

CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH

Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting March 2, 2021 – 6:00 PM

I. CONVENE MEETING OF THE PARKS BEACHES & RECREATION COMMISSION TO ORDER – 6:00 PM

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Heather Ignatin, Chair
Diane Daruty, Vice Chair
Hassan Archer, Commissioner
David Granoff, Commissioner
Laird Hayes, Commissioner
Walt Howald, Commissioner
Kate Malouf, Commissioner

Staff: Laura Detweiler, Recreation & Senior Services Director
Sean Levin, Recreation & Senior Services Deputy Director
Micah Martin, Deputy Public Works Director
Kevin Pekar, Parks and Trees Superintendent
Mariah Stinson, Administrative Support Specialist

III. NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CONSENT CALENDAR-None.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Minutes of the January 25, 2021 PB&R Commission Special Meeting.
Recommendation: Waive reading of subject minutes, approve and order filed.

B. PW Activities Report
Recommendation: Receive/file Activity Report.

C. RSS Activity Report
Recommendation: Receive/file Activity Report of past and upcoming projects and events.

D. Reforestation Request- 1921 Kewamee Drive
Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Parks, Beaches and Recreation (PB&R) Commission approve the reforestation request of a Rusty-leaf Fig Tree located at 1921 Kewamee Drive. The applicant has met the procedural requirements for reforestation established in City Council Policy G-1. At the applicant's cost, a 48" box Crape Myrtle "Muskogee" tree will be installed as the replacement tree.

E. Reforestation Request- 20332 Riverside Drive

Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Parks, Beaches and Recreation (PB&R) Commission approve the reforestation request of a Brazilian Pepper tree located at 20332 Riverside Drive. The applicant has met the procedural requirements for reforestation established in City Council Policy G-1. At the applicant's cost, an Eastern Redbud "Forest Pansy" will be installed as the replacement tree.

Chair Ignatin called for public comment; seeing none, public comment was closed.

Motion by Commissioner Hayes; second by Commissioner Howald to accept items V-A through V-E of the Consent Calendar. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

VI. CURRENT BUSINESS

A. Community Service Award – Lynn Simons

Staff recommends that the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission approve the Community Service Award recognition of Lynn Simons to be awarded at a future Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission (PB&R) meeting.

Recreation & Senior Services Deputy Director, Sean Levin, reported that the subcommittee has reviewed and supports the application.

Vice Chair Daruty supported the nomination. Commissioner Archer seconded Vice Chair Daruty's comments. Commissioner Granoff highly recommended Ms. Simons to receive the award. Commissioner Hayes agreed with the nomination. Commissioner Howald appreciated Ms. Simons's service and supported the nomination. Commissioner Malouf disclosed that many members of the public wrote letters of support for the nomination and stated that she also supported the nomination. Chair Ignatin was excited to recognize Ms. Simons for her service to the community.

Motion by Commissioner Hayes; seconded by Commissioner Howald to approve the Community Service Award recognition of Lynn Simons to be awarded at a future Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission (PB&R) meeting. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

B. Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission Meeting Time Change

Staff is recommending that the Parks, Beaches and Recreation (PB&R) Commission take formal action to review and change their regular meeting time to begin earlier in the day and consider a start time between 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Recreation & Senior Services Director, Laura Detweiler, stated that the reason to change the time of the meetings is to minimize meetings going into the late evening as well as it being a more efficient use of staff time. If approved, the change would come into effect at the next Commission meeting, April 6, 2021.

Vice Chair Daruty appreciated the opinion of Mr. Mosher, a member of the public, in stating that an early start time may affect public participation. She agreed with Mr. Mosher's comments, but believed that there are ways to accommodate those individuals who had difficulty making the new start time. She supported the meeting start time change.

Commissioner Archer was concerned about the ability of the public to attend an earlier meeting and wanted to know more about potential impacts.

Commissioner Granoff agreed with Commissioner Daruty's comments regarding Mr. Mosher's comments. He requested that the Commission be polled to see if the time change would personally affect any of them. He wanted to make sure that the Commission had the flexibility to change the time if a large item does come onto the agenda in the future.

Commissioner Hayes agreed with Commissioner Daruty and Commissioner Granoff's comments.

Commissioner Howald believed that changing the time to 4:00 pm was a wise move.

Commissioner Malouf recognized Mr. Mosher's comments and wanted to make sure that additional time would be allocated for more controversial items.

