

**CITY OF LONG BEACH  
PARKS AND RECREATION  
COMMISSION MINUTES**

**THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2017  
EL DORADO PARK W. COMMUNITY CNTR  
SENIOR CENTER LIBRARY  
2800 N. STUDEBAKER ROAD, 9:00 AM**

Ben Goldberg, President  
Julie Heggeness, Vice President  
  
Marie Knight, Director  
Valerie Davis, Executive Assistant



Ron Antonette, Commissioner  
Ron Sievers, Commissioner  
David Zanatta, Commissioner  
Stella Ursua, Commissioner  
Margo Morales, Commissioner

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**FINAL AGENDA & DRAFT MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was called to order by President Goldberg at 9:00 a.m., at the El Dorado Sr. Center Library. Director Marie Knight took the roll call and confirmed a quorum.

**ROLL CALL**

**Commissioners** Ron Antonette, Ron Sievers, David Zanatta, Julie Heggeness

**Present:** and Benjamin Alan Goldberg

**Commissioners** Margo Morales and Stella Ursua

**Excused:**

A motion was made by Commissioner Antonette and seconded by Vice President Heggeness, to excuse Commissioner Morales and Commissioner Ursua from the July 20, 2017 Parks & Recreation Commission meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

YES: Goldberg, Antonette, Zanatta, Heggeness, Sievers

EXCUSED: Morales, Ursua

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Marie Knight - Director  
Gladys Kaiser - Manager, Community Recreation Services Bureau  
Hurley Owens - Manager, Maintenance Operations Bureau  
Robert Livingstone - Superintendent of Contracts and Golf Operations  
Meredith Reynolds - Park Planning Officer  
Del Ransom - Bureau Assistant  
Valerie Davis - Executive Assistant

**GUESTS:**

Erique Young - Agape Children Museum  
Dan Gonzalez - IAMAW Local Lodge 1930  
Minnie Douglas - LB Mombasa Sister Cities  
J. Watson - IAMAW  
Vikki Love - IAMAW  
Ashley Gunkel - IAMAW  
Maris Tyson - LB Mobasa Sister Cities  
Natalie Gonzalez - IAMAW  
Tyler Curley - City of Long Beach  
Martha Cota - Latinos in Action  
Brenda Calcoa - Housing Long Beach  
Rich Gardner - Dementia Friendly City  
Erick Verduzco-Vega - South Bay Latino Chamber  
Daniel Peralta - Peralta's Tae Kwan Do  
Dionisio Peralta - Peralta's Tae Kwan Do  
Dan Halverson - Self  
James Suazo - Building Healthy Communities, Long Beach  
Susan Ma - LA Care Health Plan

17-055PR

President Goldberg recommended the change in title of officers for the Parks and Recreation Commission from President and Vice President to Chair and Vice Chair to be consistent with other City Charter Commissions.

Commissioner Antonette spoke.  
President Goldberg spoke.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Zanatta, seconded by Vice Chair Heggeness, to officially change the titles of President and Vice President to Chair and Vice Chair. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Ron Antonette, Ron Sievers, David Zanatta, Julie Heggeness and Benjamin Alan Goldberg

**Excused:** 2 - Margo Morales and Stella Ursua

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

17-052PR

Director Knight stated the July 2017 organizational meeting includes the election of Chair and Vice Chair. As such, she called for nominations for Chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Commissioner Antonette nominated Ben Goldberg.

**Commissioner Antonette nominated Ben Goldberg for the Chair of the Parks & Recreation Commission. The nomination carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Ron Antonette, Ron Sievers, David Zanatta, Julie Heggeness and Benjamin Alan Goldberg

**Excused:** 2 - Margo Morales and Stella Ursua

17-053PR

Chair Goldberg called nominations for Vice Chair.

Commissioner Sievers nominated Julie Heggeness, and Commissioner Zanatta seconded the nomination.

