

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

**THURSDAY, JULY 16, 2020  
TELECONFERENCE, 9:00 AM**

David Zanatta, Commissioner  
Herlinda Chico, Commissioner

Brent Dennis, Director  
Valerie Davis, Executive Assistant



Mariela Salgado, Commissioner  
Ron Sievers, Commissioner  
Stella Ursua, Commissioner

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**FINISHED AGENDA & MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was called to order by Director Brent Dennis at 9:03 AM, via Teleconference.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**Commissioners** Herlinda Chico, Mariela Salgado, Ron Sievers, Stella Ursua and  
**Present:** David Zanatta

**STAFF PRESENT**

Brent Dennis, Director

Stephen Scott, Deputy Director

Gladys Kaiser, Bureau Manager, Community Recreation Services

Meredith Reynolds, Bureau Manager, Park Planning & Partnerships

Hurley Owens, Bureau Manager, Maintenance Operations

Leah Salgado, Admin Analyst, Business Operations

Elizabeth Norman, Grants Administrator, Park Planning & Partnerships

Valerie Davis, Executive Assistant to the Director

Jenny Roberts, Admin Aide, Executive Office

Julian Cernuda, 2020 Census Project Manager, City Manager's Office

### **GUESTS PRESENT**

Dan Knapp, Executive Director & CEO, Conservation Corps of Long Beach

Kedrin Hopkins, Director of Corpsmember Development, Conservation Corps of Long Beach

Phil Hester, Board Chair, Conservation Corps of Long Beach and Camp Fire

Georgia Stewart, Executive Director, Camp Fire

Brian Ulaszewski, Executive Director, City Fabrick

Alexander Jung, Senior Urban Designer, City Fabrick

Ryan Blazer, DeForest Park Neighborhood Association

Ben Goldberg, Former Parks and Recreation Commissioner

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Director Brent Dennis stated that the July 2020 organizational meeting included the election of Chair and Vice Chair. As such, he called for nominations for Chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Commissioner Sievers nominated David Zanatta for the Chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission. There were no other nominations. Commissioner Ursua 2nd the motion.

The nomination carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Ron Sievers, Stella Ursua, Herlinda Chico, Mariela Salgado and David Zanatta

Chair Zanatta called for nominations for Vice Chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Commissioner Sievers nominated Mariela Salgado for the Vice Chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission. There were no other nominations. Commissioner Ursua 2nd the motion.

The nomination carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Ron Sievers, Stella Ursua, Herlinda Chico, David Zanatta and Mariela Salgado

## PRESENTATIONS

The presentation on the 2020 Census was provided by Julian Cernuda, 2020 Census Project Manager.

Commissioner Chico spoke.

Commissioner Ursua spoke.

Chair Zanatta spoke.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [20-028PR](#) Recommendation to approve the Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes of June 18, 2020.

Chair Zanatta spoke.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Sievers, seconded by Commissioner Chico, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Herlinda Chico, Mariela Salgado, Ron Sievers, Stella Ursua and David Zanatta

## COMMISSION ITEMS

2. [20-029PR](#) Recommendation to receive and file the DeForest Park Vision Plan (Council District 9).

Director Brent Dennis spoke.

Meredith Reynolds spoke.

Chair Zanatta spoke.

Commissioner Chico spoke.

Commissioner Sievers spoke.

Commissioner Ursua spoke.

Dan Knapp spoke.

Georgia Stewart spoke.

Ryan Blazer spoke.

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

**Yes:** 5 - Herlinda Chico, Mariela Salgado, Ron Sievers, Stella Ursua and David Zanatta

3. [20-030PR](#)

Recommendation to authorize the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to approve a new park amenity and execute all documents necessary to issue a Right of Entry Permit to Conservation Corps of Long Beach, a non-profit 501c3, for the construction of an Environmental Stewardship Center for a period of two years from September 1, 2020 through August 30, 2022; and

Recommend to the City Manager the approval of an Environmental Stewardship Center for public recreation at DeForest Park, which meets a recreational need within the City. (Council District 9).

Meredith Reynolds spoke.

Chair Zanatta spoke.

Commissioner Chico spoke.

Commissioner Salgado spoke.

Commissioner Ursua spoke.

Dan Knapp spoke.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Ursua, seconded by Commissioner Salgado, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Herlinda Chico, Mariela Salgado, Ron Sievers, Stella Ursua and David Zanatta

4. [20-031PR](#)

Recommendation to authorize the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to approve a new park amenity and execute all documents necessary to issue a Right of Entry Permit to Camp Fire Angeles, a non-profit 501c3, for the construction of Discovery Trails at DeForest Park for a period of two years from September 1, 2020 through August 30, 2022; and

Recommend to the City Manager the approval of Discovery Trails for public recreation at DeForest Park, which meets a recreational need within the City. (Council District 9).

Meredith Reynolds spoke.

Chair Zanatta spoke.

Commissioner Chico spoke.

Commissioner Salgado spoke.

Commissioner Ursua spoke.

Georgia Stewart spoke.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Ursua, seconded by Commissioner Chico, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Herlinda Chico, Mariela Salgado, Ron Sievers, Stella Ursua and David Zanatta

Commissioner Chico left at 11:00 AM. With 4 Commissioners a quorum remains.

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO COMMISSION

5. [20-032PR](#) Recommendation to receive and file the Director's monthly highlights report, "We Create Community" for July 2020.

Director Brent Dennis spoke.

Chair Zanatta spoke.

Commissioner Sievers spoke.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Sievers, seconded by Commissioner Ursua, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 4 - Mariela Salgado, Ron Sievers, Stella Ursua and David Zanatta

**Excused:** 1 - Herlinda Chico

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Chair Zanatta spoke regarding getting Committees back on track.

## NEW BUSINESS

Chair Zanatta reported none at this time.

## COMMISSION STATUS REPORT

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair Zanatta spoke. The Committee did not meet this month.

### FINANCE & APPEALS COMMITTEE

Chair Zanatta spoke. The Committee did not meet this month.

### JOINT USE COMMITTEE

Commissioner Ursua spoke. The Committee did not meet.

Commissioner Sievers spoke. He requested that the Joint Use Committee folder be returned to the Director.

**MAINTENANCE & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**

Chair Zanatta spoke. The Committee did not meet.

**MARKETING & RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Salgado spoke. The Committee did not meet.

**PARKS USAGE & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Salgado spoke. The Committee did not meet.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Former Commissioner Goldberg spoke and announced his resignation due to moving outside the City of Long Beach. He thanked the Commission for a wonderful run and expressed how nice it was to work with a great department and City.

**STAFF COMMENTS**

Director Brent Dennis thanked Chair Zanatta for the introduction. He then presented Commissioner Ursua and former Commissioner Goldberg with a park sign in their names. He thanked both of them for their years of service.

**COMMISSION COMMENTS**

Chair Zanatta spoke and thanked former Chair Heggeness and former Commissioner Goldberg for their years of service. He told Commissioner Ursua that she will be missed and welcomed Director Brent Dennis. He also thanked City staff for their service during the pandemic.

Commissioner Salgado thanked former Commissioner Goldberg for his service.

Commissioner Sievers thanked former Commissioner Goldberg for his service. He also mentioned that during this pandemic, he has visited parks almost daily and the nature center has had 200 visits a day with 3,000 on the weekends. This shows how important parks are at this time.

Commissioner Ursua informed everyone of her resignation and that this will be her last Commission meeting. She thanked everyone for the opportunity to be part of a wonderful team.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Zanatta adjourned the meeting at 11:23 AM.

JR



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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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