

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

**1**

**THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2023  
DR. THOMAS J. CLARK COMMUNITY CENTER  
BRIDGE ROOM  
2800 N. STUDEBAKER ROAD, 9:00 AM**

Robert Livingstone, Chair  
Susan Redfield, Vice Chair  
Christopher Chavez, Commissioner



Sharleen Higa, Commissioner  
Kasey Schoen, Commissioner  
Silissa Uriarte Smith, Commissioner

Brent Dennis, Director  
Jennifer Roberts, Executive Assistant

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**FINISHED AGENDA & DRAFT MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was called to order by Chair Livingstone at 9:10 AM, at the Dr. Thomas J. Clark Community Center located at El Dorado Park West.

**ROLL CALL**

Director Brent Dennis took the roll call and confirmed a quorum.

**Commissioners** Silissa Uriarte Smith, Christopher Chavez, Susan Redfield and

**Present:** Robert Livingstone

**Commissioners** Sharleen Higa and Kasey Schoen

**Excused:**

**STAFF PRESENT**

Brent Dennis, Director

Stephen Scott, Deputy Director

Gladys Kaiser, Bureau Manager, Community Recreation Services

Nancy Villasenor, Bureau Manager, Park Planning & Partnerships

Sherlyn Beatty, Partnerships Officer, Park Planning & Partnerships

Raul Martinez Jr., Superintendent, Maintenance Operations Bureau

Joy Warren, Superintendent, Community Recreation Services

Heidi Mazas, Superintendent, Community Recreation Services

Paul Felder, Park Supervisor, Community Recreation Services

Megan Ignacio, Community Information Specialist, Animal Care Services

Jenny Roberts, Executive Assistant, Director's Office

Lori Craig, Admin. Analyst, Park Planning & Partnerships

Anne Hudson, Admin. Analyst, Park Planning & Partnerships

Olivia Robertson, Intern, Park Planning & Partnerships

Ronnese Thornton, Recreation Leader, Community Recreation Services

#### **GUESTS PRESENT**

Trinka Rowsell, Executive Director, Partners of Parks

Randy Zarn, Administration, Partners of Parks

Ryan Reed, Associated Radio Amateurs of Long Beach

Karl George, Associated Radio Amateurs of Long Beach

Jane Hansen, Friends of Heartwell Park Central

Kathy Susa, Friends of Heartwell Park Central

Sheila Levin, Friends of Heartwell Park Central

Denise Pearson, Friends of Heartwell Park Central

Jack Jauregui, Friends of Heartwell Park Central

Cindy Wechsung, Friends of Heartwell Park Central

Victor Solomon, Courtside Community Foundation

Scott Brunner, Swim Long Beach

Karen Reside, Long Beach Gray Panthers

Raelene Child, Leadership Long Beach

Malou Mariano, Sister Cities

Peter Ramirez, Sister Cities

Barry Cogert, Jazz Angels

Franklin Sims, HOPE

Sheila Gibbons, Willmore City Heritage

Jon Vesely, L.B. Beekeepers

Anna Christensen, Los Cerritos Wetlands Task Force

## **PRESENTATIONS**

Ronnese Thornton from the Community Recreation Services Bureau was awarded Employee of the Month for April.

Director Brent Dennis spoke.

Joy Warren spoke.

Megan Ignacio spoke.

Heidi Mazas spoke.

Paul Felder spoke.

Ronnese Thornton spoke.

Chair Livingstone spoke.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. 23-024PR Recommendation to approve the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes of April 20, 2023.

Chair Livingstone spoke.

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

**Yes:** 4 - Silissa Uriarte Smith, Christopher Chavez, Susan Redfield and Robert Livingstone

**Excused:** 2 - Sharleen Higa and Kasey Schoen

## COMMISSION ITEMS

2. 23-025PR Recommendation to consider approval, or denial, of the fee waiver requests outlined in Attachment "A" in accordance with the Fee Waiver policy.

Director Brent Dennis spoke.

Gladys Kaiser spoke.

Chair Livingstone spoke.

Vice Chair Redfield spoke.

Peter Ramirez spoke.

Malou Mariano spoke.

Barry Cogert spoke.

Sheila Gibbons spoke.

Raelene Child spoke.

Ryan Reed spoke.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Chavez, seconded by Commissioner Uriarte Smith, to approve recommendation.**

**The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 4 - Silissa Uriarte Smith, Christopher Chavez, Susan Redfield and Robert Livingstone

**Excused:** 2 - Sharleen Higa and Kasey Schoen

3. 23-026PR Recommendation to approve Special Event Permit Application #23-206 from Love Beyond Limits, a California nonprofit corporation, to host a Juneteenth Celebration event that will include music, animals, food and merchandise concessions, and family entertainment at Martin Luther King, Jr., Park on June 18, 2023, with parameters determined by the Office of Special Events and Filming and the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine. (District 6)

Or

Determine the proposed activity does not provide a sufficient overall public benefit and deny Special Event Permit Application #23-206 from Love Beyond Limits, a California nonprofit corporation, to host a Juneteenth Celebration event that will include music, animals, food and merchandise concessions, and family entertainment at Martin Luther King, Jr., Park on June 18, 2023. (District 6)

Director Brent Dennis spoke.

