



## **PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**February 1, 2021, 6:30 p.m.**

Commissioners Present: Commissioner Araseli Campos  
Commissioner Vanessa Quiroz-Carter  
Commissioner Brando Sencion  
Commissioner Abel Sanchez  
Commissioner Noe Ibarra  
Commissioner Frank Barba

Commissioners Absent: Commissioner Jessica Carrasco

Staff Present: Parks and Community Services Director Nick Calubaquib  
Senior Administrative Analyst Adriana Flores  
Administrative Assistant II Marco Diaz  
Administrative Assistant II Desiree Moya

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### **1. OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED BY CITY CLERK VÁZQUEZ FLORES TO NEWLY APPOINTED COMMISSION MEMBERS**

ARASELI CAMPOS (DISTRICT 1); VANESSA QUIROZ-CARTER (DISTRICT 2); NOE IBARRA (DISTRICT 6); FRANK BARBA (DISTRICT 7) (Oath of office administered offline for Comm. Barba due to technology issues)

### **2. ROLL CALL**

### **3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

#### **4.a ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC – NONE**

#### **4.b ORAL COMMUNICATIONS AND LIAISON REPORTS FROM THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Sencion commented that he enjoyed seeing Santa Claus being driven around on a fire truck throughout the City during the Santa Tour, and the positive feedback received from the community. Commissioner Sanchez enjoyed seeing the holiday light decorations in the City Plaza and thanked Parks & Community Services for their efforts. Commissioner Sanchez welcomed the newly appointed Commissioners and expressed excitement for the new year.

**4.c DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Calubaquib welcomed the newly appointed Commissioners, and stated he is excited to work with them this year. The Director informed the Commission that the Governor's Stay-at-Home Order has ended, and the RV Park at Pinto Lake is now open. In addition, the State of California has released a guidance plan for restarting youth and adult sports. The Director provided details and requirements for the activities as progress is made through the tier system. The Director shared the Excel In Place program, in collaboration with Pajaro Valley Unified School District and Santa Cruz County Parks Department, is continuing with the start of the school calendar. The Seniors Without Limits program, partnered with Community Bridges, has secured a grant to help purchase tablets to be distributed to older adults in the community to help connect them with virtual classes. Director Calubaquib appreciates all the positive feedback received for the Santa Tour, and is in talks with the Fire Department to make this an annual event. The Director updated the Commission on the Ramsay Park Bike Pump Track, which is nearing completion, and the Mountain Bikers of Santa Cruz are adding the final landscape touches. A virtual ribbon cutting will take place in early March. Director Calubaquib followed up on the George Washington Bust, and is working with the Council to have this discussed during their meeting in February. The Director also discussed the start of the Star of Month program, similar to an Employee of the Month, in November, where PCS teammates are acknowledged and nominated by teammates for exemplary work efforts. The Stars of the Month for November through January were Katie Nunez, Valentin (Tino) Rodriguez and Eugene (Geno) Bragado.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

**5.a MOTION APPROVING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 7, 2020**

**MOTION**

**Moved by** Sencion

**Seconded by** Quiroz-Carter

AYES (5): Campos, Quiroz-Carter, Sencion, Sanchez, Ibarra

ABSENT (2): Carrasco, Barba

**Carried (5 to 0)**

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**6.a NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**

**CHAIRPERSON**

a) Nomination Period - Commissioner Sencion nominates Commissioner Sanchez as Parks & Recreation Commission Chairperson. Commissioner Sanchez accepts the nomination.

b) Public Input - None

c) Motion Electing New Chairperson

**MOTION**

**Moved by** Sencion

**Seconded by** Campos

AYES (5): Campos, Quiroz-Carter, Sencion, Sanchez, Ibarra

ABSENT (2): Carrasco, Barba

**Carried (5 to 0)**

**6.b NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION VICE-CHAIRPERSON**

a) Nomination Period - Commissioner Sanchez nominates Commissioner Sencion as Parks & Recreation Commission Vice-Chairperson. Commissioner Sencion accepts the nomination.

