



**Monday, May 20, 2024**  
**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 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 5:32 PM by Chair Miraglia and the roll call was taken by Director Yvonne Wise.

II. **ROLL CALL:**

COMMISSIONERS	PRESENT	EXCUSED
Donald Admire	X	
Johnny Coladonato		X
Rod Davis	X	
Jody Diaz	X	
Michael Finland	X	
Susan Meyer		X
John Miraglia	X	
Jase Nagaia	X	

City Staff Present:  
Yvonne Wise, Director of Parks & Recreation

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, May 15, 2024, as required by established policies and procedures.

IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF April 22, 2024**

**Motion:** Commissioner Davis

**Second:** Commissioner Admire

**Motion Carried:** Yes

Noting the absence of Vice Chair Coladonato and Commissioner Meyer

V. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Correspondence was emailed to Commissioners prior to the Meeting.

Public Comments:

1. Ted Drake: Supports building of new playgrounds but stated they should be done in a more inclusive manner. He is working with the Palm Springs Unified School District to see how they can bring more inclusive playgrounds to the City of Palm Springs and is open for any questions if anyone would like to discuss further.

VI. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Director Wise provided an overview on items that have recently gone to City Council as well as items that are coming up on Council Agendas. Additionally, Director Wise announced the Community Initiated Measure J application cycle, reported on highlights from the Maintenance and Facilities projects in our parks, announced "save the dates" for the upcoming events and programs, and reported on current and upcoming staffing recruitments.

VII. **PRESENTATION/ACTION ITEMS:**

**A. ACTION: Proposed Pride Artwork for Frances Stevens Park**

Al Jones gave an overview of the proposed Pride artwork installation envisioned for Frances Stevens Park and the projected timeline for completion. Discussion ensued with a request that the project would come back to the Parks & Recreation for specific siting concerns.

**Action: Approve Project for Purpose of Advancing for Presentation to City Council and the Public Art Commission**

**Motion:** Commissioner Nagaia

**Second:** Commissioner Admire

**Motion Carried:** Yes 6

Noting the absence of Vice Chair Coladonato and Commissioner Meyer

**B. ACTION: Swim Center Preliminary Concept**

Architect Maria Song, Interactive Design Corporation, gave an updated overview of the Swim Center Preliminary Concept and with the proposed request for action to move forward with the Conceptual Building Design and Initial Project Budget Estimate.

**Action: Approve Design for Purpose of Advancing for Cost Estimates**

**Motion:** Chair Miraglia

**Second:** Commissioner Diaz

**Motion Carried:** Yes 6

Noting the absence of Vice Chair Coladonato and Commissioner Meyer

**C. ACTION: Demuth Dog Park Preliminary Concept**

Michael Madsen of Kimley Horn provided an update on the conceptual development for the Demuth Dog Parks (large and small) based on feedback from the community outreach meeting held in April. He noted that the updated plans included clarified access routes, repositioned shaded entryway in the Large Dog park, as well as an additional shade structure in the Small Dog Park.

**Action: Approve Project for Purpose of Advancing for Cost Estimates**

**Motion:** Commissioner Davis

**Second:** Commissioner Finland

**Motion Carried:** Yes 6

Noting the absence of Vice Chair Coladonato and Commissioner Meyer

**D. ACTION: Baristo Park Playground Equipment**

Charlotte Smith, Miracle Recreation representative, presented the conceptual renderings for the proposed new playground equipment for Baristo Park which would replace the existing playground equipment underneath the recently installed shade structures. Discussion ensued regarding the inclusion of an additional shade element over the swing set structure which was currently not under a shade structure. It was noted that an integrated shade structure could be incorporated with replacement of the swing set structure.

**Action: Approve Project for Purpose of Advancing for Cost Estimates Including Shade Structure Addition**

**Motion:** Commissioner Davis

**Second:** Chair Miraglia

**Motion Carried:** Yes 6

Noting the absence of Vice Chair Coladonato and Commissioner Meyer

**E. PRESENTATION: Parks and Recreation Master Planning Update**

Christian Rodriguez-Ceja, representative from Kounkuey Design Initiative, presented an update on the status of the Parks & Recreation Master Planning process. He noted that an existing conditions report had been completed, 2500 surveys were mailed out to gather community feedback, and the survey was also available online for additional participation. The next community outreach is on Wednesday, May 22, at the James O. Jessie Community Center.

**F. PRESENTATION: Parks and Recreation Project Updates**

Director Wise gave an update on pending, completed, and upcoming projects and asked if anyone had questions. Commissioner Diaz asked for a status update on the outdoor exercise equipment for Desert Highland and Director Wise stated that the City had been getting quotes, and the next steps were to discuss several approaches including how the potential installation would dovetail with the ballpark turf conversion project. Project Manager Aaron Bergeson and Public Works Director, David McAbee gave an update on the Downtown Water feature and discussed the rodent problem and question posed by Commissioner Diaz.

VIII. **AD-HOC UPDATES:**

**Dog Park:** Chair Miraglia suggested signage at the Demuth Large Dog Park directing individuals to the Small Dog Park.

**Master Plan:** Commissioner Davis stated that the Community Outreach meeting will be on Wednesday May 22, 2024.

**Park Enhancements:** Commissioner Nagaia stated the Ad-hoc will meet to discuss the color scheme for Baristo Park Playground.

**Pickleball:** Commissioner Finland stated that the Pickleball Expansion Project is still on schedule; however, the presentation to Council may be pushed back slightly. Commissioner Finland also recommended an Ad-hoc meeting for any new updates.

**Swim Center:** Commissioner Admire stated that the concept is moving forward.

IX. **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Diaz suggested that installing misters in the parks would help in the Summer months.

Commissioner Finland gave an ode to Memorial Day and the importance of honoring our veterans.

X. **ADJOURNMENT:**

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

**Motion:** Commissioner Davis

**Second:** Commissioner Admire

Motion carried unanimously noting the absence of Vice Chair Coladonato and Commissioner Meyer

The Parks & Recreation Commission adjourned at 7:05 PM with the next Regular Meeting to be held on Monday, June 24, 2024, via teleconference and in-person.

Respectfully submitted,

*Rylee Bates*

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Rylee Bates, Administrative Specialist  
Department of Parks & Recreation