

**CITY OF NORWALK
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
September 8, 2016**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Juan at 6:04 p.m. at Sara Mendez Park, 11660 Dune Street, Norwalk, California. Commission members present were: John Brammer, Thomas Golightly, Martin Greenidge, and Norma Merino. Commissioner Ray Fernandez-Silva arrived late. Commissioner Raul Reyes was absent. Staff present were Bill Kearns, Director of Recreation and Park Services; Rosie Lozoya, Recreation Supervisor; and Grace Walters, Office Assistant III.

Commissioner Greenidge motioned to accept the minutes of the August 11, 2016 meeting. Commissioner Brammer seconded the motion.

OLD BUSINESS

Halloween Events

Staff Kearns asked the commission for assistance with the Halloween events.

The Phone Home booth will be manned and the Costume Contest will be judged by: Commissioners Juan, Brammer, Greenidge, and Merino.

Telephone calls will be made by: Commissioners Juan, Fernandez-Silva, and Golightly.

The Scarecrow Contest will be judged by Commissioners Juan, Brammer, and Merino.

Commissioner Brammer asked that more prizes, along with the bicycles, be displayed at the booth so that it's attractive to attendees.

Staff informed the commission that a presentation of the grand prize winners will take place during the City Council meeting on November 1. Commissioners were encouraged to attend.

STAFF REPORT

Reorganization of Recreation Department

Staff Kearns informed the commission that as of September 1, 2016, he was appointed director of the Recreation and Park Services Department. Also, recently, Rosie Lozoya was appointed Supervisor and Inez Alvarez was appointed Superintendent of the department.

Vista Verde Party Block Party

Staff Lozoya thanked Chairperson Juan for his assistance during the recent Glazier Park Block Party where there was a great turnout, several hundreds of hot dogs were served, and the Soto band performed for the attendees.

Another block party will be held on September 10, this time at Vista Verde Park with similar offerings. A local dental office will be represented and distribute free water and other drinks, and the Teen Alliance Program will sell churros as a fundraiser for their group.

Recreation Department Update

During a walking tour of Sara Mendez Park, Staff Lozoya explained that the City has a joint use agreement with the William Orr School adjacent to the park. The field between the school and the park is shared so the park is closed as a safety precaution while school is in session. Currently, an after school program is offered on weekdays from 2:30-7:00 p.m. which includes homework assistance and games. In the summer months, a camp for toddlers is offered and there are handball and basketball courts on the premises as well. The recreation center is available for reservations for the purposes of meetings and parties.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

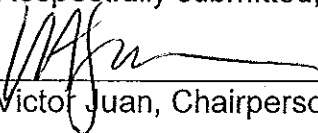
Commissioner Brammer stated that he had a pleasant time at the Land Transfer Ceremony and was impressed with the program.

Commissioner Merino congratulated Staff Kearns and Lozoya on their new positions in the department.

Chairperson Juan thought that the staff did an excellent job on the Glazier Park Block Party.

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Brammer moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Merino. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Victor Juan, Chairperson