

**CITY OF LONG BEACH
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 16, 2010**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was called to order by Brett Waterfield, President, at 9:05 a.m., at the Whaley Park Community Center. Phil Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine, took roll call and confirmed a quorum.

Present: Brett Waterfield, President

Ron Antonette
Simon George
Albert Guerra
Harry Saltzgaver
Sarah Sangmeister
Drew Satariano

Absent: Sarah Sangmeister, Vice President

Staff: Phil Hester, Director
JC Squires, Manager, Business Operations
Philip Lopez, Superintendent, Beach Maintenance
Sandra Gonzalez, Manager, Planning and Development
Gladys Kaiser, Acting Manager, Community Recreation Services
Ed White, Superintendent, Facility Maintenance
Bob Livingstone, Superintendent of Golf Operations/Contract Compliance Officer
Jim Ruggirello, Supervisor, Homeland/MacArthur Park
Robbie Stuart, Supervisor, Whaley Park
Robin Black, Executive Assistant to the Director

Guests: Eipryl Tello, LB TEP
Nichole Tyerman, Resident/American Lung Association
P.G. Herman, Community Activist
Luis Urgiles, Resident
Joey Quenga, LB TEP/GCN
Evan Braude, Self & LB TEP
Danny Reich, Long Beach City College, Smoking Regulations
Mary Parsell, El Dorado Audubon
Pat Eadum
Melinda Cotton
Peggy Preacely, Health Department
Jeff Miller
Spencer Lyons

It was moved by Commissioner Antonette and seconded by Commissioner George to excuse Vice President Sangmeister. The motion carried unanimously.

President Waterfield thanked the staff at Whaley Park for having the meeting here.

Ms. Gladys Kaiser introduced Robbie Stuart, the supervisor of Whaley Park, who also oversees College Estates and Somerset Parks. These parks have wonderful programs and there is a specialized day camp at Whaley Park in the summer. Ms. Stuart also has a strong youth sports program. Ms. Stuart has decided to retire after serving for 41 years with the Department. It is going to leave a large vacancy in her absence. She has been a mentor to many of the supervisors, who started with her and climbed up the ranks. Ms. Kaiser thanked Ms. Stuart and presented her with flowers.

Mr. Hester said that we recently had an employee breakfast where I talked about Robbie. She is the epitome of a recreation person. Recreation staff does more than rolling out balls.

President Waterfield said he has a daughter who is now 19. When she was young and attended Minnie Gant Elementary School, they walked kids over to Whaley Park for after school activities. This is where Robbie got his daughter her start, here playing volleyball. Because of Robbie's influence, his daughter now has a full volleyball scholarship at Duke University in North Carolina. Your work is very appreciated.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – AUGUST 19, 2010

It was moved by Commissioner Guerra and seconded by Commissioner George to approve the August 19, 2010 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMISSION ACTION ITEMS

#10-0901

Recommendation to 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.

President Waterfield stated that there are no agreements this month.

#10-0902

Recommendation to authorize the Director, or his or her management designee, to execute the Personal Service Agreements for Homeland Cultural Center and amend Attachment "A" of the agreements as needed.

Mr. Hester said these instructors are specifically tied to Homeland. On the back of the staff report is a listing of these instructors. Jim Ruggirello, the supervisor of Homeland, is attending today.

Commissioner Saltzgaver pointed out that it was a year ago that we considered adding participation fees to these classes and with the help of Jim and City Council, Council said we would not charge fees for these classes. These are payments to the instructors, is that right?

Mr. Hester responded yes, that is right.

It was moved by Commissioner Saltzgaver and seconded by Commissioner Satariano to approve the recommendation. The motion carried unanimously.

President Waterfield asked if Mr. Ruggirello is adding any new programs this year?

Mr. Ruggirello responded he is always looking for new classes. He might have to get a little creative. We had a group come in that might want to add a class in Aztec dances. We already have the Ballet Folklorico, but we would like to add to the program as much as possible. The neighborhood is over 42 percent Latino.

Mr. Hester said we are very close to completing the theater. We would then be going into a 90-day maintenance period. That would be an opportunity for additional programming. We can then move into the theater and revamp the old building. There are some funding opportunities to expand the programming, so in the next year you should see some significant increases in classes.

#10-0903

Recommendation to authorize the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute all documents necessary to issue a Volunteer Agreement for the production and maintenance of a temporary mural on the exterior of the Recreation Park Community Center in Recreation Park, to memorialize the Sister City relationship between Sochi, Russia and the City of Long Beach and to promote the 2014 Winter Olympics to be held in Sochi.

Mr. Hester said this request came from the Sochi Sister City organization, which already has a friendship garden at Recreation Park. Sochi was

selected for the 2014 Winter Olympics and to commemorate that, they would like to do a special mural on the wall at Recreation Park. Bob Livingstone has been working with them.

Mr. Livingstone said they are going to paint the mural on the building rather than on a wood panel to put on the building.

Mr. Hester said that this gives the group a right of entry to paint the mural. The City will approve what the mural looks like. In the packet is a draft of their proposed mural.

It was moved by Commissioner George and seconded by Commissioner Antonette to approve the recommendation. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS

A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE President Waterfield, Chair

President Waterfield said the Committee met, but he had a work emergency and was absent. He asked Commissioner Guerra to report.

Commissioner Guerra said the Committee met and discussed the agenda and discussed that particularly we are in a transition mode because of Mr. Hester leaving. We discussed the process to hire a new director. There is not much to report to the Committee, because that is up to the City Manager.

Mr. Hester said we discussed a little about the budget. The City Council approved the budget and the Mayor has five days to veto any items. With our Plan A and Plan B, we are moving forth with implementation by October 1st. The major change is that we will be closing our sites on Saturdays. There are changes in hours for the open gyms. Commissioner Waterfield met with the City Manager and they discussed that the Commission would be involved in that decision making process to choose a director. That has not been finalized yet. The City Manager is very aware that the Commission needs to be involved in that process.

B. FINANCE AND APPEALS COMMITTEE
Commissioner Satariano, Chair

Commissioner Satariano said that Committee did not meet this month, but the profit and loss statement is in the packet.

Mr. Hester said we are finishing up the current budget year. Staff has done an excellent job of monitoring the Department's budget.

Mr. Squires said the Department would not meet our revenue budget; however, with the estimates to close due this spring, we will be right at or just past the number, which is really outstanding work on behalf of the Department. Revenue has lagged really hard this spring coming out of the rainy season. We will be significantly under budget for expenditures.

Commissioner Saltzgaver said if he understood the action of the City Council Tuesday night, the end of the \$1 golf surcharge has ended. Is that right?

Mr. Hester responded yes, we recommended that surcharge be removed from the master schedule. The surcharge has been in place for two years. American Golf agreed to that and the City received all that revenue. They did that to help us out, but they made it clear that if the City would go forward with that, the City would only get 30% of the surcharge. So, it was our recommendation to eliminate that fee, but American Golf is raising their CPI adjustment the 1st of October, which they are allowed to automatically raise.

Commissioner Saltzgaver wanted to clarify, was that revenue going directly to the Department?

Mr. Hester responded it was going to the general fund. It was a way for the Department to generate more revenue so we would not have to take more reductions.

Commissioner Saltzgaver asked if they would take the surcharge off before increasing the CPI?

Mr. Hester responded yes, that is what they are doing.

C. PARK SAFETY COMMITTEE
Commissioner Saltzgaver, Chair

Commissioner Saltzgaver stated that Committee did not meet. The activity report is enclosed in the packet.

D. MARKETING AND CUSTOMER SERVICE COMMITTEE
Commissioner Guerra, Chair

Commissioner Guerra said that the Committee met this morning. It was a recap on the successes of the programs this summer. We are just coming off the 100 Days of Summer. It promoted the Department's programs in a different light. The fact that the website www.100daysofsummer.org was available really helped pull it off. This was a truly incredible year. It was pulled together off of an idea from a conversation and went on from there. We are looking at next year to see how we can promote programs. One of the things we will be working on is giving them ideas as users. They have already jumped off on great ideas for next summer. The Department only has so much money to promote programs. They are trying to find a way to publish four class guides instead of three, as they have in the past. It has been discovered that 40% of the residents are not on line, so the printed document is important.

President Waterfield asked if we have any indication of the numbers that attended the park programs this year.

Ms. Kaiser responded that it was a very successful summer with high numbers attending programs. We served over 100,000 lunches and I will bring back those numbers at the next meeting.

E. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE
Vice President Sangmeister, Chair

President Waterfield said the Committee did not meet this month. We continue to receive the e-mail updates, which are helpful.

Ms. Gonzalez said the biggest thing that happened this week was that we received a grant for \$2.5 million for the DeForest Wetlands. There were 30 recipients for the \$30 million and we were one of the biggest winners of a portion of that grant. This is for the DeForest Wetland, south of the Dominguez Gap. We will be doing wetlands rehabilitation and putting in trails, ADA access, and interpretive trails. We were kicked out for the third time for the grant application because they didn't feel that a wetlands project was part of a rivers project, that it didn't fit the money. One of our staff members,

Leslie Hunsaker, called and explained to them that this is a rivers project. She convinced them to send one of their agents to come and tour the facility. They changed their mind and felt it was one of the most viable awards this year. We are expecting to build this next year.

Mr. Hester said this is 35 acres of new wetlands in the city. This is pretty significant and is great work by staff.

Ms. Gonzalez said we will have a great grand opening at Homeland. The Rancho Los Cerritos project is moving forward. The Seaside Park project is moving forward. We are really busy.

President Waterfield thanked Ms. Gonzalez for working with the community around the Rancho.

Mr. Hester said this would also add two lighted soccer fields on the west side.

President Waterfield said he and Commissioner Antonette and Mr. Hester would meet with Councilwoman Schipske as a follow up to the El Dorado soccer lights.

Mr. Hester said this would need to come back to the Commission at some point. We need to discuss the relocation though.

F. SPECIAL EVENTS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
Commissioner Satariano, Chair

Commissioner Satariano said the Special Events and Filming Bureau would be moved to the City Manager's office. This committee will still meet with Community Recreation Services Bureau. He said they had met to discuss the permit to gather.

Mr. Hester said we anticipate on bringing a recommendation forward on the permit to gather at the October meeting. We will need a committee meeting before then

V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO COMMISSION

- A. Recommendation to receive and file the Director's Monthly Highlights Report for August 2010.

Commissioner Saltzgaver said he keeps hearing that we are going to stop doing this report in this type of form.

Mr. Squires responded that we have not completed this. We have a draft that we are not happy with, so we are going to take another attempt.

It was moved by Commissioner Saltzgaver and seconded by Commissioner Antonette to approve the recommendation. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

President Waterfield said no correspondence was received.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Discussion about August 19, 2010 recommendation to define a "small park," for the purposes of a potential smoking ban, be any park of one acre or less in size, and that any smoking ban be initially limited to parks of this size.

Mr. Hester said that at the last Parks and Recreation Commission meeting there was discussion about this item and the recommendation. Most was centered on the size of the parks. Staff had not talked to the Council office as to what they felt was a small park. In the Open Space Plan, a small park is not defined. Staff came forth with a recommendation that a small park be defined as 1 acre or less. In a discussion with the City Council office, they did not know how to define a small park either. Some of the Commissioners had questions about 1 acre as opposed to 5 acres. We decided to bring it back to make sure we are together before it is brought to the City Council. In the interim, it was also discussed that should we recommend elimination of smoking in all parks. We are just bringing this back for reconsideration. If you want to look at some other alternative, we can do that. Something also just came from New York about banning smoking in all their parks. That is consistent with information coming from other cities.

Commissioner Saltzgaver said we had an action taken last month on this issue. I believe it would require a vote to reconsider before we begin discussion. Since the 1 acre passed unanimously, I would point out that we were following the recommendation that we were trying to define the small park, not whether or not to pass the no smoking law.

It was moved by Commissioner Saltzgaver and seconded by Commissioner Satariano to reconsider the action from last month. The motion carried with Commissioner Antonette opposed.

Commissioner Satariano said during the discussion last month he made his feelings known and that he has softened his adamant stance and is looking forward to hearing what the fellow Commissioners would have to say. He said I would like to hear some other viewpoints. I am good with the action last month, but I am open-minded.

Commissioner Saltzgaver asked where the golf courses would fall if there was a ban of smoking in all parks, since they are leased to a private operator?

Mr. Livingstone responded that the current language the City Attorney is proposing would include the golf courses. We could change that to not include them.

Mr. Hester said that should be clarified.

Mr. Livingstone stated that the Charter specifically takes control of golf courses out from under this Commission. Certainly, a recommendation could be made, but the City Council would control any decision on the golf courses.

President Waterfield said he read through the minutes and we seemed to grapple with the concept of where we want to go. At this time I would like to hear comments from the public.

