

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

**May 11, 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 Jason Hayes called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

The following persons were recorded as present:

PRESENT: Chair Jason Hayes
Commissioner Nina Herrera
Commissioner Joe Ponce

ABSENT: Vice-Chair Sandie Richards
Commissioner Saydith Navarro

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair J. Hayes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner N. Herrera motioned to approve the agenda for the May 11, 2021 regular meeting of the Parks, Wellness & Recreation Commission. Commissioner J. Ponce seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: J. Hayes, N. Herrera, J. Ponce
NOES:
ABSENT: S. Richards, S. Navarro
ABSTAIN:

PUBLIC STATEMENTS – WRITTEN/ORAL

None

CULTURAL ARTS LIASON REPORT

Raul Herrera, Cultural Arts Liaison, asked for clarification on the appropriate time to discuss the topic of the Mural Application. J. Venegas clarified that updates or items related to cultural arts may be presented at this time. Comments regarding the Mural Application may be addressed later in the meeting during the Mural Application presentation.

R. Herrera provided an update on the Mesoamerican Ballgame and the goal to commemorate the anniversary of the group as an association and look into collaborating with native pre-Columbian artists to allow the ballgame to be conducted with live music using native instruments. This will require the Association to secure a location in the City of San Fernando to host the event.

J. Venegas suggested the following three items of discussion be included in the next agenda:

- Identifying a temporary location to hold Mesoamerican Ballgames
- Hosting an international tournament
- Construction of a permanent ball court

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner J. Ponce motioned to approve the minutes for the April 13, 2021, Parks, Wellness & Recreation Commission meeting. Commissioner N. Herrera seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: J. Hayes, N. Herrera, J. Ponce
NOES:
ABSENT: S. Richards, S. Navarro
ABSTAIN:

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

1. **CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE ART MURAL PERMIT PR 2021-070**

G. Marquez, Associate Planner, presented the first Art Mural Permit Application received by the City and provided some background on the ordinance allowing murals on private property and the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee to review Art Mural Permit Applications. The project specifications were provided in the presentation and details on procedures related to Art Murals was provided. There was a ten-day public notice posted for anyone to voice concerns related to this mural. In addition, this public meeting allows for public comment, however, no public comment was received.

Members of the Mural Ad Hoc Committee and Commission discussed concerns regarding cultural relevance, maintenance of the mural, the application and appeal process and possibly consulting with the artist to discuss revisions. Upon consensus, the following motion was made:

Commissioner N. Herrera motioned to table this item to allow the Mural Ad Hoc Committee to meet with the artist to discuss possible revisions to the mural application. Commissioner J. Ponce seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: J. Hayes, N. Herrera, J. Ponce
NOES:
ABSENT: S. Navarro, S. Richards
ABSTAIN:

DEPARTMENT PROGRAM UPDATES

2. **VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING** –J. Venegas provided an update on the Department’s virtual programming such as Lunchtime Trivia, Living Trust and Will Workshop, Crafts for Senior, Bingo, Loteria , Name that Movie and Zumba classes. J. Venegas reported that May is Older Americans Month and this year’s honoree will be recognized virtually on May 27th.

MMAP will air a virtual concert this Thursday in honor of Mother’s Day. All program information is available online or by calling Las Palmas Park at (818) 898-7340.

3. **DEPARTMENT’S REPONSE TO COVID-19**–J. Venegas reported that Round 7 of the Residential Food Program is the final distribution and is scheduled on Saturday, May 22nd . We expect to serve 137 families. To date, 627 households have participated in this program receiving non-perishable food items and PPE. The City continues to collaborate with LA Food Bank to distribute food kits on the first Monday of each month for seniors age 60 and over.

Staff continues to partner with Providence, L.A. County and L.A. City to offer COVID-19 vaccinations and testing at Recreation Park, Las Palmas Park and other locations. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine pop clinic will be held at Las Palmas Park on May 14th. Individuals must register in advance. Information is available on the City website at www.sfcity.org.

Vice-Chair S. Richards and Chair J. Hayes thanked RCS staff for stepping up and making these services available to the public.

Chair J. Hayes asked for clarification regarding vaccine eligibility at Recreation Park. J. Venegas reported that individuals over the age of 16 are eligible. The County is holding 100 vaccine shot reservations available to City residents regularly.

4. **REOPENING EFFORTS**– J. Venegas reported that the Department is in the process of hiring 9 Recreation Leaders in preparation for the reopening of programming and activities. Upcoming activities will include pickleball and tennis. Current outdoor fitness classes will eventually transition to indoor once restrictions are lifted.

The Family Wellness Challenge ended on May 1st. Approximately 63 families participated in this five-week program. Clinics will be offered this summer for youth sports such as baseball, basketball and soccer. The goal is to offer sports leagues in the future. Other activities that are coming up include classes by the Roller Derby Club of SFV and dance classes offered by the former owner of Danzone dance studio.

The Veterans Banner Program will begin to display banners along Maclay Street beginning Memorial Day weekend through Veterans Day.

Commissioner J. Ponce inquired if there are any organizations interested in offering little league teams. Per J. Venegas, the San Fernando Little League is currently utilizing our various parks for their league. The City is interested in offering a City sponsored league in the near future.

5. **LAYNE PARK REVITALIZATION PROJECT**–J. Venegas reported that a virtual Community Meeting was held on April 12th. Two more Community Meetings will be held in-person in May and June to invite community input on the Layne Park Project. Outreach efforts are in the form of flyers, door hangers and an ad in the local newspaper. MIG is the design consultant and VCCC is handling outreach for this project.
6. **YOUTH REINVESTMENT GRANT PROGRAM (TUTCINT YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM)** – Per J. Venegas, this program is currently in their fourth cohort offering youth services on various themes and topics. The group recently visited Malibu Lagoon Museum for an educational seminar on nature and stewardship. There are approximately 30 youths currently 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**–Chair J. Hayes discussed setting up a meeting sometime after June 17th and inviting all interested parties to attend.

GENERAL COMMISSION COMMENTS

PARKS, WELLNESS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

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Chairperson J. Hayes thanked the Commission for the open, honest and respectful conversation surrounding the Art Mural Permit application.

Commissioner J. Hayes inquired about holding future Commission meetings in person.

Commissioner N. Herrera asked to table the item on the mural permit, as Commissioner J. Hayes and Liaison R. Herrera will not be available for the June meeting.

Commissioner J. Ponce motioned to table the item on the Art Mural Permit to the July meeting, providing the Commission has the opportunity to meet with the Artist. Commissioner N. Herrera seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: J. Hayes, N. Herrera, J. Ponce
NOES:
ABSENT: S. Navarro, S. Richards
ABSTAIN:

STAFF COMMUNICATION

Staff informed the Commission about an upcoming virtual workshop in June on the topic of preventing financial and psychological abuse of seniors. Interested parties can call Las Palmas Park for more information.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner N. Herrera motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m. Commissioner J. Ponce seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: J. Hayes, N. Herrera, J. Ponce
NOES:
ABSENT: S. Navarro, S. Richards
ABSTAIN: