



**MINUTES**  
Recreation and Community Services Commission  
Adjourned Regular Meeting held  
February 8, 2017

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MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER at 6:00 p.m. by Chairperson Winnie Heiss

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Vice Chairperson Kirk Real

ROLL CALL: PRESENT:     Chairperson Winnie Heiss  
                                  Vice Chairperson Kirk Real  
                                  Commissioner Dave Allen  
                                  Commissioner Ben Delarosa  
                                  Commissioner Ted Spaseff

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Vice Chairperson Kirk Real and seconded by Commissioner Ted Spaseff to approve the minutes from the meeting of January 11, 2017. The motion was carried with no objections.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:**

Assistant Director Valarie Frost distributed printed information regarding a playground project spearheaded by the Rotary Club of Lakewood. Ms. Frost explained that the Rotary Club of Lakewood is working with Kids Around the World to refurbish, transport, and install recycled playground equipment from Bolivar Park, and repurpose it in Matapalo, Costa Rica. The project is scheduled to take place in June and the city and City Council are supporting the Rotary Club in their efforts to raise funds to accomplish this very worthwhile project.

Ms. Frost previewed upcoming programs and events which include the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast at The Centre on February 15, the Lakewood Youth Hall of Fame banquet on February 28, and the CPRS Conference on February 28 – March 3 in Sacramento. She continued by highlighting events next month and beyond which include Earth Walk on March 11 at Monte Verde Park, Arbor Day performances the week of March 13, Lakewood Celebrates on March 28 with the debut of new carpet at The Centre, the LYS Coaches Barbeque on April 8, Volunteer Day on April 22, and the Pan Am Fiesta on May 11-14.

Vice Chairperson Kirk Real noted that he has already seen information about raising funds for the Rotary Club's Costa Rica playground project. He expressed his pleasure with the project and how economically it can be accomplished.

**REPORTS:**

**1. Emergency Management Annual Report**

Community Services Manager Chuck Martucci displayed slides and provided information regarding emergency management activities in 2016 as noted in the written report. Mr. Martucci's report covered programs such CERT and Survive for 7, The Great ShakeOut, an Area E refresher course attended by staff, and the city's updated Emergency Operations Plan that was approved by the City Council on January 24, 2017.

Mr. Martucci responded to Commissioner Allen's request that Cullen Armet is the current Disaster Management Area Coordinator (DMAC) for Area E. Commissioner Allen thanked staff for all that is done to keep the city and its residents prepared for a disaster.

The Commission received and filed the report.

## **2. Pest Management Program Annual Report**

Environmental Resources Supervisor Mike McDade provided information on the various aspects of pest management as included in the written report. Slides were displayed to provide a visual explanation of some of the challenges the department faced in 2016 as well as new programs and equipment incorporated to combat the challenges. Mr. McDade reported that trapping and baiting systems administered by multiple staff members helped to reduce the gopher problem at Rynerson Park last year. He also pointed out that the new boom sprayer that was purchased in early 2016 has proven to be much more effective at combating weeds and saves quite a bit of time when compared to the backpack sprayers used previously. Mr. McDade reported that a pre-emergent product was also used on turf that is supposed to prevent weeds from growing for 90 days. Results from this program will be reported next year.

Vice Chairperson Kirk Real noted that he sees quite a few more squirrels in his neighborhood and asked if they have become a problem on the parks. Mr. McDade replied that squirrels have not become a problem on the parks. Parks Superintendent Philip Lopez added that squirrels do not cause the same types of problems as other rodents and pests.

The Commission received and filed the report.

## **3. Lakewood Youth Hall of Fame**

Community Services Manager Kevin Bright displayed slides and provided information included in the written report regarding the 36<sup>th</sup> annual Lakewood Youth Hall Fame Banquet. Mr. Bright noted that a BMX rider, and a track and field – para athlete will be inducted for the first time into the Hall of Fame. Mr. Bright announced that Montana Dixon will be honored as the Athlete of the Year. He added that Montana is a softball star from Lakewood High School who holds CIF's sixth highest home run total for a four-year high school career. Mr. Bright pointed out that Mike McDade will also be recognized as an LYS Mayor's Award winner, having volunteered as a coach for the past 18 seasons.

The Commission received and filed the report.

## **4. Activities and Maintenance Report No. 8**

A written report and discussion of the Recreation and Community Services Department Programs, Services and Maintenance Activities for the month of January 2017 and a listing of upcoming activities for March 2017.

The Commission received and filed the report.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Letter to Desmond Carter, Part-Time Employee of the Month for December 2016.

Chairperson Winnie Heiss commended Valarie Frost on writing a fantastic letter to Desmond. Ms. Frost replied that Desmond is a great employee.

The Commission received and filed the letter.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business brought before the Recreation and Community Services Commission, Chairperson Winnie Heiss adjourned the meeting at 6:41 p.m. to March 8, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

Barbara Di Iorio, Secretary to the  
Recreation and Community Services Commission