Ms. Nichole Tyerman Guzman introduced herself as a resident of Long Beach and also an employee of the American Lung Association. The American Lung Association supports strong local regulation to protect the public from harmful affects of second-hand smoke. We have an enthusiastic support of a smoke free ordinance for all designated parks in Long Beach. My son is nine years old and we spend most of our time in Long Beach parks. We find

ourselves asking people to move away from children where they are practicing little league. Parks are about clean air.

Ms. Pat Eadum introduced herself as a long term resident and a small business owner. She said her kids grew up here at Whaley Park. I would encourage the Park Commission to consider this to have all parks be smoke free. It would be confusing to find out if a park is 1 acre to be smoke free. It is great that New York is considering this. Los Angeles County cities are smoke free. It would help our schools with tobacco prevention.

Ms. Melinda Cotton introduced herself as a long time activist. She said Pat Eadum is the co-chair for the Coalition for Smoke Free Long Beach and has been appointed by the Governor to a statewide committee. Thank you for reconsidering this. The head of the Los Angeles County Tobacco Program is here. All Los Angeles parks are smoke free. Two cigarette butts eaten by a child could kill a child. In the Press Telegram this morning there was an article about how a smoking ban helps kids with asthma. Scotland is now smoke-free in their restaurants and public areas. Asthma and illnesses are exacerbated with smoking. Smoking is the leading preventable cause of death in the United States. By leading by example that smoking is not good for you, the parks could be so much safer. The kids will see that this is not something that should be done. Long Beach is a leader nation-wide in parks. yet, will we be behind in being smoke free?

Mr. Evan Braude said he spoke last month, which is in the minutes. How many acres are there in the total park system?

Mr. Hester responded that there are about 3,200 acres.

Mr. Braude said there are only 15% of the people in Long Beach that are smokers. That is disproportionate of what we are talking about here. It should be the other way around. At least you should go to a higher amount, but I think you make a bold step and tell the City Council that we would like to lead and go smoke free in all parks. When we went with smoke free restaurants, New York contacted me and asked for a copy of the ordinance. I think we should move forward. There are some things being done to find out what the citizens who use the parks think. As I understand it already, we are seeing about 85% of the people saying they would prefer to have a non-smoking park. These are people who use the parks.

President Waterfield asked if him to expand on things being done.

Mr. Braude responded that a survey is being done and they have completed more than half of the survey already.

Commissioner Saltzgaver asked who "they" is?

Mr. Braude responded it is the Health Department, through the Coalition. They have been going to parks throughout the city. The questions are not biased. They are trying to find out what people really think. Most are interested in being smoke free.

Commissioner Guerra asked if we are aware of this survey?

Mr. Hester responded no.

Ms. Peggy Preacely introduced herself as from the Health Department's Tobacco Education Program and said we have been conducting this survey in the parks. We have conducted about 100 surveys and about 85 percent of those surveyed say they want smoke free parks.

Commissioner Guerra asked when the survey would be done?

Ms. Preacely responded we are trying to do as many surveys as we possibly can, but we are still in the process. We don't have a lot of staff.

Mr. Braude said 100 are already done and they want to have about 100 more.

Mr. Jeff Miller introduced himself as a resident living in Belmont Shore. He said I am here to support total no smoking in parks. I hope you will take bold action rather than the timid action of talking about 1 acre, and that you support no smoking in all parks. The trend nationwide and statewide is clear; it is the only healthy thing to do. I was dismayed to find a couple of arguments made against this. One was that this would be difficult to enforce and would cost money to enforce. I disagree with that. There are 85% of us who don't smoke and many of us are not shy about going up and asking someone not to smoke where it is prohibited. It would be self-enforcing. There is no cost to that. Another thing I heard is that this would have a negative impact on visitors or tourism. I looked at Santa Monica, a large tourist destination. Many of those tourists are Japanese, who are smokers. This is not a deterrent to them. They find somewhere in private to smoke just fine. They have no problem not smoking in Santa Monica's parks. I would ask you to do the bold thing here. As commissioners, you have an opportunity

to lead the way, to get on board with the trend, which is very clear. Let's have Long Beach get on the leading edge of this wave that is sweeping the country and the state and keep our parks clean.

Ms. P.G. Herman introduced herself as a resident of Wrigley and a community activist. After hearing what people had said, I don't want to be redundant. It is true you have a chance to really take an innovative stance. It is confusing limiting this to 1 acre. Look at the greater vision of this city, wanting to be the most bike-friendly in the United States and also wanting to be the city with the most gardens in our parks. I am a member of Long Beach Organic and we strive to keep our gardens chemical free. It would be a conflict to have bicycles, promote clean air and have smoking in the surroundings. You have the opportunity to make this monumental decision.

Mr. Spencer Lyons introduced himself as from the American Cancer Society. I thank you for the time and effort you put into this issue. I feel this is an important step to protect the health of Long Beach residents.

Mr. Joey Quenga introduced himself as a long-time Long Beach product, an executive director of a communications network, and a proud director of Khmer performers, which is an award-winning cultural group that is housed at Homeland Cultural Center. They visited Capital Hill and performed for the Congressmen there. I am in support of smoke free parks throughout the city of Long Beach. I wanted to share my support.

Commissioner Guerra said at our last Commission meeting, I initially agreed with Mr. Braude that all our parks should be smoke free. The discussion really came down to what we were being asked by our City Council, and that was to define a small park. We went from 5 acres and went down to 1 acre. My opinion still doesn't change, and I do believe that the parks in Long Beach should be smoke free. But, are we asked to define a small park or ban smoking?

Mr. Hester said this Commission is a Charter Commission and has more responsibility than just an advisory commission. You were sent an item from Council, it was a discussion about small parks. I don't think there is anything to keep the Commission from making an expanded recommendation or somewhat different recommendation to Council. It does have to go back to Council, who would have to go through this same process. Council may refer it to one of their committees or may just take your recommendation.

Commissioner Satariano said he had concerns about how this would affect tourism. With the move that New York has made and the due diligence that went into that satisfies my concern with that. The comments about Santa Monica also helped with that. I was also concerned about constitutional rights. But, I have heard enough input relative to the numbers, that 15% of the residents smoke and that 85% of people polled want no smoking in Long Beach. My concerns again, as Commissioner Guerra said, we were asked to define a small park. In addition, it would be very confusing to figure out the size of a park. The Commission can't break down by acreage where you can actually smoke and where you cannot. Smokers want to be courteous. They smoke discreetly. I spoke adamantly against this and I have come over to the other side. I am prepared to make a recommendation that parks be smoke free, no definition of acreage. Perhaps the Council may be surprised and give it to a committee.

It was moved by Commissioner Satariano and seconded by Commissioner Guerra to recommend to the City Council that the parks be smoke free, no definition of acreage.

President Waterfield said he thought of two things. The public health initiative that Mayor of New York saw and the contradictions that a speaker brought up that we may be presenting because we are trying to promote health and well being and we have this other piece here that we have not addressed in terms of the environment that we create, to promote that health. When I came on this commission, one of my concerns was how we work with our youth and issues of activity, obesity, and a public health issue. Another thing is how we role model to those youth in the community. In my work, it is a work environment issue and we don't smoke. My last point is as a position of leadership, we have a responsibility to work with the community and to work and get the feel of what the City Council wants also. We have a responsibility of leadership. We don't necessarily have to wait for specific direction. I appreciate the community bringing this issue forward.

Commissioner Saltzgaver said he is swayed by the majority opinion. I believe that this is pushing us further down a slippery slope. I do believe our society today is too concerned about protecting everyone in society. I wear a helmet when I ride a motorcycle. That doesn't mean that I think it ought to be mandated that I wear a helmet. There is only 15% of the population who smoke. I am not one of those 15%. But I guarantee you that Mr. Braude would stand up for the right of 15% of the electorate to vote the way they wanted to vote or say what they wanted to say. So, I

find it a matter of a slippery slope and one that I think we are pushing down the way. The libertarian in me still has a problem with this whole approach. But, on the other hand, I went to Disneyland the other day and Disneyland does not allow smoking in their park except in designated areas. I tell you what, going past those designated areas is kind of nasty. But, I understand the rule of the majority. I do want to give a little bit of a history lesson too, particularly to those Commissioners who weren't here when we passed the first ordinance against smoking in playgrounds and around playing fields. To the young lady who had to go over and tell those people to stop smoking, that has been illegal in Long Beach for six years. We were there when we passed no smoking on the beaches. We were among the first, and I take a little bit of umbrage on the comment that this commission has not lead in this area. I will be voting in favor of the motion and my libertarian side will be kicking me all the way.

