

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

April 7, 2015
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Chair Stuart called the meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission to order at 7:00 P.M.

Present: Chair Laura Stuart
Vice Chair Scott Zeidman
Commissioner Scott Garland
Commissioner Kay Heineman
Commissioner Kelly Kent Marin

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Pledge of Allegiance

Barbara Silverstein led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Public Comment for Items NOT on the Agenda

Chair Stuart invited public participation.

No cards were received and no speakers came forward.

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Consent Calendar

Item C-1

Approval of Meeting Minutes for March 3, 2015

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER GARLAND, SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR ZEIDMAN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 3, 2015.

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Item C-2

**Upcoming Agenda Items to be Considered by the Parks,
Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) Commission and its
Subcommittees**

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER GARLAND, SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR ZEIDMAN
AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION RECEIVE AND FILE THE REPORT.

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Action Items

Item A-1

**Informational Item Regarding Senior Center Programming and
the Senior Nutrition Program from the Senior & Social
Services/Facilities Division of the Parks, Recreation and
Community Services Department**

Armando Abrego, Senior and Social Services Manager,
introduced staff and the item.

Debbie Cahill, Senior Center Programming Specialist, provided
an overview of the Senior Center programs and events;
discussed their partnership with the Culver City Senior
Center Association; classes and special interests; seminars
and workshops; regular and special events; members over 90
years old; community partners; she noted the importance of
bonding and social activity for the seniors; statistics
regarding how many times people were served; the number of
events; and the Culver City Strummers.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding
suggestions for new programs; items to ask the City Council
for; how the Commission can support the Senior Center; space
issues; and expanding physically.

Roxanna Tabibi, Senior Nutrition Program Specialist, provided
a presentation on programs offered; volunteers; meals for
parties offered by the Senior Center Association; the 4th of
July celebration; awards; home delivery of meals; volunteer
recruitment; statistics for Fiscal Year 2013-2014; program
guidelines and special programs; requirements for

participation in the Senior Nutrition Program; Mandated Program Services for each program; annual reports required; funding sources; the approved caterer list; audits; partnership with Beverly Hills; monthly quality assurance meetings; and referral services.

Armando Abrego, Senior and Social Services Manager; discussed the County; funding; requirements; exceeding the allocated number of meals; donations; monthly reports; maintaining funding; the annual program audit; the annual financial audit; the annual budget; the grant application to re-qualify every four years; the RFP for certified caterers every four years; annual inspections; the on-staff safe certification; certification of monthly menus; and he expressed appreciation to the Finance Department for their help.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding who is eligible for services; tracking County services; the Advisory Committee; and the webpage to promote nutrition to the community.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HEINEMAN, SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR ZEIDMAN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION: RECEIVE AND FILE THE REPORT.

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Item A-2

(1) Informational Item Regarding Urban Gardening, Apartment Gardening, and Neighborhood Coop Gardening; and, (2) Discussion Regarding the Potential Role that the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission May Wish to Take in Mentoring Community Members Interested in Community Gardening

Chair Stuart reported that the Commission had sent a recommendation to the City Council regarding Community Gardens and she asked that the Commission create a refined recommendation about how the City might help facilitate gardening in the City.

Chair Stuart invited public participation.

The following members of the audience addressed the Commission:

Michelle Weiner, Transition Culver City, discussed the mission of the organization; promoting community sustainability; making more efficient change as individuals; food security; growing your own food; the Learning Garden at Venice High School; community volunteers; areas in the City where small community gardens could happen; and areas within the park system that could be used.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding areas in the City that could be used as a Community Garden; the drought; working with existing groups in the City to create co-op gardens; Raintree; mentoring community members interested in community gardening; connecting groups; utilizing alternative sites; creating cooperatives in neighborhoods; creating programs for community members; a suggestion for a website to help the idea move forward; the feasibility of using park space; the registry in Santa Monica; concern with use of staff time; involving the School District; the City Council Liaison School Board Committee; educational opportunities; localizing food growing; growing food in parkways; and crafting a motion to the City Council to allocate staff resources to work with organizations in the City to help encourage growing food.

