

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES – August 14, 2019

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chairman Dean called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Baranoff, Brand, Dean, Duff, Radenheimer, Spiller

Commissioners Absent: Gorham

Staff Present: Sue Richardson, Community Services Director; Sergeant Jim Huggins, La Mesa Police Department

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: July 10, 2019. Commissioner Radenheimer motioned to approve minutes, seconded by Commissioner Baranoff. Motion passed with all in favor. Commissioners Brand and Spiller abstained.

POLICE DEPARTMENT PARK BRIEF

Sergeant Huggins provided an overview on recent police activity in La Mesa's parks. There were 117 incidents/contacts in parks in July 2019 (period July 1 - August 1).

When asked about the homeless in our parks, Sergeant Huggins said that officers approach homeless people to meet them and offer resource information to those who will accept it.

Commissioner Brand suggested the LMPD review and contribute to park master plans.

Sergeant Huggins said that the Police Department relies on citizens to help be the eyes and ears of our community, encouraging residents to report suspicious activity to the police. Commissioner Brand suggested adding signage to parks, "If You See Something, Say Something," with LMPD contact information. Director Richardson said updating safety signage is a recommendation in the Livable La Mesa Action Plan. He suggested residents review Chief Vasquez's Quarterly Reports to City Council for more information.

ELECTIONS

Commissioner Brand nominated Commissioner Spiller as Chair, Commissioner Dean as Vice-Chair, and Commissioner Baranoff as Secretary, seconded by Commissioner Radenheimer. Motion passed with all in favor.

PARK INSPECTION ASSIGNMENTS

Appointments were made for Commissioner's quarterly park inspections as follows:

Baranoff: Lookout/Porter; Sunshine

Brand: Briercreech; Sunset

Dean: Aztec; Northmont

Duff: Collier; MacArthur

Gorham: Harry Griffen; Rolando

Radenheimer: Highwood; Jackson

Spiller: La Mesita/Junior Seau; Vista La Mesa

The next quarterly park inspections are due September 9.

COMMUNITY SERVICES UPDATES

Community Services Director Richardson gave the following updates:

- MacArthur Park
 - Master plan kick-off meeting with consultant took place. First public meeting is forthcoming.
 - The ADA picnic area is open.
 - The Boy Scouts continue to build trails along old cart paths.
 - New City tree trimmer has been working on tree maintenance.
 - Brooke Walsh recently started as the new Aquatics & Sports Supervisor.
- The Community Services Department hosted seven concerts, three movies, and had the highest recorded number of kids participate in summer day camp.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

- Commissioner Baranoff shared East County Homeless Task Force (ECHTF) homeless resource information.
- Commissioner Radenheimer provided an overview of the new *Westmont of La Mesa Senior Living Community*, located adjacent to Briercrest Park.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Schmitz, Friends of the La Mesa Library President, announced the next season of the Library's *Second Saturday Concert Series* beginning in October. The Friends and the Library are looking for musical groups to perform through May 2020.

ADJOURNMENT: Commissioner Dean adjourned the meeting at 7:25 PM, to the next regularly scheduled meeting on September 11, 2019.

Submitted by:



Susan Richardson
Director of Community Services