

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

C-1

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

August 5, 2025
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Chair Alexander called the regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission to order at 7:00 P.M. in Mike Balkman Council Chambers at City Hall.

Present: Crystal Alexander, Chair
 Maggie Peters, Vice Chair
 Marci Baun, Commissioner
 Lauren Chen, Commissioner
 Thomas Whitaker, Commissioner

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Pledge of Allegiance

The Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Commission recited the Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Baun.

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Items from Commissioners/Staff

Ted Stevens, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director, gave an update on incidents that took place within department programs over the last month, the department has held community meetings and parent meetings; the department has reviewed its procedures and policies and beefed them up a bit; staff training on the new policies and procedures; staff trainings; staff changes at all of the afterschool sites to bring in higher level part-time staff at those locations that will not be part of the ratio to child; more staff at each of the sites; in the meantime, full-time supervisors and coordinators will be assigned at all of the sites for the beginning of the programming until the new staff is on boarded; beefing up training doing a more thorough training before being

placed at sites; changes are to make sure we have secure safe programs and trained staff; and noted that the item was not on the agenda so they could not discuss it.

Commissioner Chen complimented of department's social media and how robust it has been.

Commissioner Whitaker discussed the programs that have been happening around the City; attended the *Little Rascals* at Syd Kronenthal Park; heard great feedback about the other movies in the park; attended the jazz concert with Ponpon Chen; congratulated the hard work that everyone has been doing.

Vice Chair Peters reminded that it is almost Fiesta La Ballona and that wristbands are currently on sale; mentioned that Thursday at 6:30 would be a meeting about the new playground at Culver West Alexander Park; reminded that all ballots have gone out for the upcoming Municipal election and that everyone should vote.

Chair Alexander echoed that Fiesta La Ballona, the largest community event put on by the department, would be August 22-24; mentioned that she has a conflict with the meeting on Thursday and requested that the Vice Chair represent the PRCS Commission at that meeting and any City Council meetings that may occur when she is out of town; requested three nodding hands to have adjournment in honor of David Voncannon, 2024 Senior of the Year.

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Public Comment - Items NOT on the Agenda

Chair Alexander invited public comment.

Adam Ferguson, Senior Management Analyst, indicated that no requests speak had been received for Items Not on the Agenda.

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Receipt of Correspondence

Adam Ferguson, Senior Management Analyst, indicated that four e-mails and four eComments had been received and sent to Commissioners.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER BAUN PETERS AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CHEN THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION RECEIVE AND FILE THE CORRESPONDENCE.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: ALEXANDER, BAUN, CHEN, PETERS, WHITAKER
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE

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Consent Calendar

Item C-1

Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission Meeting of July 1, 2025

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER BAUN AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WHITAKER THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING OF JULY 1, 2025.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: ALEXANDER, BAUN, CHEN, PETERS, WHITAKER
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE

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Order of the Agenda

No changes were made.

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Action Items

Item A-1

Receipt and Filing of an Update about the Hours of the Paddle Tennis Courts Located at Elenda St. and Culver Blvd.

Chair Alexander reminded the public that the Commissioners could only discuss the hours of the court. They had received other comments and if there was a desire for the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission to agendaize a future item, the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commissioners will discuss that later in the meeting.

Ted Stevens, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director provided a summary of the material of record.

Chair Alexander invited public comment.

The following members of the public provided public comment:

Yael Wyte discussed living very close to the courts and hearing the first ball each morning and the last ball each evening; believing that the current times are a reasonable time to play; mentioned the sound abatement has helped with the sound but does not help with the sound in her bedroom; mentioned when the gates are left open, players do come early and she does not wish to police that; requested the hours 8 A.M.-9 P.M. and courts continue to be locked outside of the times; mentioned she and her family love the sport, but that people should play it within reasonable hours.

Jospeh Kaplan was called to speak but was not present in Council Chambers or online. Chair Alexander requested staff call him again after everyone has spoken to see if he had joined the meeting.

Angelica Martinez was called to speak but was not present in Council Chambers or online

Joseph Feinberg discussed being a long-time player, learning and discovering pickleball, making friends, and being called the mayor of the Culver City courts; the importance of building community; advocate for Culver City and spending time in Culver City; hates Santa Monica but that is where he plays pickleball now; when looking for a restaurant or a bar to go to, he is looking in Santa Monica and not Culver City; people are looking for places to play, and he cannot get to Culver in time to

play after work; if he can't get to the courts by 7 then there is not a reason to play in Culver; the communities are developing and the tax dollars being spent are going to other cities.

Barry Goldstein lives near the courts; reiterated that the hours have been an excellent compromise; the sound abatement has reduced the sound by about a third; it is not the noise as much as the gathering that is irritating; love the game and the courts; it is a question of compromise between competing principles; the recent movement from 9 A.M. to 8:30 P.M. was a bit distressing; the neighbors wish to remain these hours; would be willing to entertain a trading system for courts to open later on the weekend and stay open later a few nights during the week; requested the PRCS department to look into automatic locking gates.

Andy Gauvreau was called to speak but was not present in Council Chambers or online.

