

**MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF FONTANA
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 23, 2015, 7:00 PM**

The City of Fontana Parks and Community Services Commission and Staff met for a workshop at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 23, 2015, in the City Council Chambers, 8353 Sierra Avenue, Fontana, California, prior to the regular meeting to review the agenda, discuss the November and December Parks and Community Services Commission meetings, and review the 2015-2016 Staff Reports Calendar.

Chairperson Espinoza, Commissioner Bravo, Commissioner Coleman, Commissioner Goñi, and Commissioner Tigner were present.

The regular meeting of the City of Fontana Parks and Community Services Commission was held on Thursday, July 23, 2015, in the Grover W. Taylor Council Chambers, 8353 Sierra Avenue, Fontana, California. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chairperson Espinoza, followed by an Invocation given by Pastor Daniel Vasquez, Calvary Chapel of Fontana and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Coleman.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Secretary Espinoza, Commissioners Bravo, Coleman, Goñi, Tigner, and Vaquera.

Absent: Commissioner Casey.

Staff: Community Services Director Garth Nelson; Community Services Manager Aaron Orozco; Community Services Manager Michael Wright; Community Services Manager Jennifer Hunt; Community Services Supervisor Karen Gerber; Community Services Supervisor Geneo Farrar; Community Services Coordinator Tara Cloke; City Clerk Tonia Lewis and Commission Secretary Ysela Aguirre.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

A. Relay for Life

Relay for Life Representatives Chris Gonzales, David Arredondo, and Janie Rowland presented the Parks and Community Services Commission with a plaque and certificate for their partnership in the Relay for Life event. This cosponsored fundraising event raised over \$70,000.

Janie Rowland has been a part of Relay for Life for 15 years and is handing over the reins of the Relay for Life event to Chris Gonzales, David Arredondo and Shawn Mallatt. The Relay for Life event will be held on May 14-15, 2016.

Janie Rowland announced a fundraiser comedy event at the Ontario Improv coming soon.

Chris Gonzales thanked the City of Fontana for their donations; the Public Works Department for setting up for the event; and the special events team for the fantastic hard work and dedication; and the Mayor and City officials for attending the Relay for Life and making it a success. They look forward to seeing everyone there next year.

David Arredondo spoke regarding being involved with Relay for Life since 2008, working with Healthy Fontana and getting to know Janie and the team; she has learned what it takes to make the event happen.

Chairperson Espinoza spoke on all of the work they do; hopefully one day we will abolish cancer.

Chairperson Espinoza thanked Janie Rowland and the Relay for Life team.

B. Introduction Of New Community Services Team Members:

Community Services Manager, Michael Wright, introduced new Community Services team member Stan Clark who will be filling the Community Services Aquatics Coordinator position.

Stan Clark shared a little history of himself including that he was recently married, has worked as a life guard, holds lots of certifications/degrees, has worked as teacher and administrator in charter schools in Fontana. He was very impressed with this beautiful town. He spends most of the time doing something with water including boating, scuba diving, and snorkeling. He is excited to be here and looks forward to working with everyone.

Commissioner Coleman welcomed Stan to Fontana.

Commissioner Vaquera welcomed Stan and shared that he will love the staff and will be impressed with them all.

Chairperson Espinoza congratulated Stan on the job and on his new marriage.

Community Services Manager Aaron Orozco introduced Michael Strickland, Facilities Coordinator.

Michael Strickland thanked everyone for the warm welcome; everyone has been extremely helpful and welcoming. He comes from Sierra Madre and was in the fitness industry for 15 years, owning his own company. He feels great to be in community services serving a community for people that appreciate what is offered. He has been a volunteer as a parent and understands the need for what is offered and is proud to be a part of that and looks forward to serving Fontana.

Commissioner Vaquera welcomed Michael.

Chairperson Espinoza welcomed Michael.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION:

None.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

ACTION: Motion was made by Commissioner Tigner, seconded by Commissioner Bravo, and passed by a vote of 6-0 to approve Consent Calendar Items "A-B".

