

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

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

October 22, 2022
10:00 A.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Chair Rickards called the special Parks Tour meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission to order at 10:06 A.M.

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

The Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Items from Members/Staff

Armando Abrego, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director, explained why the parks were chosen for this tour noting that another tour with more active rentals and activities would be scheduled in the future.

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Public Comment - Items Not on the Agenda

None.

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Receipt of Correspondence

None.

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Order of the Agenda

No changes were made.

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Action Items

Item A-1

Conduct a Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission Tour of Blair Hills Park, Lindberg Park, and Culver West Alexander Park

At 10:24 A.M., staff and Commissioners toured Blair Hills Park.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding resurfacing the basketball court; adding walkways to connect the basketball court and a possible DG (Decomposed Granite) path around the park; potential changes to the picnic area; restroom upgrades; the possibility of removing the ball field and various options for the space; the importance of finding space for 10 and under sports; ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) accessibility; concerns with the installation of the cellphone tower at the Veterans Memorial Building; the height of the picnic wall in the picnic area and lack of a clear sight line; challenges with being a neighborhood park vs. being accessible for everyone; the Parks Master Plan; the importance of laying the groundwork for progress; lack of lighting at night; the importance of shade structures at all parks; matching the style of the park with future projects; and use of a Parks Facility Supervisor to maintain all facilities better.

At 10:55 A.M., staff and Commissioners toured Lindberg Park.

Mike Scarano, Vice President of the Lindberg Park Neighborhood Association, joined the meeting.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding the timeline for Stone House renovations and the HVAC system; patio renovations; the RFP (Request for Proposal) phase; the importance of the RFP for adult leagues; playground renovations; neighborhood support for the current non-ADA compliant or inclusive playground; options for improvements to the playground; plans for open space where the Boy Scout Hut was; the need for a walkway around the park; possible elimination of the ball field; installation of a ramp to replace the steps and continue to the perimeter; the need for open, reusable space; whether the park should be re-laid out for open area; the need for pickleball courts; the possibility of community gardens fulfilling the need for open space; layout of the basketball courts with the handball courts; the fence; removal of the football goal; adding exercise stations; converting basketball courts to pickleball courts; staffing difficulties; and the upcoming hiring schedule.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding the Master Plan; scheduling community meetings; the historical setup for youth sports when run by the City, which ended roughly in 1995; hard balls; the municipal code; softball programming; upgrades necessary to keep the diamond; replacement of the diamond with open grass for soccer or a community garden; challenges of the using the diamond if AYSO (American Youth Soccer Organization) rents the grass space in advance; challenges of the 3/6 insurance requirement at all levels of the rental process; and the permits used by kickball leagues, frisbee, football, AYSO, etc.

Further discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding path of travel; lighting; ability to exercise at Lindberg Park; the need for a 5-foot apron around the basketball courts; basketball usage; hours of operation vs. when restrooms are open; staffing to allow the park to be operational; difficulties related to upgrading the playground equipment; shade; the overall playground footprint; playground equipment; asset replacement; challenges of grants; upgrading lighting to LED (Light Emitting Diode); separation between the Public Works Department and the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department; demand for benches around the playground; state water restrictions; affects to balancing a harder landscape with the bright colors of the equipment and design; use of artificial plants; restroom upgrades; the destination park; heavy usage of the park on weekends vs. lighter usage

during week; the Eastside Diamond vs. the Westside Diamond; elimination of the bleachers to allow more open space for chairs; the goal to create experiences; and incorporating a design for each park into the Master Plan.

At 12:06 P.M., staff and Commissioners toured Culver West Alexander Park.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding replacement of the basketball court to provide new surfacing in the current fiscal year; installation of a walkway around the basketball court; the 5-foot apron to the court, actual handball courts at the park with a walkway and good lighting at night; the perception that trees in the open grass restrict play; gang violence in 2009 or 2010; other options including fencing; conversion into a passive park with the removal of the softball diamond; the community garden; finding a better plan for gang violence; parking issues; upgrading trash enclosures to avoid illegal dumping; the need for youth fields; vocal support for adult fields; heavy picnic usage; use of the building for pre-school; camps; contract classes; demand for a picnic hut; the need for procedures to prevent party tents on handball courts; graffiti issues; rules; the possibility of allowing dogs to be off-leash; engaging people to rent space instead of just taking it; challenges of the municipal code; handball tournaments; necessary tree trimming to clear the sightlines for signs; better contributions from the Commission at City Council meetings; and the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with Culver City Unified School District (CCUSD).

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Public Comment - Items Not on the Agenda

None.

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Items from Commissioners/Staff

None.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 12:28 P.M., the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission adjourned to a regular meeting to be held on Tuesday, November 1, 2022.

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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