**Commissioner Sievers nominated Julie Heggeness for the position of Vice Chair. The nomination was seconded by Commissioner Zanatta. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Ron Antonette, Ron Sievers, David Zanatta, Julie Heggeness and Benjamin Alan Goldberg

**Excused:** 2 - Margo Morales and Stella Ursua

Chair Goldberg spoke.  
Commissioner Zanatta spoke.

Director Knight spoke regarding standing sub-committee assignments. Information will be sent to the Commissioners in the near future.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

Employee of the Month - June, 2017

Gladys Kaiser introduced Todd Leland as June, 2017 Employee of the Month. Todd has been a member of the department for many years. Assigned to the Department's Aquatics division, he is a true advocate for all of Parks, Recreation and Marine. His enthusiasm is contagious.

Director Knight spoke.  
Todd Leland spoke.

Director Knight presented the Department's "PARKS MAKE LIFE BETTER" video that was shown at the July 11, 2017 City Council meeting, highlighting the Department's services. July is National Parks Make Life Better month.

Chair Goldberg spoke.  
Commissioner Zanatta spoke.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. [17-038PR](#) Recommendation to approve the Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting minutes of June 15, 2017.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Zanatta, seconded by Commissioner Antonette, to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2017 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Ron Antonette, Ron Sievers, David Zanatta, Julie Heggeness and Benjamin Alan Goldberg

**Excused:** 2 - Margo Morales and Stella Ursua

#### **COMMISSION ACTION ITEMS**

2. [17-039PR](#) Authorize the Director, or his or her management designee, to execute the Personal Services and Instruction Agreements and amend Attachment "A" of the agreements as needed.

Gladys Kaiser provided the staff report.

Commissioner Sievers spoke.  
Gladys Kaiser spoke.

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Heggeness, seconded by Commissioner Zanatta, to approve the recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Ron Antonette, Ron Sievers, David Zanatta, Julie Heggeness and Benjamin Alan Goldberg

**Excused:** 2 - Margo Morales and Stella Ursua

3. [17-042PR](#) Recommendation to approve the fee waiver requests outlined in Attachment "A", in accordance with the Fee Waiver policy.

Gladys Kaiser provided the staff report.

Vice Chair Heggeness spoke.

Director Knight spoke.  
Chair Goldberg spoke.  
Commissioner Zanatta spoke.  
Minnie Douglas spoke.  
A discussion ensued.

Commissioner Antonette spoke.  
Enrique Young spoke.

Director Knight spoke.  
Vice Chair Heggeness spoke.  
Chair Goldberg spoke.

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Heggeness, seconded by Commissioner Antonette, to approve fee waiver permit numbers 10598 Los Cerritos Neighborhood Association, 10575 Agape Children's Museum, 10576 Latinos In Action, 10583 Beyond the Skies, 10584 Long Beach Mombasa Sister Cities, 10585 Girl Scouts, and 10715 Alice Robinson Community Feeding. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Ron Antonette, Ron Sievers, David Zanatta, Julie Heggeness and Benjamin Alan Goldberg

**Excused:** 2 - Margo Morales and Stella Ursua

17-054PR

Vice Chair Heggeness spoke.  
Chair Goldberg spoke.  
Commissioner Antonette spoke.  
James Suazo - Building Healthy Communities spoke.  
Commissioner Sievers spoke.  
A discussion ensued.

Dan Gonzalez - IAMAW Local Lodge 1930 spoke.  
Natalie Gonzalez - IAMAW spoke.  
Vice Chair Heggeness spoke.  
Commissioner Zanatta spoke.  
Director Knight spoke.  
Chair Goldberg spoke.

Erick Verduzo-Vega - South Bay Latino Chamber spoke.  
Commissioner Antonette spoke.

Commissioner Zanatta spoke.  
Chair Goldberg spoke.  
A discussion ensued.