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

A. DON DAY NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER OVERVIEW - KAREN GERBER

Community Services Supervisor, Karen Gerber, introduced Community Services Coordinator, Christina Enriquez, to provide an overview of the Don Day Neighborhood Center.

Coordinator Enriquez reported on the special events held at Don Day Neighborhood Center including Tiny Tot Open House, Back to School Night, Easter Spring Eggs-travaganza, Halloween Monster Bash, Kid's Night Out, and Breakfast with Santa. Over 2,000 patrons attended special events at Don Day.

Contract Classes offered include martial arts, dance, parent and me, cheer, and fitness between July 2014 and June 2015, the Don Day Neighborhood Center serviced 2,348 enrollees.

Commissioners Bravo, Coleman, and Tigner commended Coordinator Enriquez on her presentation and the successful programs at Don Day.

B. SPECIAL NEEDS OVERVIEW - KAREN GERBER

Community Services Supervisor, Karen Gerber, introduced Community Services Coordinator, Tara Cloke, to provide an overview of Special Needs programming.

Coordinator Cloke reported that the Community Services Department serves families with Special Needs through the Sparks and Sunshine Clubs. The programs continue to offer activities for individuals with cognitive, physical, and social

disabilities. These social-recreational groups host special events, recreational enrichment activities, and regular, on-going gatherings.

Sunshine Club originated in 2008 and serves 24 families; the Sparks Club originated in 2012 and serves 57 families.

Sparks and Sunshine Clubs offer activities for individuals and their families with a supportive and fun atmosphere. Partnerships and resources from local schools, cities, organizations, colleges, and universities have been initiated and assisted in the development of staff training and educational program enhancements.

The local, non-profit organization, Team of Advocates for Special Kids (TASK), enables individuals with disabilities to reach their maximum potential by providing training, support, information, resources, and referrals.

Unique recreational experiences are provided for our special needs population such as: the Special Needs Art Program (SNAP), provided by the Art Depot staff, offers an assortment of experiences for all skills and abilities; inclusive acting, adaptive cardio kickboxing, adaptive dance, Polynesian dance, and moving, grooving 'n learning.

During the 2014-2015 year, the Sparks and Sunshine Clubs enjoyed many fun and interactive activities. There were a total of 106 attendees in classes; 689 attendees in special events; 86 participants in excursions; and 182 attendees at the monthly Club meetings.

Staff continues to work towards further enhancement of programing and services including developing a team that is actively engaged and committed to providing the highest standards of service, receiving ongoing valuable training and development opportunities, and focusing on enhancing service delivery.

Commissioner Goñi commended staff on the presentation and requested that Eydee be recognized for her work on the special needs program.

Commissioner Goñi commended what the city is doing.

Commissioner Coleman requested information on the IEP work being done at the Cypress Center on Saturdays. Community Services Supervisor Gerber stated that the City contracts with TASK to assist parents with advocate activities.

Commissioner Goñi asked if Tara was now in charge of the Sparks and Sunshine Clubs because that is what she understood. Supervisor Gerber corrected that due to parent feedback, Sparks and Sunshine will do more together; Tara is in charge of Sparks at Cypress Community Center and Michael Strickland will oversee the Heritage Neighborhood Center and the Sunshine Club.

Commissioner Goñi asked if Damien was no longer in charge and when that happened. Staff indicated that Mr. Terrones recently left the City.

Chairperson Espinoza commended staff for their work with the special needs programs; she spoke to a mom at the Car show whose daughter was so excited that she came out of her comfort zone and was dancing and having a great time.

Chairperson Espinoza commended those that start something, but it is also important to commend those that continue and enhance a project.

Commissioner Goñi stated that it is important, but it is also important to acknowledge and appreciate those who took the time to have started something because without that, we wouldn't have what we have.

C. ASES-AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM END OF THE YEAR REPORT - JAMIE BUMIA

Community Services Supervisor, Jamie Bumia, provided an ASES After School Program End of the Year Report.

Partnerships between the City of Fontana, Fontana Unified School District, Colton Joint Unified School District, Etiwanda School District, and Boys & Girls Club of Fontana paved the way for exciting new lessons, activities, and events for students in kindergarten through eighth grade across thirty-two elementary and five middle school sites.

There were approximately 3,000 students who attended on a daily basis. Daily program components consisted of homework assistance, a healthy snack, youth development, and research-based educational enrichment curriculums.

Commissioner Bravo requested information on the qualification process or specific training for those that are involved the educational component of the program. Supervisor Bumia shared that staff have to pass a test and must have a college education (40 units); staff is also involved in ongoing professional development.

Commissioner Espinoza commended staff on the work they do with students.

D. FIELD AND SHELTER MANAGEMENT UPDATE - GENE FARRAR

Community Services Supervisor, Geneo Farrar, provided a field and shelter management overview.

The Field Management Program is responsible for requesting, facilitating, and auditing all field usage. The monitoring consists of a full-time coordinator, Hector Vasquez, who receives, reviews, and approves all field requests, communicates with user groups, inputs requests in the system, and schedules and trains Field Ambassadors. Six part-time staff members, Field Ambassadors, monitor fields seven days a week.

In 2014-2015, the Community Services Department's 105 user groups were accommodated with field space for practices, games, and tournaments; over 650 field permits were issued with over 60,000 hours of field use; Field Ambassadors made over 12,000 visits to 25 athletic fields and greenbelt locations.

Users include resident, youth, non-profit, Pop Warner, AYSO, Little Leagues, adult sports organizations, and travel groups.

Field Ambassadors can generate, verify, and amend work orders and requests.

Discussion was held on the status of the lights used on the fields; they are the highest standard available.

Bravo commended staff on the presentation.

Discussion ensued regarding the assignment of staff, not all fields being listed, and gates only being unlocked if they have been allocated.

Discussion was held on easiest way to get to Coyote Canyon Park; through Cherry Avenue and right on Bridle Path.

Discussion took place on the creative staffing being done to be in compliance with the Affordable Care Act and how part time staff is scheduled in order to deliver the best customer service.

Discussion took place on the lighting being focused and aimed onto the field and not into the neighboring residences.

E. SPECIAL EVENTS UPDATE - JENNIFER HUNT:

Community Services Manager Jennifer Hunt provided an update on special events held in June as follows:

- June 4-7, 2015, Fontana Days Festival at Veteran's Park. There were over 25,000 participants
- June 6, 2015, 60th Annual Fontana Days Run. There were over 6,000 participants.
- June 6, 2015, Fontana Days Parade on Sierra Avenue and ending on Merrill and Palmetto Avenue. There were over 3,500 spectators.
- June 11, 2015, Summer Concerts at Miller Park. Bumptown performed
- June 18, 2015, Summer Concerts at Miller Park. Blue Breeze Band performed
- June 25, 2015, Summer Concerts at Miller Park. Beatles vs. Stones performance

- June 12, Fontana Car Show, at Fontana City Hall Parking Lot, provided live entertainment, food vendors, and children's activities. There were 55 participants and 130 spectators

Manager Jennifer Hunt provided an update on upcoming events in August as follows:

- August 6, 2015, Summer Concerts at Miller Park.
- August 7, 2015, Fontana Car Show at City Hall.
- August 21, 2015, Family Fun Night.

Commissioner Goñi commented that families are having fun.

Chairperson Espinoza thanked staff for their reports.

ACTION: Motion was made by Commissioner Vaquera, seconded by Commissioner Bravo, and passed by a vote of 6-0 to accept staff reports for items A-E.

COMMISSION COMMENTS:

Commissioner Goñi reminded everyone that school starts in a few weeks so go out and enjoy what is still left of the summer season and watch out for little ones and God bless.

Commissioner Bravo spoke on the great Community Services staff we have and how that was evident at the 4th of July show at Fontana High School; it was professionally done and you could see so much staff working so hard to make it happen. He watched the production in action and it was very impressive.

Commissioner Bravo commended staff for all of their hard work at the 4th of July event; this is what our city is capable of putting together and he heard lots of compliments from people.

Commissioner Bravo reminded everyone about the Farmers Market on Arrow and Sierra in the Chamber of Commerce parking lot on Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. There are lots of quality products available and starting August 1, 2015, there will be two locations; the new one will be at Cherry and Live Oak.

Commissioner Bravo will see everyone at the concert tonight.

Commissioner Coleman invited everyone to the Fontana Arts Festival on Saturday, July 25, 2015, at Fontana Park.

Commissioner Tigner reminded everyone to watch out for the kids still running around.

Commissioner Tigner invited everyone to the Fontana Arts Festival on Saturday, July 25, 2015, at Fontana Park.

Commissioner Tigner welcomed Stan and Michael and

Vice Chairperson Vaquera thanked all staff for their reports, welcomed Michael and Stan to the team, and spoke about the 4th of July event being a blast! In addition, he is excited that the City of Fontana had been selected as a Special Olympics torch stop. The Special Olympics would be held this weekend in Los Angeles.

Vice Chairperson Vaquera hopes to see everyone at the Arts Festival on July 25, 2015, and announced that his younger son is getting his driver's license.

Chairperson Espinoza congratulated Garth for his great leadership; he always gives credit to staff, but he leads them. She also commented on the lunch program sites and has seen that everyone that participates enjoys it, and it is a blessing.

Chairperson Espinoza thanked Rick for letting her join him on a hike to Mt. Baldy, welcomed new employees, and congratulated staff on their promotions.

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMENTS:

Community Services Director Nelson commented on a lot of planning going into the July 4, event; planning for next year's event will begin in a few weeks. Community Services Manager Jennifer Hunt worked hard with the fireworks company.

Director Nelson spoke on the Special Olympics Committee giving nothing but kudos for the support given to the Torch Running event.

Director Nelson shouted out the KFON Team for their field recording at all of the events happening this summer.

Director Nelson thanked the Parks and Community Services Commissioners for being out in the field at all of the events. He appreciates that they are the eyes and ears at the events.

Community Services Manager Jennifer Hunt announced that there was a sellout crowd for the 4th of July and the Fontana Days Run.

Manager Hunt thanked staff for taking on leadership role; especially Geneo Ferrar and Nick Johnson for the run; Nathan Hunt and Kristy Samples for the 4th of July event; Kristy Sample and Hector Vasquez for the Summer Concerts; and Nick Johnson for the car show. She thanked everyone for pitching in and making it an unforgettable summer

Manager Hunt announced National Night Out on August 4, 2015, and that the new Parks and Community Services brochure will be released in August.

Manager Hunt announced that Rob Bock is doing exceptionally well 12 weeks after his heart replacement surgery. He is exercising and looking forward to returning to the community.

Community Services Manager, Aaron Orozco, thanked all of the families that participated in events this summer. So many families in camps and events; we are the community we are because of our families.

Manager Orozco thanked seasonal staff for their hard work.

Manager Orozco, thanked Chairperson Espinoza for sharing on the food program. Staff will share a report next month.

Community Services Manager, Michael Wright, announced that the recreational swim schedules will be modified as students go back to school.

Manager Wright thanked Commissioner Bravo for sharing the information on the Farmers Market; there will be 14 new vendors at the Don Day Farmer's Market. Both locations will have 14-20 vendors from 8:00 to 1:00 p.m.

Manager Wright congratulated new staff members, Stan and Michael.

Chairperson Espinoza announced the General Plan Advisory Committee meeting will be held on July 29, 2015, at the Fontana Community Senior Center.


PUBLIC WORKS COMMENTS:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

By consensus, the meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m. to the Regular Parks and Community Services Commission Meeting on Thursday, August 27, 2015, with a Workshop at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Executive Conference Room and the Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Grover W. Taylor Council Chambers at 8353 Sierra Avenue, Fontana, CA 92335. Please call the Community Services Office at (909) 349-6904, if you are unable to attend the meeting.


Ysela Aguirre
Boards and Commissions Secretary


Chairperson Espinoza