

***These meeting minutes are not official until approved by the Parks,
Recreation and Community Services Commission.***

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CULVER CITY PARKS, RECREATION
AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

June 6, 2023
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Chair Richards called the regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission to order at 7:02 P.M. in Mike Balkman Council Chambers at City Hall and via Webex.

Present: William Rickards, Chair
Scott Zeidman, Vice Chair
Jane Leonard, Commissioner
Palvi Mohammed, Commissioner

Absent: Khary Cuffe, Commissioner

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Pledge of Allegiance

Jeannine Wisnosky Stehlin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Items from Members/Staff

Commissioner Leonard acknowledged the Community Conversation on Ageism at the Senior Center on May 23; announced the acknowledgement of Earl Eskridge on June 8 in Council Chambers; and she reminded everyone of the Fireworks show at West Los Angeles College on July 4.

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Public Comment - Items Not on the Agenda

Chair Rickards invited public comment.

The following members of the public addressed the Commission:

Jeannine Wisnosky Stehlin, Cultural Affairs Commissioner, read the press release about the new appointment of Katy Krantz as Artist Laureate; discussed the crossover between the Cultural Affairs and Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) Commissions; performance areas in the parks; plans of the new Artist Laureate; the Olympics; and the Parks Master Plan.

Tania Fleischer, Cultural Affairs Chair, discussed the Artist Laureate program; the socially engaging work of Katy Krantz; cultural equity; allowing participation for everyone; geographic equity; underserved areas of the City; and working with PRCS to allow the Artist Laureate to work in parks throughout the City.

Vice Chair Zeidman proposed a joint meeting between the Cultural Affairs and PRCS Commissions.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding having the subcommittees meet, and staff agreed to research the possibilities.

Katy Krantz, Artist Laureate, provided background on herself; discussed a recent ceramics workshop that she held at the Senior Center; the Culver City Pots and Poetry workshop; upcoming ceramic workshops; combining the work into a public installation; the importance of working across the City in different age groups; pop up events in the parks; work with youth programs; drop-in workshops; her availability; and she agreed to provide her contact information.

Adam Ferguson, Senior Management Analyst, received clarification that three Commissioners were in support of holding a joint meeting between the Cultural Affairs and PRCS Commissions.

Patti Mitsunaga provided background on herself; discussed the pickleball situation in the City; false information given about the situation in other cities; the antiquated system in Culver City; concern that pickleball is not seriously being considered; the ongoing programs in other area cities with

pickleball courts on tennis courts; and she indicated travelling to other cities to play pickleball rather than playing in Culver City where she can walk.

Howie Jacobowitz with time ceded by Sandy Richman and Jay Coury, provided background on himself; discussed advocacy for the most efficient use of courts; the current practice of sharing paddle tennis courts with pickleball; the fact that the tennis community has not had to share; repurposing tennis courts; misstatements at the March PRCS meeting; dual purposing of traditional tennis courts; dual purposing the basketball court by the YMCA; availability of Culver City High School courts; the need for permits; sound issues; proximity to homes; he proposed dual purposing the courts at Veterans Memorial Park; felt the flawed QR survey should be discounted; discussed concern with basing decisions on 11 comments; the length of time the issue has been under consideration; and he asked that the Commission make a commitment to moving forward.

David Van Slyke with one minute ceded by Sophie Liu, expressed appreciation to Vice Chair Zeidman for his efforts in the community; discussed previous comments made about the pickleball courts; input into creating fair language; appreciation for the survey; people who travel to other cities to play and spend money in those cities instead of in Culver City; the conversion of courts in El Segundo; and changes to signage.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding the inability to discuss the matter since it is not on the agenda; previous Commission consensus to agendize the item pending staff research; daily paid rentals in Vets Park; the subcommittee; survey results; resident feedback in the form of meeting comment and emails; paid access; use of a reservation system; the School District; converting three courts; creation of signage; the Pickleball Subcommittee; formulation of additional plans and proposals with staff; and Commission consensus was achieved by Vice Chair Zeidman and Commissioners Leonard and Mohammed to consider the item at the August Commission meeting.