Commissioner Antonette said we have been talking about this for the last couple of months. At the last meeting, we were looking for input from the community and there wasn't much in the way of discussion. For the most part, where is the momentum for this? That wasn't there in the last discussion. I am prepared to support this. I think this is the right thing to do.

Ms. Herman said she moved here from Hawaii, where there is a lot of Japanese tourism. No smoking came up for a vote but was voted down every year because of tourists. They finally made it smoke free in restaurants and it did not affect the tourism business at all. People conform.

Mr. Livingstone said he wanted to clarify, since he would be preparing the Council letter, your motion is to go smoke free in all parks and in to be further vetted by the City Council?

Mr. Hester said that would be up to the City Council.

President Waterfield asked if, by definition, are golf courses included as parks?

Mr. Hester responded that golf courses are included as open space and are not dedicated as parks.

Commissioner Saltzgaver said they are under control of a private lease.

Mr. Hester said if there would be a desire to include golf courses, we would need to get a legal opinion.

Commissioner Saltzgaver said he didn't think golf courses were an issue on this motion because it is directed specifically to city parks. He asked for a friendly amendment to study whether golf courses should be included, in terms of a legal definition.

Commissioner Satariano agreed with the amendment.

Mr. Hester said what we submit back to the City Council, depending on what you decide, we would incorporate information about golf courses, and that there be further legal consideration as to whether golf courses could be incorporated as parks.

Commissioner Saltzgaver said he is not comfortable with putting this on golf courses and it would be opening up a totally different can of worms.

Mr. Hester said he agrees. The Commission could have the responsibility to incorporate golf courses. He said the lease is not predicated on this, it is more of an operational lease. We can incorporate that it is subject to legal interpretation.

Ms. Herman said out of the 150 ordinances that we have researched so far in the state of California, many have exempted golf courses.

Commissioner Guerra agreed with the amendment.

It was moved by Commissioner Satariano and seconded by Commissioner Guerra to recommend to the City Council that smoking be banned in all parks in Long Beach, with golf courses subject to a separate study. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Hester apologized for staff; we were probably thrown off by the time line. At the end of the day, the Commission has taken the bold step and it is the appropriate thing to do. We will see what City Council does.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

President Waterfield said that there was no new business.

IX. COMMENTS

A. AUDIENCE

President Waterfield asked for comments from the audience.

The audience clapped and cheered and thanked the Commission.

B. STAFF

President Waterfield asked for comments from staff.

Mr. Hester said that it is with sadness that he is announcing that Phil Lopez will be leaving the City and will be taking over responsibility for all parks in Lakewood. It is a good move for him. We are really going to miss him. He has been here many years. He has been active in the maintenance school. He will be hard to replace.

Mr. Lopez thanked the Commission for their help with the parks. He said he has been here for 19 years and has had many opportunities to work with the Commission.

Ms. Kaiser thanked the Commissioners for coming out to many of the programs. She said we hope you can come out to the Baseball and Softball Hall of Fame ceremony this Saturday. She thanked the maintenance crew for making sure our parks are clean and safe and cleaning up after the events and programs.

Ms. Gonzalez thanked Mr. Lopez, who has been a great help on the Marine Advisory Committee subcommittees. He has been an expert in beach erosion.

C. COMMISSIONERS

President Waterfield asked for comments from the Commissioners.

Commissioner Satariano encouraged the Commissioners to attend the Hall of Fame ceremony. He said we would start at Blair Field and go across to Joe Rodgers Field. He thanked Ms. Kaiser and her group for work on 100 Days of Summer, staycations and with Sea Festival. We were able to give residents and tourists a dynamic summer. This was Sea Festival's sixth year and the best.

Commissioner Guerra thanked his fellow Commissioners for taking the bold stand on behalf of the youth of the city.

President Waterfield thanked the Commission and thanked Mr. Hester for doing more legwork on this. He also wanted to comment that the City would miss his leadership.

