



CITY OF SAN FERNANDO
PARKS, WELLNESS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MAY 9, 2024
ZOOM MEETING STREAMED ON YOUTUBE

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

OATH OF OFFICE

Staff administered the Oath of Office to incoming Commissioner Julie Cuellar prior to the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Patty Lopez called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. Administrative Assistant, Linda Bowden-Moreno, called the roll call.

The following persons were recorded as present:

PRESENT:

Commissioners Patty Lopez, Natasha Sanchez-Brooks and Julie Cuellar.

ABSENT:

Commissioners Robert Gonzales and Erica Friend

ALSO PRESENT:

Recreation and Community Services Director Julio Salcedo, Administrative Assistant Linda Bowden-Moreno, and Office Clerk Soledad Chavez.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Chair Patty Lopez invited the Girl Scout Troop to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Sanchez-Brooks motioned to approve the agenda for the May 9, 2024 Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting. Vice Chair Patty Lopez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with the following roll call vote:

AYES: P. Lopez, N. Sanchez-Brooks, J. Cuellar

NOES:

ABSENT: R. Gonzales, E. Friend

ABSTAIN:

PRESENTATIONS

Welcome and introduction of incoming Commissioner Julie Cuellar.

PUBLIC STATEMENTS – WRITTEN/ORAL

Ricardo Benitez, member of the public, spoke regarding his support and love of this community. He welcomed incoming Commissioner Julie Cuellar and also commented on the nice event held at Rudy Ortega Park on May 5th.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Sanchez-Brooks motioned to approve the Consent Calendar approving the Minutes of the April 11, 2024 Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission Meeting. Commissioner Julie Cuellar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with the following roll call vote:

AYES: P. Lopez, N. Sanchez-Brooks, Julie Cuellar

NOES:

ABSENT: R. Gonzales, E. Friend

ABSTAIN:

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

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2. UPDATE ON THE SAN FERNANDO PARK OPPORTUNITY PLAN (SF POP) – Robert Douglas with KDI provided a presentation updating on the various community engagements consisting of three focus groups, walk audits and meetings with staff. Focus groups consisted of youth from the TBC program and seniors from the community. Some of the top priorities identified include more activities including dances, dog parks, community gardens, safety concerns, and skate parks. Priority locations were discussed during the walk audit.

KDI is currently conducting GIS studies to identify available spaces while considering demographics and population in the City. Next steps include review of the priorities and site selection, coordinating an additional walk audit of top sites, and scheduling community design workshops.

Commissioner Sanchez-Brooks had questions regarding the number of participants in the focus groups and the next steps regarding priorities identified in those meetings. She also discussed the need to include the young adult demographic (ages 18 – 28) in gathering input on priorities.

Commissioner Cuellar had questions regarding the time of the focus group meetings. She also inquired about lots identified as public or private land. Commissioner Cuellar mentioned that many residents have been vocal about the need for a dog park in this City.

Vice Chair Lopez thanked KDI for their efforts in gathering community input. She supports the idea of a dog park and also mentioned the need for a space at the swap meet for youth waiting for afterschool pickup. She inquired about bilingual community engagement opportunities and all materials to be available in Spanish.

3. UPDATE ON THE LAS PALMAS PARK REVITALIZATION PROJECT – J. Salcedo discussed the concept plan of the Las Palmas Park Revitalization Project approved by Council.

Commissioners had questions regarding adequate seating around the playground, the number of picnic tables, what changes are planned for the concession stand, the life expectancy of playground flooring and maintenance plan.

RJM Design Company confirmed that benches will be installed around the playground area, a total of twelve picnic tables will be installed (three shelters, each with four picnic tables), concession stand remodel will include replacement of counter tops/cabinets and installation of additional electrical outlets, playground flooring is expected to last 10-15 years with a coordinated maintenance plan in place, the curb by the picnic area will be removed and replaced with a level sidewalk. In regards to rehab of the mural, this item is not part of the scope of work and would require a specialized consultant.

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Commissioner Sanchez-Brooks had questions regarding shading for the benches around the playground area.

Commissioner Cuellar had questions about the design options and asked if this is the finalized design.

4. CESAR E. CHAVEZ MEMORIAL – J. Salcedo provided an update on this item. The Ad Hoc Committee members and staff met to review the MOU with Pueblo Y Salud (PYS) detailing the expectations and responsibilities of PYS and the City. A spreadsheet was created with the details and shared with the Ad Hoc. The next step is to schedule a meeting with PYS and the Ad Hoc Committee.

J. Salcedo informed the Commission that the Cesar Chavez Day of Service is planned for this weekend at the monument. The event will include educational components and an opportunity to clean up the memorial.

5. DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES UPDATE – Staff provided a report and presentation to receive and file providing updates on the programs, activities and events. All information on programming and activities is available on the City website.

STAFF COMMUNICATION

J. Salcedo shared that the upcoming summer season will bring lots of great events such as concerts and movies at the park, the Day Camp program, senior activities and more. Commissioners will be kept informed as the season approaches.

COMMISSIONER UPDATES/REQUESTS TO AGENDIZE ITEM FOR DISCUSSION AT A FUTURE MEETING

Commissioner Sanchez-Brooks thanked staff and looks forward to all the upcoming events. She also requested an update on the Pioneer Park Project and a calendar of summer events.

Commissioner Cuellar thanked staff for so many great events and activities offered to the community.

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Vice Chair Lopez requested to add an agenda item on the process and rules of renting facilities. She also requested a copy of today's KDI presentation.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Lopez adjourned the Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission meeting at 7:38 p.m.