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Heggeness, seconded by Commissioner Antonette, to deny the fee waiver requests for 10579 IAM - Women's Committee, 10582 South Bay Latino Chamber , and 10578 Building Healthy Communities.**

**Vice Chair Heggeness amended her motion to approve the fee waiver request of 10582 South Bay Latino Chamber, and deny the fee waiver requests for 10579 IAM - Women's Committee and 10578 Buidling Healthy Communities. Commissioner Antonette accepted the amendment. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Ron Antonette, Ron Sievers, David Zanatta, Julie Heggeness and Benjamin Alan Goldberg

**Excused:** 2 - Margo Morales and Stella Ursua

**4. [17-040PR](#)**

Recommend the placement locations of memorial or commemorative benches outlined in Attachment "A". (Citywide)

Robert Livingstone provided the staff report.

Vice Chair Heggeness spoke.  
Chair Goldberg spoke.  
Commissioner Zanatta spoke.  
Discussion ensued.

Mrs. Harvell, Mother of Sean and Andy Havell spoke.  
Mike Murray spoke.  
Minnie Douglas spoke.  
Director Knight spoke.  
A discussion ensued.

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Heggeness, seconded by Commissioner Antonette, to approve the recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Ron Antonette, Ron Sievers, David Zanatta, Julie Heggeness and Benjamin Alan Goldberg

**Excused:** 2 - Margo Morales and Stella Ursua

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO COMMISSION**

**5. [17-041PR](#)**

Recommendation to receive and file the Director's monthly highlights report, "We Create Community" for July, 2017.

Director Knight provided the report and discussed items the Council has asked the Commission to review.

Commissioner Zanatta spoke.  
Commissioner Antonette spoke.  
Chair Goldberg spoke.  
Director Knight spoke.  
A discussion ensued.

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Heggeness, seconded by Commissioner Antonette, to receive and file the Director's report for July, 2017. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Ron Antonette, Ron Sievers, David Zanatta, Julie Heggeness and Benjamin Alan Goldberg

**Excused:** 2 - Margo Morales and Stella Ursua

## **COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS**



**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Chair Goldberg advised the agenda and Fee Waivers were discussed.

**FINANCE & APPEALS COMMITTEE**

Chair Heggeness advised Fee Waivers were discussed.

**MAINTENANCE & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**

Ron Antonette - Chair

Commissioner Sievers advised this month's meeting included a site visit to MLK Park and Pool.

**MARKETING & RECREATION COMMITTEE**

David Zanatta - Chair

The Committee did not meet.

**PARKS USAGE & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE**

Stella Ursua - Chair

The Committee did not meet.

**JOINT USE COMMITTEE**

Ron Sievers - Chair

The Committee did not meet.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**PUBLIC COMMENT: IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO ADJOURNMENT**

Ashley Gunckle with the IMAAW spoke.  
Susan Ma with LA Cares Healthplan spoke.  
Rich Gardner - Dementia Friendly City spoke.

Opportunity is given to those members of the public who would like to address the Parks and Recreation Commission on non-agenda items. Each speaker is limited to three minutes unless extended by the Parks and Recreation Commission. The Brown Act prohibits Commissioners from responding to comments on non-agenda items.

**STAFF COMMENTS:**

Gladys Kaiser reported on summer activities and the upcoming All City Beach Day and additional events.

Marie Knight spoke.

Meredith Reynolds advised we have received a grant from Healthy Related Parks . Partnering with the Development Services Department, we were awarded \$985,000.00 for Drake Community Center, MLK and Peace Park playgrounds. We were also awarded \$600,000.00 from the State National Resources Agency that will benefit our artificial turf project at Seaside Park. Additionally we have received a grant from Cal Recycle of \$13,000 to assist with some park playgrounds gap funding. We have also closed escrow on the property at 1355 Long Beach Boulevard to complete the parcel at 14th Street Park. This ties the park into the LB Boulevard corridor and the Mid-town Specific Plan.

Director Knight spoke.

Commissioner Antonette spoke.