Sherlyn Beatty spoke.

Chair Livingstone spoke.

Vice Chair Redfield spoke.

Commissioner Chavez spoke.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Uriarte Smith, seconded by Vice Chair Redfield, to approve permit application #23-206 from Love Beyond Limits. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 4 - Silissa Uriarte Smith, Christopher Chavez, Susan Redfield and Robert Livingstone

**Excused:** 2 - Sharleen Higa and Kasey Schoen

4. 23-027PR Recommendation to authorize the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute a Right-of-Entry Permit, and any other necessary documents, with Courtside Community Foundation, a California nonprofit corporation, to restore and maintain in perpetuity up to six basketball courts at DeForest, Drake, Orizaba, Pan American, Somerset, and Tanaka Parks. (Districts 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 9)

Director Brent Dennis spoke.

Nancy Villasenor spoke.

Chair Livingstone spoke.

Vice Chair Redfield spoke.

Commissioner Chavez spoke.

Jane Hansen spoke.

Victor Solomon spoke.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Uriarte Smith, seconded by Commissioner Chavez, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 4 - Silissa Uriarte Smith, Christopher Chavez, Susan Redfield and Robert Livingstone

**Excused:** 2 - Sharleen Higa and Kasey Schoen

5. 23-028PR Recommendation to approve Special Event Permit Application #23-187 from Le Upega, a California nonprofit corporation, to host the Pacific

Islander Summer Bash in the LBC event that will include cultural performances, a food concession, and an art exhibit at Houghton Park on August 12, 2023, with parameters determined by the Office of Special Events and Filming and the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine. (District 9)

Or

Determine the proposed activity does not provide a sufficient overall public benefit and deny Special Event Permit Application #23-187 from Le Upega, a California nonprofit corporation, to host the Pacific Islander Summer Bash in the LBC event that will include cultural performances, a food concession, and an art exhibit at Houghton Park on August 12, 2023. (District 9)

Director Brent Dennis spoke.

Sherlyn Beatty spoke.

Chair Livingstone spoke.

Vice Chair Redfield spoke.

Franklin Sims spoke.

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Redfield, seconded by Commissioner Uriarte Smith, to approve permit application #23-187 from Le Upega. recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 4 - Silissa Uriarte Smith, Christopher Chavez, Susan Redfield and Robert Livingstone

**Excused:** 2 - Sharleen Higa and Kasey Schoen

6. 23-029PR Recommendation to excuse Commissioners absent from the meeting of the Parks and Recreation on May 18, 2023.

Chair Livingstone spoke.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Uriarte Smith, seconded by Commissioner Chavez, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 4 - Silissa Uriarte Smith, Christopher Chavez, Susan Redfield and Robert Livingstone

**Excused:** 2 - Sharleen Higa and Kasey Schoen

7. 23-030PR Recommendation to move the Parks and Recreation meeting scheduled on Thursday, June 15, 2023 to Thursday, June 22, 2023.

Chair Livingstone spoke.

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

**Yes:** 4 - Silissa Uriarte Smith, Christopher Chavez, Susan Redfield and Robert Livingstone

**Excused:** 2 - Sharleen Higa and Kasey Schoen

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

8. 23-031PR Recommendation to receive and file the Director's monthly highlights report, "We Create Community" and "Director's Highlights" for May 2023.

Director Brent Dennis spoke.

Chair Livingstone spoke.

Kathy Susa spoke.

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

**Yes:** 4 - Silissa Uriarte Smith, Christopher Chavez, Susan Redfield and Robert Livingstone



**Excused:** 2 - Sharleen Higa and Kasey Schoen

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Karen Reside spoke.

Kathy Susa spoke.

Jane Hansen spoke.

Sheila Levin spoke.

Cindy Wechsung spoke.

Anna Christensen spoke.

Scott Brunner spoke.

Jon Vesely spoke.

**STAFF COMMENTS**

Director Brent Dennis spoke.

Gladys Kaiser spoke.

Nancy Villasenor spoke.

Sherlyn Beatty spoke.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Chair Livingstone spoke.

Vice Chair Redfield spoke.

Commissioner Uriarte Smith spoke.

Commissioner Chavez spoke.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Livingstone adjourned the meeting at 10:41 AM.

**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.

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