

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

DECEMBER 4, 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; Daniel Grijalva, Aquatics Supervisor; Pablo Gamez, Public Works Lead Worker; and Armando Hegdahl, Management Analyst

AB 2449 DISCLOSURES None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION

A motion was made by Chair Fraijo, seconded by Commissioner Duran, to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion was unanimously approved, Vice Chair Zepeda absent.

ITEM NO. 6A
MINUTES OF
THE MEETING HELD
NOVEMBER 6, 2024,

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 6, 2024

The minutes of the meeting held November 6, 2024, were approved as presented.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

SPONTANEOUS
COMMUNICATIONS

DENA ZEPEDA

Dena Zepeda thanked staff from Public Works, Recreation, and Aquatics for another amazing year and commended each Commissioner for their contributions to the City.

NEW BUSINESS

ITEM NO. 8A
START TIME FOR THE
REGULAR PARKS &
RECREATION
COMMISSION
MEETINGS

START TIME FOR THE REGULAR PARKS & RECREATION
COMMISSION MEETINGS

DIRECTOR RODRIGUEZ Director Rodriguez presented the staff report.

CHAIR FRAIJO

Chair Fraijo stated that she would be fine with the meetings starting at either 5 or 6 p.m.

COMMISSIONER ROMAN	Commissioner Roman stated her preference in keeping the meeting start time at 6 p.m. and stated that she does not see a benefit in changing it to 5 p.m.
VICE CHAIR ZEPEDA	Vice Chair Zepeda stated that she also would be fine with whichever start time the Commission prefers.
COMMISSIONER KELLY	Commissioner Kelly noted that his employment would make it impossible for him to attend Commission meetings if they began at 5 p.m.
COMMISSIONER DURAN	Commissioner Duran commented that she also works and would need additional time to prepare to attend the meetings, and that she would not be able to make it to 5 p.m. meetings.
DENA ZEPEDA	Dena Zepeda preferred that the meetings begin at 6 p.m.
<u>ITEM NO. 8B</u> IRWINDALE AQUATICS CENTER'S SWIMMING POOL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT – VERBAL PRESENTATION	IRWINDALE AQUATICS CENTER'S SWIMMING POOL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT – VERBAL PRESENTATION
SUPERVISOR GRIJALVA	Supervisor Grijalva presented a PowerPoint presentation wherein he outlined the project scope of work, progress, and estimated completion.
COMMISSIONER ROMAN	Commissioner Roman asked clarifying questions about the project's scope of work, which Supervisor Grijalva elaborated upon.
VICE CHAIR ZEPEDA	Vice Chair Zepeda asked whether any work will be performed on the wading pool, to which Supervisor Grijalva stated that there would not be.
DIRECTOR RODRIGUEZ	Director Rodriguez advised that the wading pool does not currently comply with ADA, which is the reason why it could not be upgraded or enhanced, because it would then be required to meet ADA requirements. Staff is only allowed to perform repairs to the pool. She also advised that the Council will consider approving additional work for the deck at its December 11 meeting.
SUZANNE GOMEZ	Suzanne Gomez spoke highly about the project and expressed her excitement for its completion. She also thanked staff from the Public Works Department for keeping the parks beautiful.

ITEM NO. 8C
IRWINDALE PARKS
IMPROVEMENTS
PROJECT PHASES
IV & V – VERBAL
UPDATE

IRWINDALE PARKS IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT PHASES IV & V –
VERBAL UPDATE

DIRECTOR RODRIGUEZ Director Rodriguez made a PowerPoint presentation wherein she spoke on the project's final punch list of pending items for the contractor to complete, of which 4 out of 7 are completed. Staff hopes to present the Notice of Completion for the project to the Council for its approval, possibly in January. At that point, City staff would assume the maintenance responsibilities.

COMMISSIONER ROMAN Commissioner Roman noted that the horseshoe pits are being used Friday nights and complained that some dog owners are taking their pet to the area and are creating a mess, to which Director Rodriguez advised that the area has lighting designed for daytime use but added that staff is working on retrofitting the two lights behind the benches to increase their brightness.

COMMISSIONER DURAN Commissioner Duran asked about the warranties on the grass, fixtures, and park features, to which Director Rodriguez noted that staff will be provided a list of items that are covered under the manufacturer's warranty. However, many items at the park will become the City's responsibility to maintain.

CHAIR FRAIJO Chair Fraijo expressed concern over low spots at the park, such as the one she spoke about at last month's meeting, to which Director Rodriguez advised that such issues that come up would need to be addressed by the City unless it could be proven that drainage was improperly installed.

Chair Fraijo concurred that individuals bring their dogs to Irwindale Park and reminded that requests had been made in the past about creating a dog park in the City and suggested potentially revisiting the subject in the future.

RECREATION
MANAGER UPDATE

MANAGER ZEPEDA

Manager Zepeda provided the following update:

- 1) The Scarecrow Alley activities concluded this past week. She thanked all participants and attendees.
- 2) The RockAbilities Friendsgiving event took place a week ago. She spoke on the event's great success and thanked all volunteers, staffers, and participants.