Chair Ignatin asked what time other City Commissions start. Recreation & Senior Services Director Detweiler shared that the Harbor Commission starts at 5:00 pm, City Council's study sessions start at 4:00 pm, Finance Committee starts at 3:00 pm, Planning Commission at 6:30 p.m., Board of Library Trustees, 5:00 p.m., City Arts 5:00 p.m., and Aviation at 5:00 p.m.

Chair Ignatin called for public comment.

Jim Mosher emphasized that if the meeting time is changed to 4:00 pm, it may affect future Commissioners who may not be available to meet at 4:00 pm regularly.

Chair Ignatin closed public comment.

Vice Chair Daruty did not foresee there being an issue for future Commissioner members.

Commissioner Archer agreed with Commissioner Daruty's comment and supported changing the time.

Commissioner Granoff also agreed that there is enough flexibility among the Commission and staff to change the time if needed for future Commissioners.

Commissioner Hayes agreed.

Commissioner Howald appreciated Mr. Mosher's comments but felt that accommodations can be made for future Commissioners and members of the public.

Chair Ignatin believed that 5:00 pm was a better start time than the proposed 4:00 pm start time.

Motion by Commissioner Howald: seconded by Commissioner Malouf that the Parks, Beaches, and Recreation Commission begin their regular meetings at 5:00 pm. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

PB&R Commission / staff announcements/ Ad Hoc Committee updates or matters which Commissioner members would like placed on future agendas for further discussion (this is a non-discussion item).

Recreation & Senior Services Director Detweiler shared that the Spring Program is open for registration, youth sports competitions are underway, and voting centers are open at the Civic Center Community Room and Newport Coast Community Center. She reported that the Junior Guard building is coming forward to City Council March 9 for approval on the conceptual design as well as on a study session regarding the Capital Improvement Project (CIP).

Commissioner Granoff had questions regarding the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Santa Ana River Jetty as well as a possible off-leash beach dog park elsewhere on the beach

Commissioner Hayes asked if Commissioner Granoff had any suggestions where a beach off-leash dog park could be located. Commissioner Granoff predicted that it could be a seasonal park and a possible location could be at the north end of Corona del Mar.

Commissioner Howald supported Commissioner Granoff's suggestion. He asked what types of violations were being enacted that warranted all the citations given out at the Santa Ana River Jetty. He did not support an off-leash dog park in Corona del Mar. He also wanted a report on the tree scale that was plaguing the City's trees.

Chair Ignatin called for public comment, seeing none public comment was closed.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Public comments are invited on non-agenda items generally considered to be within the subject matter jurisdiction of the PB&R Commission. Speakers must limit comments to three (3) minutes. Before speaking, we invite, but do not require, you to state your name for the record. The Commission has the discretion to extend or shorten the speakers' time limit on non-agenda items, provided the time limit adjustment is applied equally to all speakers.

Jack O'Brien presented his suggested project for a Ride on VDA Memorial Skatepark to the Commission. There are no skatepark in the City and folks are skating illegally on

public property. Mr. O'Brien stated that a skatepark would provide many benefits to the community and would provide an outlet to folk who do not participate in traditional sports. He presented ideas for funding and provided suggestions for possible locations.

Commissioner Granoff supported building a skatepark in the community. He suggested that the City look for sponsors within the community to see who would like to fund a skatepark.

Commissioner Howald wanted to see the item on a future agenda for discussion.

Commissioner Hayes stated that the City needs a skatepark and it should be a high-priority item.

Vice Chair Daruty supported the idea.

Commissioner Malouf appreciated that presentation and agreed that it is something that should be installed in the community.

Commissioner Archer requested that staff provide a presentation on financing as well as possible spaces for a skatepark.

Recreation & Senior Services Director Detweiler explained that projects of any kind must follow a City process for proper placement and funding

Commissioner Hayes suggested an Ad Hoc Committee be formed to help staff move forward with the skatepark concept. He encouraged Mr. O'Brian to present his project to his area's City Council Member. He also asked for an update on the Junior Life Guard Headquarters. Recreation & Senior Services Director Detweiler shared that the project was going before the Council at their next meeting.

IX. ADJOURNMENT – 6:46 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Mariah Stinson, Administrative Support Specialist

Approved by: _____
Heather Ignatin, Chair