



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
455 North Rexford Drive
Room 280A
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

In-Person / Telephonic / Video Conference Meeting

**RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, August 22, 2023
2:00 p.m.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Date/Time: August 22, 2023 / 2:03 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

JR Dzubak led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Lurie read the Civility Statement.

SWEARING IN OF NEW COMMISSIONER JR DZUBAK

Huma Ahmed, City Clerk, swore in new Commissioner JR Dzubak.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Dzubak, Termeie, Vice Chair Sherry, Chair Lurie

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Matthew Brown, Adrine Ovasapyan, Patty Acuna, and Linda Kyriazi

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Members of the public may address the Commission regarding any items not on the Agenda that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. By State law, the Commission may not discuss or vote on items not on the Agenda.

- Recording Secretary, Linda Kyriazi, read into record an email submitted regarding opening the interior of Greystone Mansion for weddings.
- Mr. Steve Walfish spoke about Pickleball and the rearrangement of the Roxbury tennis courts by reconfiguring all four tennis courts into pickleball courts.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

With the concurrence of the Commission, the Chair may choose to amend the order of the items on the agenda.

Chair Lurie approved the Agenda as presented.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of Minutes from the Recreation and Parks Commission Special Meeting from 06/27/2023.
Due to the lack of a quorum, the meeting minutes from June 2023 were tabled.

REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

2. Beverly Hills Unified School District

A representative from the school district was unable to attend this month's meeting.

PRESENTATIONS

3. July – *Parks Make Life Better!*

Matthew Brown, Recreation Services Manager, will provide an update on July's *Parks Make Life Better!* events.

Matthew Brown, Recreation Services Manager, updated the Commission on the successful events that took place during the month of July for *Parks Make Life Better!* The goal for the month was to:

- Invite the community to enjoy our parks and participate in our recreation activities throughout July.
- Utilize existing Community Services events and activities by incorporating fun elements for Parks Make Life Better month.
- Highlight some existing programs or activities we'd like to bring more attention to.
- Offer activities for all age groups and include opportunities for family participation.
- The Commissioners provided suggestions such as utilizing the mini parks in addition to creating programs that include teenagers.

4. Senior Health Fair

Matthew Brown, Recreation Services Manager, will provide information on the Senior Health Fair scheduled for September 18, 2023 at Roxbury Community Center.

- Matthew Brown, Recreation Services Manager, updated the Commission on what has been planned for this year's 15th Annual Senior Health Fair scheduled for Monday, September 18, 2023 from 10am – 1pm at Roxbury Park Community Center.
- The Health Fair has been on hiatus since 2019 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and is hosted in partnership with Cedars-Sinai Medical Center.
- The event will provide: health and wellness information for seniors, health screenings, housing information, nutritional support, risk assessment and where to find relevant support services
- The event is free and lunch will be provided. For further information visit beverlyhills.org/seniorhealthfair
- The Commissioners provided additional suggestions. Vice Chair Sherry suggested dental screenings which Commissioner Termeie agreed. Staff will meet with Cedars-Sinai and then reach out to Commissioner Termeie.
- The Commissioners suggested a tech person since staff uses QR codes on flyers and are encouraging residents to go online or information.

NEW BUSINESS

None

CONTINUED BUSINESS

5. Afterschool Programming Update

Recreation Services Manager, Adrine Ovasapyan will provide an update.

Recreation Services Manager, Adrine Ovasapyan, updated the Commission on the Afterschool Programming. Staff worked to ensure:

- Consistent dismissal times.
- Increased the number of enrollments for Adventure Camp Program.
- Added a District funded afterschool program through a third party vendor, STAR to provide additional childcare services.
- Increased the number of enrichment class offerings, set to begin on September 11, 2023, at both Hawthorne and Horace Mann elementary schools. Parents will be notified through the school district's newsletter.
- With these program adjustments, we are now serving approximately 200 more students for this 2023/2024 school year.
- Commissioner Termeie shared with staff comments and suggestions she had received from parents.
- Patty Acuna, Assistant Director of Community Services, updated the Commission on the Beverly Hills Unified School District grant program that provides free childcare to families who qualify for free and reduced lunch and second language learners.

6. Water Wells Update

Staff will provide an update on the La Cienega Water Wells.

Recreation Services Manager, Adrine Ovasapyan will provide an update.

- A walk-through was scheduled with youth sports groups that utilize the fields to view the possible impacts. The groups provided their schedules so a timeline could be created for Public Works to reduce the impact.
- Staff has reviewed ways for additional fencing in addition to the relocation of a batting cage as the Water Wells project begins.
- Public Works will be creating sound walls for their area in addition to providing a safe working area.
- Staff has created monthly meetings for constant communication with Public Works and the Youth Sports Representatives.

7. Teen Advisory Committee (TAC)

Recreation Supervisor, Lisa Crespo, will provide an update.

Recreation Supervisor, Lisa Crespo, updated the Commission on the new Teen Advisory Committee for the new school year:

- The Teen Advisory Committee expand offerings for the 2023-2024 year. The City of Beverly Hills welcome 50 new committee members. The committee will split into Middle School Teen Advisory Committee and a High School Teen Advisory Committee.
- This distinction will help enable opinions from all levels of the teen community to be heard. The Middle School group will focus on social events and volunteer-driven projects while the High School group will focus on community engagement and civic events. Both groups will attend all special events and be a part of the creative process for teen engagement.
- This year's group kick-off will be their involvement in the September 10, 2023 Day of Wellness Event held at Roxbury Park.
- The Commission provided additional suggestions where teens could be involved.

STATUS REPORTS

8. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

PROJECT UPDATES

- Manager updates
 - Assistant Director Patty Acuna announced the promotion of Adrine Ovasapyan as the new Recreation Services Manager.
- Recreation & Parks Commission Priorities
 - Tabled for a later meeting while staff works on the Commission's events and training.
- Community Services Events
 - ArtWalk (new City Hall area), September 10, 2023 at 11am.
 - Catskills Performance: their final performances were held August 2 & 3, 2023.
 - Day of Wellness, scheduled for Sunday, September 10, 2023, at Roxbury Park, from 10am – 3pm.
 - Halloween Dance: the Beverly Hills Active Adult Club (BHAAC) dance is scheduled for Monday, October 30, 2023, 1pm, at Roxbury Community Center.
- Community Services Events Calendar
 - Event Calendar was reviewed.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION

9. Chair Report
- a. Mayor's Cabinet Meeting
 - Meeting Minutes
 - i. Reviewed
 - b. Ad Hoc Committees
 - With the departure of two Commissioners, along with a new Commissioner, Chair Lurie, along with the other Commissioners, updated and reassigned the Ad Hoc Committees.
 - c. Recreation and Parks Commission Upcoming Meetings
 - Review calendar and attendance
 - i. Commissioner Termeie noted the future Commission dates were off. Recording Secretary, Linda Kyriazi, will review and correct.
 - d. Other items brief announcements, request for information, and brief reports on activities
 - Chair Lurie, along with the Commission, thanked Vice Chair Mishler for her years of service on the Commission in addition to her contributions.
 - Chair Lurie, along with Vice Chair Sherry, were on the interview panel for a Recreation and Parks Commissioner replacement and noted that Pickleball, along with the Dog Park, was brought up often.
 - Chair Lurie agreed to be a judge at the Farmers' Market Picklefest on August 6, 2023. Because of the successful event, Chair Lurie suggested that pickling contests return to the Farmers' Market more often.
 - Chair Lurie passed on a suggestion that the City's passive parks can be utilized for mental wellness along with kindness.

10. Tour of Public Works Water Wells

Departs City Hall, 455 N. Rexford Drive, Room 280A

Walk to corner of Maple and Alden Drive, Beverly Hills, across from the dog park

Return to City Hall, 455 N. Rexford Drive, Room 280A

- The Commission meeting took a recess at 3:44pm as the Commission, along with staff, departed to a site visit of the Public Works Water Wells.
- The Commission returned at 4:36pm and the meeting was adjourned.

NEXT MEETING: September 26, 2023

ADJOURNMENT

Date / Time: August 22, 2023 / 4:37 p.m.

PASSED, Approved and Adopted on this 26th day of September 2023



Myra B. Lurie, Chairperson