

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

**June 8, 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 6:31 p.m.

The following persons were recorded as present:

PRESENT: Chair Jason Hayes  
Vice-Chair Sandie Richards  
Commissioner Nina Herrera  
Commissioner Joe Ponce

ABSENT: Commissioner Saydith Navarro

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Vice-Chair Sandie Richards led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Commissioner N. Herrera motioned to approve the agenda for the June 8, 2021 regular meeting of the Parks, Wellness & Recreation Commission. Commissioner J. Ponce seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

**PUBLIC STATEMENTS – WRITTEN/ORAL**

None

**CULTURAL ARTS LIASON REPORT**

Cultural Arts Liaison, Javier Verdin, thanked the Commission for all their hard work and wished Vice-Chair Richards the best. Mr. Verdin was previously a Cultural Arts Commissioner for the City of San Fernando for 13 years.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner J. Ponce motioned to approve the minutes for the May 11, 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. Navarro  
ABSTAIN: S. Richards

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

**DEPARTMENT PROGRAM UPDATES**

1. **VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING** –J. Venegas provided an update on the Department’s virtual programming such as Lunchtime Trivia, Crafts for Senior, Bingo, Loteria, and Zumba classes. J. Venegas reported that May was Older Americans Month and this year’s honoree was Gilbert Gomez. Mr. Gomez has volunteered with various programs over the years such as the Food Distribution and the Elderly Nutrition Program to name a few. The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors held a virtual recognition for this year’s honorees on May 27<sup>th</sup>.

The MMAP is currently holding virtual practice and rehearsals. Approximately 70 participants are currently registered.

Commissioner Jason Hayes had questions regarding virtual programming for children. Staff

provided information regarding various activities offered on the City website. Registration is available online.

- 2. DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19**—J. Venegas reported that Round 7 of the Residential Food Program was the final distribution and was held on Saturday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. The program served 627 households who were provided with 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. Approximately 150 seniors are served monthly.

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. Several pop up vaccine clinics have been held at Las Palmas Park. Recreation Park is holding a pop up clinic targeting youth. Information is available on the City website at [www.sfcity.org](http://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.

- 3. REOPENING EFFORTS**— J. Venegas reported that the Department is waiting for updates on changes to the current guidelines provided by the DPH. Protocols will be followed in offering the Department's activities. Pickleball will be introduced and tennis courts are currently open at Pioneer Park. Current outdoor fitness classes will eventually transition to indoor once restrictions are lifted.

Several clinics for basketball, baseball and soccer will be offered this summer for children. Information and details will be available on the City's website.

Adult soccer has returned to Recreation Park. Veteran Recognition Banners are now displayed on Maclay Ave. through November. Summer Day Camp will run June 21 through July 30 at Las Palmas Park.

- 4. LAYNE PARK REVITALIZATION PROJECT**—J. Venegas reported that a Community Meeting was held on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Community input has been gathered on the Layne Park Project. MIG will propose a design to Council based on the feedback from the community. Once approved by Council, a request for bid will go out to select a contractor for this project.

Commissioner Sandie Richards requested that the Layne Family be invited to participate in the ground-breaking ceremony for the project. Staff will be sure to invite the Layne Family.

- 5. 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. This program connects families with many resources and services. Anyone interested in this program can obtain more details on the City website.

6. **COMMUNITY THEATRE PROGRAM**—Chair J. Hayes discussed setting up a meeting toward the end of June to invite all interested parties to attend. Tentatively a meeting will be scheduled for June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Emails will go out to invite interested individuals.

### **GENERAL COMMISSION COMMENTS**

Commissioner N. Herrera inquired about scheduled park clean-ups coming up for Rudy Ortega Park. J. Venegas reported that the City has a partnership with the Tataviam Tribe to assist with clean-ups at this park. Staff will reach out to Rudy Ortega Jr. to reinstate clean-up services. Staff will also reach out to PD to ensure the park is locked up in timely manner each evening.

Commissioner J. Hayes wished a Happy Pride Month to all LGBTQ+ friends and family out there. Also, a big thank you to Vice-Chair Richards for her service on this Commission, in the Church and to this Community. Commissioner Hayes requested that Vice-Chair Richards adjourn this meeting, as it is her last meeting as a Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commissioner.

Commissioner S. Richards thanked everyone and expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve on this Commission and the Community. She also thanked the City Council for appointing her on this Commission.

Commissioner J. Ponce and Commissioner N. Herrera thanked Commissioner Richards as well and wished her well.

### **STAFF COMMUNICATION**

Staff informed the Commission that Las Palmas Park held a pop up vaccine clinic today where 14 people received the Pfizer vaccine.

Staff thanked Vice-Chair Richards for all her work on this Commission and her support to the Department and wished her well on her new venture.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Vice-Chair Richards called the meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.