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Receipt of Correspondence

Adam Ferguson, Senior Management Analyst, reported that one piece of correspondence had been received and distributed to Commissioners.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER LEONARD AND SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR ZEIDMAN THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION RECEIVE AND FILE CORRESPONDENCE.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: LEONARD, MOHAMMED, RICKARDS, ZEIDMAN
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: CUFFE

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Consent Calendar

Item C-1

PRCSC - Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission Meeting of May 2, 2023

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR ZEIDMAN AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOHAMMED THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING OF MAY 2, 2023.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: LEONARD, MOHAMMED, RICKARDS, ZEIDMAN
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: CUFFE

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Order of the Agenda

No changes were made.

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Action Items

Item A-1

PRCSC - Receipt and Filing of the Report Regarding the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department's Plans for Parks Make Life Better Month

Stephanie DaVall, Recreation and Community Services Coordinator, provided a presentation on plans for Parks Make Life Better Month.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding support from the state; the branding campaign; goals and objectives; location equity; community engagement; appreciation for staff efforts; creating a relationship with the public; appreciation for holding events all over the City; outreach; the Movies in the Park series; getting people come out to events; collaboration with the YMCA and other organizations for outreach; and inclusion in the Senior Center Newsletter.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER MOHAMMED AND SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR ZEIDMAN THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION: RECEIVE AND FILE THE REPORT REGARDING PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S PLANS FOR PARKS MAKE LIFE BETTER MONTH.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: LEONARD, MOHAMMED, RICKARDS, ZEIDMAN
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: CUFFE

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Item A-2

PRCSC - Receipt and Filing of the Report Regarding the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department's Activities during Older Americans Month

Melanie Morales, Recreation and Community Services Coordinator, provided a recap of activities during Older Americans Month at the Senior Center.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding appreciation for the outstanding presentation; acknowledgement of excellent Senior Center programming that is recognized throughout the state; Commissioners as ambassadors; the poetry slam; Loteria; and support for events for the multiple populations that make up the Culver City community.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR ZEIDMAN AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOHAMMED THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION: RECEIVE AND FILE THE REPORT REGARDING THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S ACTIVITIES DURING OLDER AMERICANS' MONTH.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: LEONARD, MOHAMMED, RICKARDS, ZEIDMAN
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: CUFFE

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Item A-3

PRCSC - (1) Receipt and Filing of Updates from the Members of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission Ad Hoc Subcommittees and Representative Appointees to Outside Associations and City Committees

Commissioner Mohammed reported that the Ad Hoc Subcommittee on the Municipal Code was planning on providing an update at the next meeting and he noted that the new Commissioner would be hitting the ground running to get the item before the City Council.

Vice Chair Zeidman noted that there would be a Pickleball Subcommittee meeting held before June 30th.

Commissioner Leonard indicated that no additional information was available from the Community Gardens Subcommittee noting that information was needed from staff.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding City Council direction for a feasibility study of Culver City Park, and a Parks Master Plan; Community Garden placement; investment; construction of garden plots; fencing; the limited budget; and creation of an achievable timeline.

Commissioner Leonard reported attending Culver City Senior Center meetings; discussed use of technology with membership processes; payment systems; the Senior Center Association; and challenges with streamlining processes.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding the non-profit association; having the City return money to the non-profit if it handles the transactions; the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with the City; benefits to both organizations; an inquiry from the Cultural Affairs Commission as to whether the PRCS Commission had an Olympics Subcommittee; creation of a Parks Master Plan Subcommittee; Commission consensus was achieved regarding agenda consideration of forming an Olympics subcommittees at a future meeting; timing; creation of the Parks Master Plan Subcommittee after the RFP (Request for Proposals) has been released; integration of creation of subcommittees with appointments; annual reflection on subcommittees in July; the appointment of the new Commissioner; and Commissioner consensus was achieved from Chair Rickards and Commissioners Leonard and Mohammed to agenda creation of a Parks Master Plan Subcommittee.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR ZEIDMAN AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LEONARD THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION: RECEIVE AND FILE UPDATES FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTEES TO OUTSIDE ASSOCIATIONS AND CITY COMMITTEES.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: LEONARD, MOHAMMED, RICKARDS, ZEIDMAN
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: CUFFE