X. NEXT MEETING

President Waterfield stated that the next meeting would be held at 9:00 a.m., on Thursday, October 21, 2010, at the El Dorado Park West Community Center, in the Senior Center Library, 2800 North Studebaker Road, Long Beach, California.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

President Waterfield adjourned the meeting at 10:31 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Robin Black
Executive Assistant to the Director

c: Phil T. Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine

Melani Smith, Chair
Charles Durnin, Vice-Chair



Becky Blair, Commissioner
Alan Fox, Commissioner
Leslie Gentile, Commissioner
Phil Saumur, Commissioner
Donita Van Horik, Commissioner

FINAL AGENDA AND MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER (5:09 PM)

[see media](#)

At 5:09 pm, Chair Smith called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL (5:09 PM)

[see media](#)

Boardmembers Phillip Joseph Saumur, Alan L. Fox, Charles Durnin, Leslie
Present: Fernald Gentile, Melani Smith, Donita Van Horik and Becky Blair

Also present: Amy Bodek, Director of Development Services; Derek Burnham, Current Planning Officer; Jill Griffiths, Advance Planning Officer; Michael Mais, Assistant City Attorney; Steven Valdez, Project Planner; Craig Chalfant, Project Planner; Steve Gerhardt, Project Planner; Heidi Eidson, Bureau Secretary.

FLAG SALUTE (5:10 PM)

[see media](#)

Commissioner Saumur led the flag salute.

MINUTES (5:10 PM)

[see media](#)

[see media](#)

10-058PL

Recommendation to receive and file the Planning Commission minutes of September 16, 2010.

A motion was made by Commissioner Blair, seconded by Commissioner Saumur, to approve the recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Phillip Joseph Saumur, Alan L. Fox, Charles Durnin, Leslie Fernald Gentile, Melani Smith, Donita Van Horik and Becky Blair

DIRECTOR'S REPORT (5:11 PM)

see media

Derek Burnham, Current Planning Officer, provided the Director's Report.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (5:12 PM)

see media

There was no public comment given at this time.

SWEARING OF WITNESSES (5:12 PM)

see media

Do you solemnly swear or affirm that the evidence you shall give in this Planning Commission Meeting shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

REGULAR AGENDA (5:13 PM)

see media

see media

1. 10-059PL Recommendation to approve a Conditional Use Permit request to establish a check cashing and money order business within an existing convenience store located at 1732 E. 15th Street in the Single Family Residential (R-1-N) district. (District 5) (Application No. 1006-19)

Derek Burnham, Current Planning Officer, introduced Steven Valdez, Project Planner, who presented the staff report.

Dong Choi, applicant, spoke.

Dong Choi responded to a query from Commissioner Blair.

Danny Wilson provided public comment.

Maricella Ramirez provided public comment.

Derek Burnham responded to a query from Chair Smith.

Dong Choi spoke on behalf of Sally Perez, who wished to provide public comment.

Derek Burnham responded to a query from Commissioner Saumur.

Commissioner Van Horik spoke.

Derek Burnham responded to queries from Commissioner Van Horik.

Derek Burnham responded to a query from Commissioner Fox.

Commissioner Blair spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Commissioner Saumur and Derek Burnham.

A motion was made by Commissioner Van Horik, seconded by Commissioner Saumur, to approve the recommendation with an amendment to modify Condition No. 10, adding language requiring bilingual signage and to modify Condition No. 14, adding a 90-day deadline for permits to be applied for and approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Phillip Joseph Saumur, Alan L. Fox, Charles Durnin, Leslie Fernald Gentile, Melani Smith, Donita Van Horik and Becky Blair

see media

2. 10-060PL

Recommendation to approve an Addendum to a previously certified Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR 30-07) for the Colorado Lagoon Restoration project. (District 3)

Chair Smith and Commissioner Gentile recused themselves from the item.

Jill Griffiths, Advance Planning Officer, introduced Craig Chalfant, Project Planner, who presented the staff report.

Jill Griffiths spoke.

Kerrie Aley provided public comment.

Vice Chair Durnin swore in a late arriving member of the public wishing to provide public comment.

Peter Holzer provided public comment.

Deborah Crow provided public comment.

Matt Kirk provided public comment.

Dave Perazzi provided public comment.

Mona DeLeon, consultant from LSA Associates, spoke.

Mona DeLeon responded to queries from Commissioner Van Horik.

Eric Lopez, Restoration Project Manager, spoke.

Eric Lopez responded to a query from Commissioner Van Horik.

Eric Lopez and Kim Garvey, Moffit and Nichol, responded to queries from Commissioner Saumur.

Eric Lopez responded to queries from Commissioner Van Horik.

Eric Lopez responded to queries from Commissioner Saumur.

