

IRWINDALE COUNCIL CHAMBER
5050 N. IRWINDALE AVENUE
IRWINDALE, CALIFORNIA 91706

AUGUST 28, 2023
MONDAY
9:00 A.M.

The Irwindale **SENIOR CITIZEN COMMISSION** met in regular session at the above time and place.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioners Carol Acosta, Christina Fraijo,
Patricia Gonzales

Absent: Vice Chair Iris Rodriguez; Chair Maggie Guzman

Also present: Elizabeth Rodriguez, Public Works Services Director;
Eloise Beltran, Senior Center Manager; and Armando Hegdahl,
Management Analyst

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION

A motion was made by Commissioner Gonzales, seconded by Commissioner Acosta, to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion was unanimously approved; Vice Chair Rodriguez and Chair Guzman absent.

ITEM NO. 1A
MINUTES

MINUTES

The minutes of the special meeting held July 24, 2023, were approved.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

SPONTANEOUS
COMMUNICATIONS

There were no speakers.

NEW BUSINESS

ITEM NO. 2
ATTENDANCE POLICY

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DIRECTOR RODRIGUEZ Director Rodriguez presented the staff report.

COMMISSIONER
GONZALES

Commissioner Gonzales agreed that a policy should be implemented to discourage individuals from registering to attend field trips but routinely canceling their attendance, to which Director Rodriguez advised that staff is working on a separate field trip policy.

SUZANNE GOMEZ

Suzanne Gomez stated that, although she supports implementing a policy, she recognized that some seniors become sick after the 72-hour cancellation deadline has passed, causing them to be unable to attend classes.

- COMMISSIONER ACOSTA Responding to a question by Commissioner Acosta, Manager Beltran indicated that staff occasionally receives calls from seniors indicating that they cannot attend classes due to an illness.
- DIRECTOR RODRIGUEZ Director Rodriguez noted that this policy would not include any of the Mt. Sac classes since they have their own attendance policy.
- COMMISSIONER GONZALES Commissioner Gonzales reiterated her preference in establishing a policy since a lack of structure would lead to disorganization and abuse of the programs.
- MANAGER BELTRAN Manager Beltran noted that such abuse also affects classes, such as crafts, since staff purchases supplies for a certain number of attendees, but then the supplies are wasted if the class registrants do not attend.
- DIRECTOR RODRIGUEZ Director Rodriguez clarified key points of the proposed policy and noted that the policy also allows for excused absences.
- MOTION A motion was made by Commissioner Gonzales to recommend approval of the draft policy to the City Council, including a provision to excuse absences for undocumented chronic health issues.
- SUZANNE GOMEZ Suzanne Gomez suggested that resident seniors be informed of the proposed changes before they are implemented. She also recommended waiting for the full Commission to be present so that they all may vote on the issue.
- COMMISSIONER GONZALES Commissioner Gonzales suggested moving forward since holding off would prevent the Parks & Recreation Commission to move forward.
- ROLL CALL The above-mentioned motion was unanimously approved; Vice Chair Rodriguez and Chair Guzman absent.

**SENIOR CENTER
MANAGER UPDATE**

Senior Center Manager Beltran provided the following update:

- 1) The Bingo Fundraiser held at the beginning of the month raised \$1,300.
- 2) The Carnival Dance held on August 18 experienced a great turnout.
- 3) Tomorrow is the Senior Center's 37th anniversary. Staff will celebrate by distributing cupcakes from 2 pm to 4 pm.
- 4) Registrations are currently being accepted for the Mexican Independence Dance.
- 5) Residents can begin signing up today for September's Birthday Brunch.
- 6) A trip to Catalina Island has been scheduled for September 16.

- 7) All Mt. Sac classes will begin today. The fall session for Irwindale classes will begin next week.

PUBLIC SERVICES
DIRECTOR UPDATE

Director Rodriguez provided the following update:

- 1) The Library will be holding an Open House on August 29 to showcase its programs.
- 2) Mariachi Fest concerts will begin this Thursday. Individuals are allowed to reserve four seats at a table for 8.
- 3) She also provided additional details about the upcoming Phase IV and V of the Irwindale Park Improvement Project.

COMMISSIONER ITEMS
AND REQUESTS

COMMISSIONER
GONZALES

Commissioner Gonzales spoke highly of the recent National Night Out event.

COMMISSIONER
ACOSTA

Commissioner Acosta also thanked staff for organizing the Taste of Irwindale event.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 9:44 a.m.

ATTEST:



Armando Hegdahl
Management Analyst

Approved as presented at the meeting held September 25, 2023.