

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

**THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2021  
TELECONFERENCE, 9:00 AM**

David Zanatta, Chair  
Mariela Salgado, Vice Chair



Sharleen Higa, Commissioner  
Robert Livingstone, Commissioner  
Susan Redfield, Commissioner  
Kasey Schoen, Commissioner  
Ron Sievers, Commissioner

Brent Dennis, Director  
Valerie Davis, Executive Assistant

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**FINISHED AGENDA & MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**ROLL CALL**

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

**Commissioners** Sharleen Higa, Robert Livingstone, Susan Redfield, Kasey  
**Present:** Schoen, Ron Sievers, Mariela Salgado and David Zanatta

**STAFF PRESENT**

Brent Dennis, Director

Stephen Scott, Deputy Director

Gladys Kaiser, Bureau Manager, Community Recreation Services

Hurley Owens, Bureau Manager, Maintenance Operations

Meredith Reynolds, Bureau Manager, Park Planning & Partnerships

Jorge Acevedo, Superintendent, Facility Maintenance

Ashleigh Griset, Superintendent, Community Recreation Services

Alma Castro, Parks Partnerships Officer, Park Planning & Partnerships

Lori Craig, Admin Analyst, Park Planning & Partnerships

Leslie Hunsaker, Admin Analyst, Park Planning & Partnerships

Jenny Roberts, Admin Aide, Executive Office

Brittany Howe, Clerk Typist, Community Recreation Services

Amy Nhoung, Clerk Typist, Facility Maintenance

**GUESTS PRESENT**

Trinka Rowsell, Executive Director, Partners of Parks

**PRESENTATIONS**

Amy Nhoung from Facility Maintenance was awarded Employee of the Month for March.

Director Brent Dennis spoke.

Gladys Kaiser spoke.

Hurley Owens spoke.

Jorge Acevedo spoke.

Ashleigh Griset spoke.

Omar Barboza spoke.

Meredith Reynolds, Bureau Manager for Park Planning & Partnerships, presented the LA River Corridor Overview presentation.

Director Brent Dennis spoke.

Meredith Reynolds spoke.

Chair Zanatta spoke.

Commissioner Redfield spoke.

Commissioner Sievers spoke.

Commissioner Livingstone spoke.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [21-018PR](#) Recommendation to approve the Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes of March 18, 2021.

Chair Zanatta spoke.

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

**Yes:** 7 - Sharleen Higa, Robert Livingstone, Susan Redfield, Kasey Schoen, Ron Sievers, Mariela Salgado and David Zanatta

## COMMISSION ITEMS

2. [21-020PR](#) Recommend to the Government, Personnel and Elections Oversight Committee and full City Council that the community center at Houghton Park be named the "Doris Topsy-Elvord Community Center", at Houghton Park. (District 9)

Director Brent Dennis spoke.

Meredith Reynolds spoke.

Chair Zanatta spoke.

Commissioner Higa spoke.

Commissioner Livingstone spoke.

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

**Yes:** 7 - Sharleen Higa, Robert Livingstone, Susan Redfield, Kasey Schoen, Ron Sievers, Mariela Salgado and David Zanatta

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

3. [21-019PR](#) Recommendation to receive and file the Director's monthly highlights report, "We Create Community" and "Director's Corner" for April 2021.

Director Brent Dennis spoke.

Chair Zanatta spoke.

Commissioner Higa spoke.

Commissioner Redfield spoke.

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

**Yes:** 7 - Sharleen Higa, Robert Livingstone, Susan Redfield, Kasey Schoen, Ron Sievers, Mariela Salgado and David Zanatta

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Chair Zanatta spoke regarding Committee Assignments and confirmed in the next week or so, he will be sending out a list of Committee's and what they represent. Committee Status Reports will only be brought to the Commission if the Committee's have met.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Chair Zanatta reported none at this time.

## **COMMITTEE STATUS REPORT**

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Chair Zanatta spoke and confirmed that the Committee met with Director Brent Dennis and he addressed all items.

**FINANCE & APPEALS COMMITTEE**

Chair Zanatta spoke and confirmed that the Committee did not meet.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

A public comment was received via email from Michelle Baker on April 13, 2021.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Vice Chair Salgado spoke and is looking forward to an in-person meeting when time allows.

Commissioner Livingstone spoke and complemented Director Brent Dennis, Gladys Kaiser and staff on helping with the Convention Center. PRM is the go to Department.

Commissioner Schoen spoke and thanked Meredith Reynolds for the detailed plan and thanked staff for their help with the Convention Center.

Commissioner Redfield spoke and echoed the comments about the Convention Center. She thanked Director Brent Dennis for his suggestion to visit Willow Springs and is looking forward to hearing more about the continued plans for Willow Springs. She also mentioned that the LB Historical Society puts on a wonderful performance on Halloween at Sunnyside Cemetery. In closing, she asked for another recommendation for a park site visit.

Commissioner Higa spoke and thanked everyone for the warm welcome. She mentioned that she visited all the libraries in Long Beach over the summer a couple years ago and is excited to go out and visit some parks now.

Chair Zanatta spoke and hopes that the City Council continues to see the good work that PRM does especially when it comes to budget allocations. He asked that we continue to be advocates for parks and provided insight regarding the children at the Convention Center.

**STAFF COMMENTS**

No staff comments at this time.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Zanatta adjourned the meeting at 10:35 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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