b) Public Input - None

c) Motion Electing New Vice-Chairperson

**MOTION**

**Moved by** Sanchez

**Seconded by** Ibarra

AYES (4): Campos, Sencion, Sanchez, Ibarra

NOES (1): Quiroz-Carter

ABSENT (2): Carrasco, Barba

**Carried (4 to 1)**

**6.c PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN UPDATE BY DIRECTOR NICK CALUBAQUIB**

a) Staff Report - Director Calubaquib provided the Commission an update on the Parks & Community Services Strategic Action Plan. The 2020 Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan was adopted by the City Council on February 11, 2020. The Strategic Plan listed long-range goals for the department for the next 5-10 years and there are three main goals: *Outstanding Parks and Facilities*, *Impactful Programs*, and *One High Performing Team*. Director Calubaquib listed objectives for achieving the goals, and explained the current status for each objective.

b) Commission Questions & Input - Commissioner Quiroz-Carter asked which three schools are being used as pilot sites for joint use with PVUSD. Director Calubaquib responded that they are E.A. Hall Middle School, Radcliffe Elementary School and Ann Soldo Elementary School. Commissioner Quiroz-Carter asked how the survey for older adults will be dispersed. Director Calubaquib answered the survey will be available in digital format and hard copy, and will rely on community partners like Meals on Wheels and Grey Bears, who work directly with older adults to distribute the survey. Commissioner Sencion asked if the Mello Center will be accessible by community groups who practice arts or solely for bigger performances where there is a charge to attend. Director Calubaquib answered that it could be potentially be used for both. The goal would be to drive revenue at the Mello Center to help cover the deferred maintenance costs and to maximize the use of the facility. Commissioner Sanchez asked how the funds generated by Measure Y will be designated - will they be spread

out to programs or focused to a specific need. Director Calubaquib answered the Measure Y funds will be used to address deferred maintenance needs and, in the future, there will be a shift to use the funds for goals outlined before the start of the pandemic.

c) Public Input - None

d) Appropriate Action -

**MOTION**

**Moved by** Quiroz-Carter

**Seconded by** Sencion

AYES (5): Campos, Quiroz-Carter, Sencion, Sanchez, Ibarra

ABSENT (2): Carrasco, Barba

**Carried (5 to 0)**

**6.d PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION WORKPLAN BY DIRECTOR NICK CALUBAQUIB**

a) Staff Report - Director Calubaquib recommends developing and adopting an annual Parks & Recreation Commission Work Plan, and appoint commissioners to lead the implementation of work plan projects to achieve the desired outcomes. Director Calubaquib explained the proposed process to develop and implement an annual work plan and reviewed the work plan adopted for the 2020 calendar year.

b) Commission Questions & Input - Commissioner Sanchez asked if all or some of the 2020 Work Plan is still possible to work on and complete this year. Director Calubaquib responded that it is possible to continue the work plans, but also reminded the Commission that some of the projects are nearing completion.

c) Public Input - None

d) Appropriate Action - tabled for the next meeting date.

**6.e PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS BY DIRECTOR NICK CALUBAQUIB**

a) Staff Report - Director Calubaquib recommends appointing Commissioners as Program Liaisons to key service areas of the Department. Commissioners will obtain a more in-depth understanding of operations, which will empower Commissioners to provide informed and relevant feedback and policy recommendations to the Department's services. Commissioners will visit facilities and program sites, engage with staff and community members, and report updates to the Parks & Recreation Commission during a designated time on each meeting agenda. The Director explained the process for establishing key services areas of the department and appointing Commissioners while considering interests, expertise and conflict of interest.

b) Commission Questions & Input - Commissioner Sencion wants to prioritize Older Adult Services as a key service area. Commissioner Ibarra asked if Commissioners can


work in other key services areas they are not assigned to. Director Calubaquib answered that Commissioners are free to be liaisons to several key service areas.

c) Public Input - None

d) Appropriate Action - Tabled for next meeting date

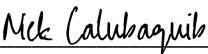
**7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

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Abel Sanchez, Parks & Recreation Commission Chairperson

ATTEST:

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Nick Calubaquib, Parks & Community Services Director