- 3) She also provided information about the recent "All Cancer Walk", which took place in November. She touched on the activities held during the event and thanked all for participating in making it a success.
- 4) The following events and activities have been scheduled:
 - A) December 2-13 – Tots Toy Drive benefitting the Children's Hospital Los Angeles.
 - B) December 6 – Annual Mayor's Tree Lighting and Christmas Spectacular
 - C) December 11 – RockAbilities Jolly Jam
 - D) December 14 – Cheer Competition at Sierra Vista High School in Baldwin Park
 - E) December 19 – Cookies and Milk with Santa
 - F) December 23 – Day Camp trip to AMC Covina
 - G) December 29 – Rams vs. Cardinals game at SoFi Stadium
 - H) December 30 – Day Camp trip to Knott's Berry Farm
 - I) January 3 – Teen Trip to Universal Studios
 - J) January 8 – RockAbilities Rock and Stroll
 - K) January 11 – Cheer Competition
- 5) The Dan Diaz Recreation Center will be closed from December 24 through January 1.
- 6) Eleven members of the community were certified through the iRecCares program. The final offering in the series, to be held in January, will focus on volunteering.
- 7) Last month, Irwindale Recreation staff took part in a special training titled "Crisis Prevention Institute." She thanked the CA Joint Powers Insurance Authority for providing the training.
- 8) Five new Recreation Aides have been added to the team: Maya Angel, Fernando Castro, Carlos Ramirez, Jesus Rivera, and Garrett Viado.
- 9) Lissette Rodriguez was selected as the Employee of the Quarter.

AQUATICS
SUPERVISOR
UPDATE

SUPERVISOR GRIJALVA Supervisor Grijalva provided the following update:

- 1) The pool has remained closed during November due to the pool renovation project. Staff is focusing on preparing for upcoming Aquatics seasons.

CHAIR FRAIJO

Chair Fraijo asked about the hiring process for lifeguards, to which Supervisor Grijalva advised that staff has begun recruitment efforts. He advised that he has reached out to the Swim Coach at Northview High School and indicated that most of the current lifeguards are set to return.

PUBLIC WORKS
SUPERVISOR UPDATE

**MAINTENANCE LEAD
WORKER GAMEZ**

Maintenance Lead Worker Gamez provided the following update:

- 1) Mats were mounted at the gym walls to provide additional safety for patrons.
- 2) Televisions were mounted in the Cardio Room and the Tots' Room.
- 3) City Hall, Senior Center, Irwindale Plaza, and the service road were all decorated for the holidays.
- 4) Approximately 60% of the trellis at Little Park of Irwindale has been completed.
- 5) Backpack racks were installed in the Tots' Room.
- 6) Wireless thermostats were installed in the KidZone Room and the Gym.
- 7) Closers for the gym doors were repaired.
- 8) The lawn in front of City Hall was fertilized and seeded. Irwindale Park will follow within the next two weeks.
- 9) The lights at Jardin de Roca Park were retrofitted. The faucets at the park continue being vandalized, so staff will replace them with other, more resistant faucets.
- 10) Notices were mailed to all residents advising that the parks will be closed at 5 pm due to safety concerns, as requested by the Council.

VICE CHAIR ZEPEDA

Vice Chair Zepeda thanked staff for the beautiful Christmas lights set up in front of City Hall, to which Director Rodriguez advised that the parking lot improvements scheduled to be completed during the construction of the new Library project will include requesting poles at the end of the service road, which can also serve to hang additional Christmas decorations.

CHAIR FRAIJO

Chair Fraijo asked whether the vandals that are destroying the park faucets have been caught on camera, to which Director Rodriguez advised that staff has not yet had the opportunity to identify the time frame of when the vandalism occurs for IT staff to check the video recordings.

LEAD WORKER GAMEZ

Lead Worker Gamez added that the faucets have been vandalized three times.

CHAIR FRAIJO

Responding to a question by Chair Fraijo, Lead Worker Gamez advised that staff has applied winter rye and fertilizer to the lawn.

PUBLIC SERVICES
DIRECTOR UPDATE

DIRECTOR RODRIGUEZ Director Rodriguez presented the following update:

- 1) The snow machine has been repaired by Lead Worker Gamez.
- 2) The annual Holiday Employee Luncheon is scheduled to take place tomorrow.
- 3) The Our Lady of Guadalupe Church will be holding a fiesta on December 7 and 8 and a procession on December 8.
- 4) The groundbreaking ceremony for the upcoming Library project has been scheduled for January 25.
- 5) City offices will be closed for the holidays from December 23 through January 5.

**REQUESTS FOR
AGENDA ITEMS
BY COMMISSION**

COMMISSIONER
DURAN

Commissioner Duran thanked the community for supporting the Commission.

CHAIR FRAIJO

Chair Fraijo thanked the members of the Commission for working cohesively.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m.



Armando Hegdahl, CMC
Management Analyst

Approved as presented at the meeting held January 9, 2025.