Discussion ensued

Robert Livingstone reported LB Rotary will be having their Long Beach 100th Anniversary at Rotary Park on July 26, 2017. The 28th Annual LB Open, and the 21st Annual Golf Hall of Fame awards banquet will be held on Sunday, July 30, 2017. The Pro-Am will also beheld on July 26, 2017.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Zanatta stated he is hopeful the forthcoming reports due back to the City Council will bring to light the hard work of the Department regarding programming, and also assist in future budget cycles to move towards providing the resources needed to implement programming where it is needed.

Commissioner Sievers echoed Commissioner Zanatta's comments regarding programming. He also shared information regarding his recent trip to many National Parks this summer over a 31 day span. The open space made him realize how starved for space our urban environment is.

Commissioner Antonette stated it is time to look at things as an opportunity. The requested report to City Council could be an opportunity to re-instate programming, add programming and create new programming and partnerships. He also stated he is serving as President of the Board of Partner's of Parks. He looks forward to the organization moving forward and will be sharing additional information regarding

Community involvement and upcoming events as plans unfold.

Chair Goldberg looks forward to responding to the Council requests.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Goldberg adjourned the meeting at 10:57 a.m. in the memory of Russel "Russ" Putnam and Sean & Andy Harvell.

NOTE: An agenda may be obtained from the Parks, Recreation and Marine Department prior to the meeting or can be mailed if the Department is provided self-addressed, stamped envelopes mailed to: Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine, Attention: Valerie Davis, 2760 N. Studebaker Rd., Long Beach, CA 90815.

The Parks and Recreation Commission agenda and supporting documents are available on the Internet at <http://longbeach.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. Persons interested in obtaining an agenda via e-mail should e-mail their request to [valerie.davis@longbeach.gov](mailto:valerie.davis@longbeach.gov) or subscribe to the City of Long Beach LINKLB System at <http://www.longbeach.gov/linklb>.

Agenda items may also be reviewed at the Parks, Recreation and Marine Department, 2760 N. Studebaker Rd., Long Beach, CA 90815 or online. Please contact Valerie Davis at (562) 570-3170, to make these arrangements.

If language interpretation for non-English speaking persons is desired or if a special accommodation is desired pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, please make your request by phone to Valerie Davis, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine at (562) 570-3170, at least 48 hours prior to the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

E-Mail correspondence regarding agenda items can be directed to [valerie.davis@longbeach.gov](mailto:valerie.davis@longbeach.gov).

**NOTE:**

If written language translation of the Commission agenda and minutes for non-English speaking persons is desired, please make your request by phone to the Office of the City Clerk at (562) 570-6101, 72 business hours prior to the Commission meeting.

Kung nais ang pagsasalin ng nakasulat na wika ng agenda ng Komisyon at ang minutes para sa mga taong hindi nagsasalita ng Ingles, mangyaring isagawa ang iyong hiling sa pamamagitan ng telepono sa Opisina ng Clerk ng Lungsod sa (562) 570-6101, 72 oras ng negosyo bago ang pagpupulong ng Commission.

Si desea obtener la traducción escrita en otro idioma de la agenda y actas de la comisión para personas que no hablan inglés, haga su solicitud por teléfono a la Oficina de la Secretaría Municipal al (562) 570-6101, 72 horas hábiles antes de la reunión de la comisión.

បើមានការចង់បានឱ្យមានការបកប្រែឯកសារស្តីពីរបៀបរាវ: នឹងកំណត់ហេតុឱ្យអ្នកដែលមិនចេះនិយាយអង់គ្លេស សូមមេត្តាធ្វើសំណើអ្នកតាមទូរស័ព្ទដោយហៅការិយាល័យស្មៀនក្រុងតាមរយៈលេខ (562) 570-6101 (72 ម៉ោងធ្វើការមុននឹងចាប់ផ្តើមបើកកិច្ចប្រជុំគណៈកម្មការធម្មនុញ្ញ)។