



Monday, February 27, 2023
City of Palm Springs
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission

Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361, this meeting was conducted by teleconference and there was no in-person public access to the meeting location.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of the City of Palm Springs Parks & Recreation Commission was called to order at 5:36 p.m. by Chair Alcorn and the roll call was taken by Director Yvonne Wise.

II. ROLL CALL:

COMMISSIONERS	PRESENT	ABSENT
Jerry Alcorn	X	
Johnny Coladonato	X	
Deiter Crawford	X	
Jody Diaz	X	
Michael Finland	X	
Susan Meyer		X
John Miraglia	X	
Chris Spellman		X

City Staff Present:

Yvonne Wise, Director of Parks & Recreation

David McAbee, Director of Public Works

Tabitha Richards, Executive Administrative Assistant, City Manager

III. REPORT OF POSTING OF AGENDA:

The Agenda for this meeting was posted at City Hall, 3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way; the Palm Springs Leisure Center, 401 S. Pavilion Way; and the City of Palm Springs' website prior to 5:30 PM on Wednesday, February 22, 2023, as required by established policies and procedures.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF January 23, 2023

Motion: Commissioner Finland

Second: Commissioner Miraglia

Motion Carried: Yes 5; Abstain 1

Noting the absence of Commissioners Meyer and Spellman

V. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Email correspondence was emailed to Commissioners prior to the meeting. Live public comments noted below.

1. Mara Gladstone- Desert X Representative, thanked Commission on efforts to improve the City playgrounds, gave information on the Desert X Project.
2. Jeff Nelson- shared observation of the needs of the Swim Center, had sent a Power Point presentation which was included in Commission correspondence.
3. William Miller- commented on the trees and plants in the City parks, made suggestions on the inclusion of desert plants that attract wildlife in the landscape conversion project
4. Jerry Braun- Chair of Sunrise Park Neighborhood Organization, mentioned needs for improvements and updates in Sunrise Park and how park is underutilized
5. Richard Mignault- commented on the needs of the Swim Center and adding the topic of the Swim Center on the agenda.

VI. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Wise provided a presentation with updates and highlights from the Parks & Recreation department's projects and programs, and introduced the new Director of Public Works, David McAbee.

VII. **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

A. Action Item: Landscape Conversion Plan for Desert Highland

Director Wise presented proposed changes that required additional feedback and approval to move forward to City council. Discussion was held.

Chair Alcorn asked for a motion for accepting changes to the landscape conversion plan.

Motion: Commissioner Finland

Second: Vice-Chair Coladonato

Motion Carried: Yes 6

Noting the absence of Commissioners Meyer and Spellman

B. Action: Playground Equipment for Victoria Park and Demuth Park

Director Wise showed the conceptual plans for replacing the playground equipment at both Victoria and Demuth Parks. Representatives from Miracle Playground, Charlotte Smith and Brice Lawrence, presented information and were able to answer questions from Commissioners.

Discussion held on changing colors of equipment to brighter ones, replacing some standard equipment with more ADA and inclusive equipment, and shade structures installed over swings.

Director Wise suggested that additional changes could also be part of Park Enhancement Ad-Hoc Committee discussion at a later time.

Chair Alcorn asked for a motion to approve the replacement of the playground equipment at Victoria and Demuth Parks with updated equipment.

Motion: Chair Alcorn

Second: Commissioner Finland

Motion Carried: Yes 6

Noting the absence of Commissioners Meyer and Spellman

C. Discussion: Parks and Recreation Prioritization

Director Wise shared an overview of how projects are completed in the department, starting with Project Resource Management. Discussion held on the need for project managers, the need for support and advocacy, increased staffing to get projects moving, budgeting, and the recognition of the growth of Parks & Recreation within the City.

VIII. AD-HOC & COMMISSIONER UPDATES:

Dog Park- Commissioner Miraglia discussed the interim improvements being made to the Demuth Dog Park.

Park Landscape Conversion- Chair Alcorn discussed the recent Commission approvals and was hoping to get them before the City Council in March or April.

Pickleball- Commissioner Finland reported on Ambassador shirt design, the Court Ambassador Program, and Ad-Hoc discussion of Pickleball Park expansion.

Commissioner updates:

Chair Alcorn requested that the Swim Center be on the next month's agenda. Shared with the Commission that a developer approached him with a request for a community playground in a lower income development.

Commissioner Miraglia discussed needs for a Swim Center Ad-Hoc. Director Wise proposed that creating a Swim Center Ad-Hoc could be done along with the Swim Center presentation planned for next month.

Chair Alcorn thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Reminded everyone that the next meeting would be scheduled for Monday, March 27, 2023.

IX. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no other business Chair Alcorn asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Commissioner Finland

Second: Chair Alcorn

Motion carried unanimously noting the absence of Commissioners Meyer and Spellman

The Parks & Recreation Commission adjourned at 7:34 p.m. with the next Regular Meeting to be held on Monday, March 27, 2023, via teleconference.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Burns

Janet Burns, Senior Secretary
Department of Parks and Recreation