



CITY OF SAN FERNANDO  
PARKS, WELLNESS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 14, 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>

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

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

The following persons were recorded as present:

**PRESENT:**

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

**ABSENT:**

Commissioner Erica Friend

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Recreation and Community Services Director Julio Salcedo, Public Works Director Wendell Johnson, Recreation Supervisor Maribel Perez, Administrative Assistant Linda Bowden-Moreno and Office Clerk Soledad Chavez.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair R. Gonzales led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Vice Chair P. Lopez motioned to approve the agenda for the November 14, 2024 Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting. Commissioner N. Sanchez Brooks seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with the following roll call vote:

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

NOES:

ABSENT: E. Friend

ABSTAIN:

## **PRESENTATIONS**

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

Ricardo Benitez discussed the Cesar Chavez Memorial being in disrepair. He suggested seeking an organization to adopt the memorial as a project for beautification. In addition, some of the trees along Maclay Street need to be replaced and the faded sign coming in to the City from Laurel Canyon could use some attention.

Manny Granillo addressed the PWR Commission seeking support in recognizing former park directors, Julian Leon and Jess Margarito. Their contributions and mentorship to the community, specifically to the youth, are worthy of memorializing their work with a plaque. This item has been presented to the City Council. Fundraising opportunities are being discussed to cover the costs of the plaque.

Mark Marquez, a longtime resident and former park commissioner, discussed the many contributions made by Julian Leon and Jess Margarito and the importance of recognizing the legacy and impact they made by displaying an honorary plaque.

Rosa Osoria, a City resident, is here to discuss the lack of adequate lighting at Pioneer Park. In addition the score board is not functioning. She asked for the commission to assist in addressing these issues.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

### **1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Vice Chair P. Lopez motioned to approve the Consent Calendar approving the Minutes of the October 10, 2024 Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission Meeting.

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Commissioner N. Sanchez-Brooks seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with the following roll call vote:

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

NOES:

ABSENT: E. Friend

ABSTAIN:

## **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**2. PRESENTATION ON THE PACOIMA WASH BIKEWAY PROJECT**– Public Works Director Wendell Johnson provided a general update on all infrastructure projects including the Pacoima Wash Bikeway Project which is just about completed. Public Works staff is creating a punch list of items left to complete, such as adding bollards to prevent cars from entering, addressing crosswalk visibility, and other items. At this time, he opened the floor for questions or comments.

**3. CESAR E. CHAVEZ MEMORIAL** –No update to report

**4. DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES** – Staff provided an update report on upcoming events, activities and programming. At this time, he opened the floor for questions or comments.

## **STAFF COMMUNICATION**

W. Johnson reported that the Pioneer Park play equipment is complete. Shade sails will be installed in the near future.

M. Perez announced that the RCS Department is promoting the Holiday Class Pass to provide an opportunity for participants to try out leisure classes at no charge through the month of December. Also, the Afterschool Teen Program will be celebrating a *Friendsgiving* event on the 21<sup>st</sup> and a Holiday MBA tournament in December with the assistance of a coach. Also, the Lopez Adobe will be open for tours during the Holiday Tree Lighting event on December 7, 2024.

J. Salcedo invited everyone to the upcoming Tree Lighting Event that will be held on Saturday, December 7, 2024, in conjunction with the Night Market in the mall.

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

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Commissioner J. Cuellar motioned to agendize an update on future plans at the San Fernando Family Center at Puig’s House located at Pioneer Park.

Vice Chair Patty Lopez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with the following roll call vote:

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

NOES:

ABSENT: E. Friend

ABSTAIN:

Commissioner N. Sanchez-Brooks congratulated staff on the Pioneer Park project and had questions regarding the picnic shelters that are in disrepair.

Vice Chair P. Lopez motioned to agendize an update on the maintenance schedule at Rudy Ortega Park.

Commissioner N. Sanchez-Brooks seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with the following roll call vote:

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

NOES:

ABSENT: E. Friend

ABSTAIN:

Vice Chair P. Lopez commented on the new park signage and the difficulty some park patrons may have in reporting issues regarding maintenance of restrooms. Commissioner J. Cuellar will address this concern at the next Transportation and Public Safety Commission meeting.

Chair R. Gonzales thanked staff and expressed how glad he is to see numerous projects that are in the works and in completion phase for the benefit of the community.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair R. Gonzales adjourned the Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission meeting at 7:42 p.m.

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