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Item A-4

**PRCSC - Receipt and Filing of the Parks, Recreation and
Community Services Commission 2023 Meeting Calendar and the
Upcoming Agenda Items List, With Adjustments, If Any**

Adam Ferguson, Senior Management Analyst, discussed the July 4th holiday; agreement to hold the July meeting on July 6; meeting dates for the remainder of the year; upcoming agenda items; agreement to move consideration of converting tennis courts to mixed use tennis and pickleball courts to the August agenda; City Council items; and the proclamation for Parks Make Life Better Month.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding the busy July agenda; budget data; consideration of the budget in August; the stormwater project; the pickleball discussion; continuity; exercising the option to change meeting location; limitations with certain facilities; holding multiple discussions; following normal processes for the first meeting with the new Commissioner; preparatory work to enable a structured discussion; easy to reference options provided by staff; rental guidelines; the six-month window; providing Webex at other locations; variations in the ability to make public comment online at other locations; agreed upon items for the July meeting; a request that staff save informative items for a later meeting and that staff reports are provided to Commissioners early to allow adequate time for review; the stormwater project presentation; and City Council adoption of the budget on June 12.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER LEONARD AND SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR ZEIDMAN THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION: RECEIVE AND FILE THE PRCS COMMISSION 2023 MEETING CALENDAR AND THE UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS LIST, WITH ADJUSTMENTS.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: LEONARD, MOHAMMED, RICKARDS, ZEIDMAN
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: CUFFE

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Public Comment - Items Not on the Agenda

Chair Rickards invited public comment.

The following member of the public addressed the Commission:

Alicia Ide, Culver Arts Foundation, speaking on behalf of herself, proposed having a more formal relationship with the PRCS due to the number of arts activities that were mentioned in the meeting and she discussed available funding.

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Items from Commissioners/Staff

Commissioner Leonard received Commission consensus to agendize consideration of appointing a liaison to bring back information and she expressed appreciation to Vice Chair Zeidman for his work on the Commission noting that he would be missed.

Vice Chair Zeidman discussed his appointment and service on the PRCS and expressed appreciation for being able to serve.

Commissioner Mohammed expressed appreciation to the Vice Chair for his service noting that he had learned a lot from him.

Chair Rickards expressed hope that Vice Chair Zeidman would return and make comments for Items Not on the Agenda at future meetings.

Armando Abrego, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director, expressed appreciation for role modeling by Vice Chair Zeidman and for his challenging of staff to be better; he reported that two full-time recruitments were being finalized with onboarding expected in July; he thanked staff for their presentations and Commissioners for allowing staff to make those presentations; reported that three PRCS employees would be acknowledged at the June 7 Civil Service Commission meeting; provided an update on portable trailers at Culver City Park; thanked Culver City Little League for their patience and support; discussed recreation swim at the Plunge; changes since the pandemic; helping people to feel connected with events; the Senior Center Mental Health month; and the Teen Center.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:41 P.M., the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission adjourned to a regular meeting to be held on Tuesday, July 5, 2023.

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Adam Ferguson
SECRETARY of the Parks, Recreation and
Community Services Commission

APPROVED _____

William Rickards
CHAIR of the PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
COMMISSION
Culver City, California

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that, on the date below written, these minutes were filed in the Office of the City Clerk, Culver City, California and constitute the Official Minutes of said meeting.

Jeremy Bocchino
CITY CLERK

Date