its third session. The group has 27 youths enrolled in the program who are benefiting from various programs and activities. Anyone interested in this program can obtain more details on the City website.
7. **COMMUNITY THEATRE PROGRAM** – This program is currently on hold. Staff will work on scheduling a meeting to move forward with the program. Commissioner J. Hayes reported that he has received communication from interested individuals who were assured a meeting would be coming in the near future.

#### **GENERAL COMMISSION COMMENTS**

Commissioner J. Hayes had questions regarding the procedure of the newly formed Ad Hoc Committee. J. Venegas informed the PWRC that applications would be presented to the Commission at the regular Commission meetings. The Ad Hoc will then schedule a meeting to review the application and make a final recommendation to the PWRC.

Commissioner J. Hayes inquired about new Commission appointments. Per J. Venegas, current Commissioners continue to serve until new appointments are announced. At this time, there have not been any new appointments to this Commission.

Commissioner S. Richards thanked Commissioner J. Hayes for his very powerful statement at the previous Commission meeting in reference to his virtual ground. Commissioner S. Richards commented that she personally did not feel any exclusion by the use of the virtual background and urged the community to view one another as brothers and sisters.

#### **STAFF COMMUNICATION**

Staff informed that Commissioner about the upcoming Family Wellness Challenge. This free five-week program is designed to get the family focused on fitness and wellness. Details are available

**PARKS, WELLNESS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

Regular Meeting Minutes –March 9, 2021

Page 6 of 6

on the City website.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner N. Herrera motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. Commissioner J. Hayes seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: S. Richards, J. Hayes, N. Herrera

NOES:

ABSENT: J. Ponce, S. Navarro

ABSTAIN: