

IRWINDALE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
5050 N. IRWINDALE AVENUE
IRWINDALE, CALIFORNIA 91706

AUGUST 7, 2024
WEDNESDAY
6:00 P.M.

The Irwindale **PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION** met in regular session at the above time and place.

ROLL CALL: Present: Commissioners Michelle Duran, Justin Kelly,
Carmen Roman; Vice Chair Belen Zepeda; Chair Paula Fraijo

Also present: Elizabeth Rodriguez, Public Services Director; Priscilla Zepeda; Recreation Manager; Daniel Grijalva, Aquatics Supervisor; Pedro Rodriguez, Public Works Services Supervisor; and Armando Hegdahl, Management Analyst

AB 2449 DISCLOSURES None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION A motion was made by Chair Fraijo, seconded by Commissioner Kelly, to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion was unanimously approved.

ITEM NO. 6A MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD JULY 3, 2024
MINUTES OF THE
MEETING HELD
JULY 3, 2024 The minutes of the meeting held July 3, 2024, were approved.

ITEM NO. 6B MAINTENANCE UPDATE FROM 2024 WALK THROUGH
MAINTENANCE
UPDATE FROM 2024
WALK THROUGH The second maintenance update from the 2024 walk through of the Dan Diaz Recreation Center, the Aquatics Center, Irwindale Park Memorial Garden / Plaza / Softball Field, and Jardin de Roca, was received and filed.

ITEM NO. 6C PARK CAMERAS UPDATE
PARK CAMERAS
UPDATE The park cameras update was received and filed.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

SPONTANEOUS
COMMUNICATIONS

TERESA ORTIZ Teresa Ortiz expressed her deep appreciation of Supervisor Grijalva and all Aquatics staff and encouraged all to be more kind to each other and to serve the community with pride. She also spoke about her appreciation for the Rockabilities program and noted that the positive influence this program has is spreading over many areas

and thanked the Police Department for the wonderful National Night Out event.

NEW BUSINESS

ITEM NO. 8A
KIDZONE SCHEDULE
AND PARENT PACKET

KIDZONE SCHEDULE AND PARENT PACKET

- CHAIR FRAIJO Chair Fraijo thanked staff for the report and noted that many parents of children in the KidZone program have voiced concerns over the program policy. She stressed that parents be informed that, should it be necessary, they can contact Recreation staff at any time and their children can access their phones.
- COMMISSIONER ROMAN Commissioner Roman stated that the commission wanted to ensure that parents are aware that their children's phones may be temporarily taken by staff, but parents could still reach out to staff if they need to contact their children.
- CHAIR FRAIJO Chair Fraijo commended staff for the written policy which spells out program requirements and noted that staff is always very approachable and willing to accommodate family circumstances.
- MANAGER ZEPEDA Recreation Manager Zepeda presented the staff report.
- COMMISSIONER ROMAN Commissioner Roman asked whether the program could include educational sessions to teach participants about the dangers of cell phone use, stranger danger, and money management.
- COMMISSIONER KELLY Commissioner Kelly thanked staff for involving the children in creating crafts for events such as their recent Olympics-themed activity.
- COMMISSIONER DURAN Commissioner Duran asked about the use of the Teen Room.
- CHAIR FRAIJO Chair Fraijo asked about the use of the Teen Room as storage space, to which Manager Zepeda indicated that various items are being accumulated in half of the room and staff plans on setting up the other half with video games.
- DIRECTOR RODRIGUEZ Director Rodriguez advised that staff is arranging to utilize a portion of the Police Department's storage area at the facility located on Second Street in order to store Recreation event items, though the area needs to be reconfigured and have storage racks added to accommodate the department's storage needs. Staff hopes to be able to utilize the space within the next two months.

CHAIR FRAIJO	Chair Fraijo appreciated staff's efforts to avoid using the Teen Room to store items. She also requested that the afterschool and summer programs include anti-bullying educational sessions, to which Manager Zepeda advised that this type of lesson is already implemented in the curriculum but noted that staff is always looking for ways to improve it.
COMMISSIONER ROMAN	Commissioner Roman suggested for the Teen Club members to volunteer to sort through the items currently stored behind the stage to help identify items that could be stored or disposed of and requested for the video games that were purchased with Community Foundation funds be installed. She also made suggestions for storage at the kitchen area.
LINDA MAREZ	Linda Marez thanked Manager Zepeda and Recreation staff for the KidZone program, noting that her granddaughter participated in the program. She especially appreciated the sense of kinship that the program instills in the participants.
<u>ITEM NO. 8B</u> RED, WHITE AND YOU POST EVENT REPORT	RED, WHITE AND YOU POST EVENT REPORT
MANAGER ZEPEDA	Manager Zepeda presented the report.
LINDA MAREZ	Linda Marez thanked Manager Zepeda and Recreation staff for the wonderful Red, White and You event and reminisced about past events that saw larger attendance levels.
COMMISSIONER ROMAN	Commissioner Roman complained about the quality of the prizes that were raffled off by vendors, to which Chair Fraijo added that the prizes consisted of items such as cookies, where past raffles offered better items. Commissioner Roman also asked about unused portions of funds donated by the Community Foundation, to which Director Rodriguez advised that unused funds are carried forward to be used in the future. Commissioner Roman questioned the need to hire and pay for a Market Coordinator for the event, to which Manager Zepeda noted that a few of the Coordinator's duties include coordinating all things related to the event vendors and specified that the Coordinator is not performing the tasks of existing staff. Commissioner Roman also made suggestions for the placement of vendor booths and shorter food booth lines at future events, to which

Manager Zepeda advised that she has already taken note and will implement them at next year's event.

COMMISSIONER
DURAN

Commissioner Duran thanked Manager Zepeda and her staff and asked about "goodie bag" giveaways, to which Manager Zepeda elaborated upon.

CHAIR FRAIJO

In answer to a question by Chair Fraijo, Manager Zepeda confirmed that the reduction of the amount of participating vendors from 50 to 20 was the cause of the reduced cost to hire the Coordinator. Chair Fraijo stated that more food and drink options are needed and suggested that staff reach out to the non-profits that previously sold items at recreation events to see if they would be interested in selling once again, to which Director Rodriguez advised that several non-profit organizations would likely prefer to sell fireworks to raise funds, but staff will still reach out to them gauge interest.

Chair Fraijo also suggested that event flyers that are mailed to the community include details on how to volunteer for the events.

Chair Fraijo stated that the Coordinator should only be paid for those vendors that she brings to the event and not those that she doesn't.

Chair Fraijo mentioned that she noted many reductions in the event, but that she would prefer that there be too much rather than too little, for example, with the availability of hot dogs. She expressed her belief that, though the Red, White, and You event was approved by the Council, the Commission should be able to revise the program if necessary. She requested that a survey be sent to residents to obtain their feedback, to which Director Rodriguez noted that it will be mailed to residents and will be made available during the final two concerts in the park.

Chair Fraijo spoke in favor of promoting a picnic-style event and potentially obtaining a stage with lights at the top.

COMMISSIONER
DURAN

Responding to a question by Commissioner Duran, Manager Zepeda stated that the Coordinator would still need to work with all vendors, not just those that she brings in, to make sure they are all fully set up and ready to go. Staff could, however, speak to the Coordinator about the Commission's concerns.

COMMISSIONER
ROMAN

Commissioner Roman suggested that the flyers also include verbiage to emphasize the desire of the Commission to advertise the event as picnic-style.

COMMISSIONER
KELLY

Commissioner Kelly suggested potentially holding the fireworks show on the date of the Red, White and You events.

SUZANNE GOMEZ

Suzanne Gomez spoke about how much she enjoyed the Red, White, and You event. She said that her family thoroughly enjoys the fireworks shows held on the 4th of July and that those that use illegal fireworks show a lack of respect to Irwindale families. She also stated that she enjoyed the vendors at the event since their products were affordable. She also spoke about her enjoyment of the National Night Out event.

RECREATION
MANAGER UPDATE

RECREATION
MANAGER ZEPEDA

Recreation Manager Zepeda provided the following update:

- 1) She reported on the 4th of July Spectacular and addressed the cause of a short delay in the start of the fireworks show.
- 2) A total of ten trips were held in July: 1 for the Teen Club, 4 beach trips, 4 Day Camp trips, and 1 family outing to Dodgers Stadium.
- 3) The Sunset Cinema events concluded this past Monday. A total of six showings were held and included collaboration with the Kindness Krew. She thanked all those that attended and those who assisted in organizing them.
- 4) The RockAbilities program hosted a Bingo Bash on July 10 and had 85 attendees. The RockAbilities End of Summer Luau will take place on August 14. She thanked program sponsors and donors. She also acknowledged the RockAbilities program for having been highlighted in a recent CA JPIA newsletter, and that the California Parks and Recreation Society has requested a representative from the City of Irwindale to attend a session on "Inclusive Communities".
- 5) The Music in the Park concert series began last month and is set to end on August 22, with MariachiFest to commence on September 5. Details on MariachiFest are included in the flyer that will be mailed out to residents.
- 6) The following events have been scheduled:
 - A) August 8 – Music in the Park
 - B) August 10 – iRecCares Workshop
 - C) August 14 – RockAbilities End of Summer Luau
 - D) August 15 – Music in the Park / Back to School Event
 - E) August 22 – Final concert of Music in the Park
 - F) August 24 – Teen Trip to Dodgers Stadium
- 7) Inspirational quotes have been added to the walls of the Cardio and Weight rooms. The silhouettes for the Multipurpose Room have been more challenging due to the variations in size and design.
- 8) Inclusion Specialist Luana Acuna was awarded a scholarship from the National Inclusion Project which enables her to complete a 16-week certification course at no cost to the City.

- 9) The spring recipient of the quarterly Recreation Department recognition is Claudia Ruiz. She highlighted some of Claudia's accomplishments.

CHAIR FRAIJO

Chair Fraijo thanked Recreation staff for the wonderful summer and for keeping kids safe and occupied.

AQUATICS
SUPERVISOR UPDATE

AQUATICS
SUPERVISOR GRIJALVA

Aquatics Supervisor Grijalva provided the following update:

- 1) He acknowledged and thanked the Summer Youth Workers that assisted the Aquatics Division during the summer.
- 2) He reported on the success of July's Dive-In Cinema and advised that another session would be held August 9.
- 3) A Family Luau has been scheduled for August 10.
- 4) The Recreation Department will hold its own Community Luau on August 17.
- 5) The third summer session of swim lessons will conclude August 9.
- 6) Approximately 40 adults participated in the Senior Swim Lessons, which will end August 8.
- 7) An "End-of-Season" pancake breakfast will be held tomorrow morning to close out the summer.
- 8) The Aquafitness class offered through Mt. Sac will conclude on August 15.
- 9) Both Aqua Stand Up and Parent & Me classes will conclude their summer sessions on August 18.
- 10) Erica Ledezma will return as instructor for the Late Summer / Fall 2024 season, which will begin August 19.
- 11) He provided the upcoming schedules for the Mindful Waters, Senior Splash / Aqua Walk & Lap Swimming, Aqua Fitness, Aqua Stand Up, and Swim Team classes.

PUBLIC WORKS
SUPERVISOR UPDATE

PUBLIC WORKS
SUPERVISOR
RODRIGUEZ

Public Works Supervisor Rodriguez presented the following update:

- 1) Parks staff has been busy mowing the park lawn and removing trash from the receptacles.
- 2) The plaque for the Margaret Diaz Pavilion has been installed; the one for Margaret Barbosa will be installed soon.
- 3) Most of the work needed to install the protective screen at the gym floor has been conducted.
- 4) Staff removed graffiti at the restrooms.

- 5) All electrical equipment needed for the cameras at Jardin de Roca Park has been installed.
- 6) Staff is working on clearing out the Teen Room in order to paint the mural.
- 7) Staff is also working on setting up for the Music in the Park concerts.
- 8) He also thanked all those involved in organizing the National Night Out event.

COMMISSIONER
ROMAN

Commissioner Roman thanked the members of the Police Department for the National Night Out event.

COMMISSIONER
KELLY

Commissioner Kelly thanked staff for turning off the lights during the Movies in the Park sessions.

CHAIR FRAIJO

Chair Fraijo reminded about the need to turn the lights back on immediately after the movie, especially as those at the pool are getting out.

COMMISSIONER
KELLY

Commissioner Kelly noted damaged cornhole equipment, to which Supervisor Rodriguez advised that the park contractor will be working on repairing them.

COMMISSIONER
DURAN

Commissioner Duran noted a patch of dying grass, to which Supervisor Rodriguez advised that the contractor will address that also.

CHAIR FRAIJO

Chair Fraijo asked about the cameras at the park, to which Supervisor Rodriguez advised that the cameras record who goes in and out of the park restrooms, though there are no cameras inside the restrooms. Also, staff keeps records of vandalism and reports incidents to the Police Department for potential prosecution of the vandals.

PUBLIC SERVICES **DIRECTOR UPDATE**

PUBLIC SERVICES
DIRECTOR RODRIGUEZ

Public Services Director Rodriguez presented the following update:

- 1) Staff is currently processing bus passes and will hold a "Meet the Drivers" event at the Music in the Park concert of August 15.
- 2) Two additional concrete picnic tables are in place at the southside of the park.
- 3) The 2024 Young Citizen of the Year event will not be held this year due to a lack of signups.
- 4) Nominations for the upcoming General Municipal Election will close on August 9.

- 5) West Nile Virus was found in Irwindale. Flyers will be sent to residents with useful tips and additional information can be found on the City's website.

FUTURE AGENDA
ITEMS REQUESTED
BY COMMISSIONERS

MOTION

A motion was made by Commissioner Kelly, seconded by Chair Fraijo, to add an item to the agenda to conduct a survey of the teens to determine what they would like to include in the Teen Room. The motion was unanimously approved.

CHAIR FRAIJO

Chair Fraijo thanked the Police Department for the National Night Out event and for protecting the community. She also thanked staff from all departments for working so well together.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 9:19 p.m.



Armando Hegdahl, CMC
Management Analyst

Approved as presented at the meeting held September 4, 2024.