Eric Lopez and Kim Garvey responded to a query from Vice Chair Durnin.

Michael Mais, Assistant City Attorney, and Derek Burnham responded to a query from Commissioner Fox.

A dialogue ensued between Vice Chair Durnin, Jill Griffiths, Mona DeLeon and Eric Lopez.

Eric Lopez and Jill Griffiths responded to a query from Commissioner Saumur.

Commissioner Fox spoke.

Michael Mais responded to a query from Commissioner Van Horik.

Mona DeLeon responded to a query from Commissioner Saumur.

Mona DeLeon responded to a query from Amy Bodek, Director of Development Services.

Commissioner Blair spoke.

Michael Mais spoke.

A motion was made by Commissioner Blair, seconded by Commissioner Saumur, to approve the recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Phillip Joseph Saumur, Alan L. Fox, Charles Durnin, Donita Van Horik and Becky Blair

Abstain: 2 - Leslie Fernald Gentile and Melani Smith

see media

3. 10-056PL Recommendation to approve the nomination for the Chair of the Planning Commission for 2010-2011.

Chair Smith spoke.

Michael Mais, Assistant City Attorney, spoke.

A motion was made by Commissioner Blair, seconded by Commissioner Van Horik, to approve the nomination of Commissioner Durnin as the Planning Commission Chair for 2010 to 2011. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Phillip Joseph Saumur, Alan L. Fox, Charles Durnin, Leslie Fernald Gentile, Melani Smith, Donita Van Horik and Becky Blair

see media

4. 10-057PL Recommendation to approve the nomination for the Vice Chair of the Planning Commission for 2010-2011.

Commissioner Gentile made a substitute motion to nominate Commissioner Blair as the Vice Chair.

Commissioner Blair declined the nomination.

Commissioner Gentile withdrew her motion.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Saumur, to approve the nomination of Commissioner Van Horik as the Vice Chair of the Planning Commission for 2010 to 2011. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Phillip Joseph Saumur, Alan L. Fox, Charles Durnin, Leslie Fernald Gentile, Melani Smith, Donita Van Horik and Becky Blair

STUDY SESSION (6:50 PM)

see media

see media

- 10-061PL Conduct a study session to review the Land Use and Mobility sections of the Long Beach 2030 General Plan Update. (Citywide)

Amy Bodek, Director of Development Services, introduced the study session item.

Steven Gerhardt, Project Planner, presented the study session.

Ron Hawkes, KOA, discussed the mobility element.

Steve Gerhardt spoke.

Ron Hawkes spoke.

Steve Gerhardt spoke.

Ron Hawkes spoke.

Sumi Gant, Transportation Programs Officer, discussed the City's bike programs.

Steve Gerhardt spoke.

Chair Smith spoke.

Steve Gerhardt responded to a query from Commissioner Saumur.

Amy Bodek responded to a query from Commissioner Saumur.

Steve Gerhardt responded to queries from Commissioner Saumur.

Sumi Gant and Steve Gerhardt responded to a query from Commissioner Saumur.

Sumi Gant responded to a query from Commissioner Durnin.

Commissioner Durnin spoke.

Steve Gerhardt responded to comments from Commissioner Durnin.

Steve Gerhardt spoke.

Commissioner Blair spoke.

Sumi Gant responded to comments made by Commissioner Blair.

A dialogue ensued between Commissioner Blair and Derek Burnham.

Jill Griffiths responded to queries from Commissioner Gentile.

Steve Gerhardt responded to a query from Commissioner Gentile.

A dialogue ensued between Commissioner Gentile, Amy Bodek and Derek Burnham.

Ron Hawkes and Steve Gerhardt responded to a query from Commissioner Gentile.

Derek Burnham responded to queries from Commissioner Van Horik.

Commissioner Saumur spoke.

Steve Gerhardt responded to queries from Commissioner Saumur.

Steve Gerhardt responded to queries from Commissioner Fox.

Steve Gerhardt responded to queries from Chair Smith.

Chair Smith spoke.

Amy Bodek responded to comments from Chair Smith.

Chair Smith spoke.

COMMENTS FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION (8:30 PM)

see media

Commissioner Blair spoke.

Derek Burnham responded to a query from Commissioner Van Horik.

ADJOURNMENT (8:31 PM)

see media

At 8:31 p.m., Chair Smith adjourned the meeting.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: October 21, 2010 - 5:00 PM

hge