David Van Slyke requested three minutes instead of two, and Chair Alexander reminded him that everyone has the same amount of time to speak so he would only have two minutes; showed the municipal court hours for the City-wide park system; reiterated sound abatement system helped with the noise; acknowledged that it would never get rid of all of the noise; requested on behalf of many retirees who like to play at 8 A.M. and many working young people who like to play until 10pm and it is reasonable based on the money that is spent by the City to have the hours returned to normal municipal hour; acknowledge the compromise mentioned by Mr. Goldstein; discussed resurfacing the court like all other municipalities have done around Culver City with a kitchen.

Steve Mitsunaga discussed living in Culver City; moving to Culver City because of the paddle tennis courts; requested from a traditional perspective keep the times from 8 A.M.-10 P.M.; reminded players that they need to keep the sound down; mentioned he had a senior group that played at 8 A.M.; apologized to Mr. Goldstein for the early start and mentioned he respected his wishes; acknowledged that there are players who would try and play at 7:30 A.M.; believed 8 o'clock is not a bad time because it starts to get too hot to play; acknowledged that closing earlier, such as 9:30 or 9:45 is not bad because most people are in bed by 10 o'clock.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding past Ad Hoc subcommittees regarding racket sports; the timeline and staffing of locking the courts at night and opening them in the morning; the number of people who use the courts; the hours and availability of other courts in Culver City; the noise made by the players and the community and the responsibility of the players to reduce that noise; the daily use of the courts; the consideration of a compromise for the hours to close at different times and open at different times depending on the day of the week; the need for more locations; the newly installed sound barriers; confirmation that the bleachers are part of park property; how the summer and fall weather forces people to play earlier; proof that all ages play pickleball; the need for more clear signage or temporary sound signage; the original discussion that the court hours would return to their regular hours based on the sound barrier; how the success of the sound barrier is defined; coming to the end of what would be considered "temporary" for the hours; requesting staff to periodically make their way to the courts and remind players the rules on amplified sound; and consideration of slowly expanding the hours instead of increasing them quickly.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR PETERS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BAUN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION: RECOMMEND FOR APPROVAL THE RETURN TO NORMAL HOURS FOR THE PADDLE TENNIS COURTS LOCATED AT ELENDA ST. AND CULVER BLVD.

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Item A-2

Receipt and Filing of a Report Regarding the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Adopted Budget

Adam Ferguson, Senior Management Analyst a summary of the material of record.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding the City's security contract in the department's budget; the approval to move the crossing guard contract out of the

department's budget and it still remaining in the budget; the definition of the state's MWELo requirements; the revenue goals of the department; the performance measures for the department found in the budget book; and the decrease in the number of aquatic programming participants since 2022.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR PETERS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BAUN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION: RECEIVE AND FILE A REPORT REGARDING THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT FISCAL YEAR 2025/2026 ADOPTED BUDGET.

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Item A-3

(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

Chair Alexander invited public comment.

Adam Ferguson, Senior Management Analyst, reported that no public comment had been received.

Chair Baun provided an update on the July Culver City Senior Citizens Association Board of Directors meeting; discussed the upcoming election and the need to recruit seniors to be on the board.

Vice Chair Peters reported the Culver City Arts Foundation did not have a meeting.

Vice Chair Peters reported no updates from the Summer Olympics Ad Hoc Subcommittee as there is still no communication from the City Council.

Adam Ferguson, Senior Management Analyst, reported a planned upcoming meeting with the City Attorney's Office and Finance.

Commissioner Baun reported on the Plunge Procedures Ad Hoc Subcommittee; discussed a meeting would be happening soon.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR PETERS, SECONDED BY VCOMMISSIONER BAUN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, 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.

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Item A-4

Receipt and Filing of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission 2025 Meeting Calendar and the Upcoming Agenda Items List, With Adjustments, If Any

Adam Ferguson, Senior Management Analyst, discussed upcoming meeting dates; upcoming agenda items for the Commission; and items pertaining to PRCS to be considered at upcoming City Council meetings.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding the Fiesta La Ballona presentation to also include a discussion about its programming and event structure; the possible impacts on the department based on the upcoming election results; a discussion of the current joint use agreement with the school district; the right time to begin discussing a letter to City Council for budget recommendations.

Chair Alexander invited public input.

Adam Ferguson, Senior Management Analyst, indicated that no requests to speak had been received.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER BAUN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WHITAKER AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION RECEIVE AND FILE THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION 2025 MEETING CALENDAR AND THE UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS LIST, WITH ADJUSTMENTS.

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Public Comment - Items NOT on the Agenda (Continued)

Chair Alexander invited public comment.

Adam Ferguson, Senior Management Analyst, indicated that no public comment had been received.

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Items from Commissioners/Staff

PRCS Staff gave updates concerning programming and staffing levels followed by announcements from Commissioners. Due to the bad quality of the meeting recording, details in this section were not recorded.

Chair Alexander mentioned David Voncannon, his community involvement and dedication to Culver City, highlighting his work with the Chamber of Commerce and his receipt of the 2024 Senior of the Year Recognition.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 10:15 P.M. the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission adjourned in memory of David Voncannon to a regular meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 2, 2025.

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

APPROVED _____

Crystal Alexander
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