Sylvia Alvarado, Brian's Orchard Youth Alliance, discussed ideas on how to utilize the co-op idea; reported that she installs gardens and urban orchards; discussed donating portions of the harvest to local food pantries or to the Senior Center; Food Forward; she reported installing a garden for a supported community; and working with the High School.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding hope that the City Council would embrace the concept; involvement of other departments; creating a model for other cities; and crafting a motion.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER MARIN, SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR ZEIDMAN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION: RECOMMEND THAT THE CITY COUNCIL ALLOCATE ONE OR TWO RESOURCE PEOPLE TO WORK WITH EXISTING COMMUNITY GROUPS INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, TRANSITION CULVER CITY, THE CULVER CITY GARDEN CLUB, LOCAL HOMEOWNER GROUPS AND APARTMENT PROPERTY OWNERS TO CREATE

ONSITE AND/OR OFFSITE GARDEN SHARING OPPORTUNITIES, IN ADDITION THE COMMISSION RECOMMENDS DEVELOPMENT OF A WEBSITE TO SUPPORT THESE EFFORTS.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding next steps in the process.

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Item A-3

(1) Hear a Report from the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission Youth Sports Advisory Ad Hoc Subcommittee; and, (2) (If Desired) Discuss and Take Action Regarding the Future of the Youth Sports Advisory Ad Hoc Subcommittee

Chair Stuart invited public participation.

The following member of the audience addressed the Commission:

Laura Love, AYSO, asked about the middle school flag football program.

Chair Stuart indicated that Dan Hernandez, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director, would provide information to Ms. Love.

Vice Chair Zeidman provided a report on the Youth Sports Advisory Ad Hoc subcommittee.

Commissioner Garland reported meeting with Director Hernandez and the contractor that may be running the Culver City Youth Flag Football League which could begin in September and run through late November.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding Pop Warner football; location of games; practice times; and the amount of park time needed.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER MARIN, SECONDED BY CHAIR STUART AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION: RECEIVE AND FILE THE REPORT.

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Item A-4

**(Standing Item) Updates from the Parks, Recreation and
Community Services (PRCS) Commission Ad Hoc Subcommittees and
Representative Appointees to Various Outside Associations and
City Committees**

Chair Stuart reported that the Fundraising subcommittee had not met and they were waiting to hear back from staff on the updated Inventory Amenity list.

Dan Hernandez, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director, reported on efforts to find boulders for the Senior Center; he discussed other projects going on; and indicated that he would get the Updated Amenity list as soon as possible.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding the Updated Amenities List; replacement costs; five-year maintenance; value; including additional detail in the report; and warranties.

Commissioner Garland provided a report on the Community Conversations subcommittee; indicated that he had spoken to Bill Smith; he discussed unsportsmanlike behavior; and he indicated that he wanted to secure 5-6 additional people to put together a forum.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding the time frame for the Community Conversation; procedures; and next steps in the process.

MOVED BY CHAIR STUART, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GARLAND AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION: RECEIVE AND FILE THE REPORT.

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Public Comment for Items NOT on the Agenda

Chair Stuart invited public input.

No speakers came forward and no cards were received.

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Receipt of Correspondence

None.

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Items From Staff

Dan Hernandez, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director, reported difficulty finding boulders for the Senior Center for use as passive vehicle control barriers; discussed the Governor's Executive Order for a reduction in water use by 25%; discontinuing watering of the east lawn at City Hall; drip irrigation to keep the trees alive; growing grass on medians; hiring a consultant to address the issues; he clarified that park areas were exempt; discussed decorative lawns at Veterans Memorial; alternative ground cover; the departmental work plans; operation and program needs; slurry sealing the parking lot at the Senior Center; finalizing and compiling the department-wide customer service surveys; and efforts to address lighting issues.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding whether plants could be relocated or reused; contracting out the work of pulling out the plants; the reasoning for pulling out the plants; taking inventory of the plants; severe reductions to plants in the median; concern with getting the Senior Center parking lot repaired sooner; costs; and coordination with other departments and other contracts.

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Items From Commissioners

None.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:55 P.M., the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission adjourned to the next regular meeting on Tuesday, May 5, 2015.

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Patricia A. Mooney
ATTENDING SECRETARY of the Parks, Recreation
and Community Services Commission

APPROVED _____

Laura Stuart
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.

Martin R. Cole
CITY CLERK

Date