

MINUTES – July 3, 2014

A meeting of the Inglewood Parks and Recreation Commission was convened on July 3, 2014 in the Council Chambers located on the 9th floor in City Hall. Commissioner Willie Agee presiding called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., followed by the flag salute.

Roll Call

Present:

Commissioner Willie Agee, Chair – Commissioner at Large

Commissioner Juanita Withrow – District Two Commissioner Gene Eldridge – District Four

Absent:

Commissioner Halimah Ginyard – District One Commissioner Cynthia McLemore – District Three

Sabrina Barnes, Parks, Recreation and Library Services Director

Staff:

Stephanie Maldonado, Administrative Aide

Juan Mata, Parks Supervisor

Wayne Miles, Human Services Grants Administrator

Arrick Turner, Recreation Supervisor

Public Comments

None

Approval of the Minutes

Commissioner Eldridge thanked staff for adding the date to the minutes and made a motion to approve the minutes from May 2014, Commissioner Withrow seconded. The minutes were approved as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Withrow, Agee, and Eldridge

Nays: None

Commissioner Eldridge asked if the program fees for residential and non-residential have been assessed. Stephanie Maldonado informed him they are still being assessed.

Commissioner Eldridge made a motion to approve the minutes for June 2014, Commissioner Withrow seconded. The minutes were approved as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Withrow, Agee, and Eldridge

Nays: None



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Director's Report

Wayne Miles sat in for Sabrina Barnes and conducted the meeting. He turned the meeting over to Juan Mata.

Juan Mata gave a status report on behalf of the Parks division regarding the following items:

- Darby Park Lighting Improvement Project: notice to proceed will be issued on July 30th; projected to be completed by November 2014.
- Concrete benches: six (6) have been replaced at Siminski Park and two (2) have been installed at Darby Park.
- Siminski Park Fencing Project: project will begin July 7th.

Commissioner Withrow asked if the replacement benches are benches or picnic tables similar to those at North Park. Juan Mata stated they are picnic tables with benches.

Arrick Turner gave a report on behalf of the Recreation division regarding the following items:

- Summer Camp: begins Monday, July 7 with majority of the camps at full capacity.
- Summer Swimming: general swim begins tomorrow July 4th from 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays and evening swim on Wednesdays from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Baseball Opening Day: will be held on July 12th at Darby Park at 9:00 a.m.
- Darby Art Action Mural: unveiled two weeks ago, was a wonderful experience and event.

Commissioner Agee congratulated Mr. Turner on doing such a terrific job at Darby Park, he really appreciates his service. The mural is fantastic.

Wayne Miles gave a report on behalf of the Human Services division regarding the following items:

• Summer Community Guide: the inaugural issue of the Summer Community Guide is available for the community. The Community Guide provides information on programs and services available throughout the city on a quarterly basis.

Commissioner Withrow asked what prompted this to happen and where did we get the money. Mr. Miles stated non-general funding was used; an effort of outreach by three (3) separate departments in the city and their combined funds to put this together and out to residents in the community. It is also available online. Commissioner Withrow asked who it is distributed to. Mr. Miles stated it will be mailed to out to residents but not mailboxes nor businesses. Copies are available at Libraries, Community Centers and the information booth at City Hall. Commissioner



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Eldridge stated it is a gorgeous piece of work and kudos to everyone. Commissioner Agee stated he is elated with it, this is the kind of communication the city needs.

Mr. Miles gave an update on:

• Summer Food Service Program: began on June 19, 2014 and is operating at 13 sites throughout the city. To date we've served over 1,800 meals, and we expect a significant increase in the number of meals served daily as of July 7, 2014 due to the start of other summer programs.

Commissioner Eldridge asked if it matters if the child is a resident or not. Mr. Miles stated it is not a requirement for the child to be a resident. Commissioner Eldridge asked if the process for the Food Services Manager is complete. Mr. Miles stated yes but the person has not started yet.

Public Comments

Wanda Brown, City Treasurer commended the Commission on an excellent meeting and is elated with the summer programs available for the youth as well as the outstanding publication (referring to the new Community Guide) but stated it does not list the Mayor's, City Clerk nor City Treasurer's names.

Stewart Bailey complimented the community summer guide and commended the staff on all their hard work. He asked about the status of the Playhouse at Vincent Park. Commissioner Agee stated the Playhouse is in the works.

Jim Withrow asked Mr. Mata if the new park benches that were installed at both parks were secured by concrete pads or anchored down in another fashion. Mr. Mata stated the ones at Siminski were replaced and are on concrete pads while the ones at Darby are on the old playground area where they also planted two trees.

Commissioner's Comments

Commissioner Eldridge stated somehow I neglected to wish all of you a Happy Father's Day at the last meeting and I apologize for that. For years we have tried to get rid of a liquor store on 111th and Crenshaw and we finally did it, their license will not be renewed. He also mentioned the Forum will be interviewing and hiring for food service employees for the entire facility.

Commissioner Withrow acknowledged all of the city staff and the other Commissioners for all of the collaboration and the wonderful things that are happening around the city. She knows for some people it is not quick enough but she sees a difference that staff is making and appreciates it.



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Commissioner Agee stated he recently has been eating at the senior center and he his very unhappy with the food that seems to have no nutritional value and tastes flat, not every day but most of the days. He knows the contract is up in September and would like for the Director to check into a new caterer because the seniors deserve the very best. Another thing he has a problem with is that the center is supposed to serve nutritional value food to the seniors, maybe someone can explain to me why cakes, cookies and day old bread is given out. I'm a senior and I don't eat that junk, we are trying to keep the seniors healthy.

With no further comments, the meeting was adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

The meeting was reopened by Commissioner Willie Agee at 6:34 p.m.

Wayne Miles presented a staff report recommending the Commission approve Lennox Paratransit Cooperative Agreement with the County of Los Angeles and adopt resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign documents relating to the agreement.

Commissioner Agee called for a motion. Commissioner Eldridge stated we have to make a motion first Sir. Understanding Mr. Miles report, Commissioner Eldridge stated he does not have a problem and it is very beneficial to the seniors. Commissioner Agee stated Commissioner we will discuss it after the motion. Commissioner Eldridge made a motion to accept the recommendation from staff as presented. Commissioner Withrow seconded the motion. Commissioner Agee opened the motion up for discussion informing Commissioner Eldridge he can now speak on it. Commissioner Eldridge stated he has already discussed the motion but he would like to address the problem Commissioner Agee has with the senior center having pastries as he is the one who delivers them. Commissioner Agee stated not at this time Sir.

The motion was approved as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Withrow, Agee, and Eldridge

Nays: None

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:41 p.m.