

**Community & Library Services
Commission
Wednesday, September 13,
2023 6:00 PM – Regular Meeting
MINUTES**



**City of Huntington Beach
2000 Main Street
Huntington Beach, CA 92648
City Council Chambers**

STAFF:

ASHLEY WYSOCKI, Acting Director
Community & Library Services
CHRIS COLE, Acting Deputy Director
Community & Library Services
CHARLENE GOMEZ, Sr. Admin.
Assistant Community & Library Services

AUSTIN EDELL, Chair
LOLLY MCHARDY, Vice-Chair
CEASON BAKER, Commissioner
LISA-LANE BARNES, Commissioner
LAURA COSTELLOE, Commissioner
DR. RICHARD HARRISON, Commissioner
TARYN PALUMBO, Commissioner

CALL TO ORDER – In the absence of Chair Edsell, Vice Chair McHardy called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm, at which time a quorum was met.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Commissioner Costelloe

ROLL CALL

Baker, Barnes, Costelloe, Edsell (excused), Harrison, McHardy, Palumbo (excused)
Staff in attendance: Wysocki, Cole, Martinez, Gomez, Ronning, Vukoje, Uemura, Katayama

SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNICATIONS

Gomez announced a presentation handout on for the Community & Library Services Summer 2023 Recap presentation had been provided after the agenda posting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

PRESENTATION

1. ~~Youth Investors Corp Presentation~~ – This item will be held over to a future meeting.
2. **End of Summary Recap – Community & Library Services Division Managers & Staff:**

Wysocki said managers and essential staff would provide a presentation on this past summer's activities coordinated by the individual divisions within the Department. She said this would also give staff a chance to meet the Commissioners as they shared information regarding their respective locations.

Manager, Kristin Martinez presented an overview of the Programs and Services Division. She provided information on events such as the Pier Swim, Overnight Family Campout, HB Surf Contest and Grandparents Day, a new event. Additionally, Martinez highlighted programs offered in youth sports, and congratulated the winning teams. Martinez reported on aquatics, with over 1,300 recreation swimmers

throughout the summer, stating that there are 18 staff members certified as lifeguards, and 10 certified swim instructors.

Aaron Katayama introduced himself as the Supervisor of Murdy Community Center and provided information on Camp HB. The program was extended from 8 weeks to 10, for ages 6-12. Outside excursions were taken, including to the beach, Knott's Berry Farm's Camp Snoopy, and the Discovery Cube. The Camp employed 16 parttime staff this past summer.

Melissa Ronning, Principal Librarian at Central Library, discussed the Summer Reading Program which ran June 24 – August 13. It is the largest participant level since the onset of Covid in 2020. There were 3,647 reading challenge participants and 16,057 event & program participants. Ronning provided a breakdown of statistics for the program, reporting that it increased 130% in participation. Special events include a Kick-Off event, an Ice Cream Week, Bookapalooza, and the Tiny Art Contest. Ronning announced that this was the second year in a row that the Library's story tellers were voted Best Storytellers in OC through OC Parent Magazine.

Chris Cole introduced Milan Vukoje, Senior Supervisor of Parking and Camping. Vukoje reported on Parking & Camping facilities, including the new pay-by-plate pay station installation, a mobile payment application, Passport mobile app, saying all have been deployed. Additionally, a digital sign was installed at the beach entrance, which shows the price according to season or specific event and may potentially include other messaging. An automatic gate lane was installed at the Main Promenade, which does not require a staff member, thereby saving costs. New this season, September camping, which began September 5, 2023, per approval by City Council. The extra month of camping is going well with approximately 95% occupancy. Vukoje also announced that online parking permit sales are now available, so passholders no longer need to go to lifeguard headquarters to pick up a pass or renew their pass. Commissioner Barnes asked if an express lane has been considered for parking pass holders. Milan said the goal is to encourage credit card payments in one lane, and cash and permit passes in another.

Molly Uemura, Specific Events Supervisor, reported on Specific Events, including the 4th of July Kick-Off on Main Street, the 4-day Festival on the beach, and the Parade, which attracted over 200 participants. The evening of the 4th culminated with the Fireworks over the Ocean and over 500,000 visitors over length of the celebration. Next, the US Open of Surfing, which was a 9-day surf competition, included such sponsors as Wallex, Pacifico, Yeti, and Hurley. The event included vendors, music, retail sales and food trucks and over 350,000 visitors during the 9-day event. Other events included NSSA National Championship Surfing; and Premiere Girls Fastpitch

Tournament & Opening Ceremonies, which hosted over 5,000 attendees at Central Park. Events also included, “It Was Never a Phase” Music Festival, sponsored by Cruisers on 5th Street, Life Rolls On Adaptive Surfing event, and summer culminated with the Civil War Days reenactment during Labor Day weekend.

Ruby Vergara, Recreation Coordinator, reported on Adventure Playground, which reopened after being closed since 2019 due to COVID and renovations. Some activities included climbing forts, a mudslide, water games, rafting on innertubes, a rope bridge and giant Legos building blocks. There were over 8,200 children who attended the 8-week program.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Request approval of the August 9, 2023, meeting minutes.

MOTION: Commissioner Costelloe moved to accept the minutes as written with Commissioner Barnes seconding the motion. All in favor (5-0-2 Edsell, Palumbo excused)

AYES: Baker, Barnes, Costelloe, Harrison, McHardy

NAYS: None

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

1. **Activation of the Ad-Hoc Park Naming & Memorials Committee** – Wysocki stated that staff was recommending the activation of the Ad-Hoc Parks Naming & Memorials Committee to review upcoming naming opportunities, including the neighborhood park located at 17281 Eucalyptus Lane in the Parkside Estates residential community. Additionally, the Committee may review the trail known as Shipley-to-Shore in Huntington Central Park for official naming. Wysocki provided an overview of the Park Naming & Memorials Committee’s purview and the criteria, as noted in Resolution 2017-25.

Recommended Action:

- a) Activate the Ad-Hoc Park Naming & Memorials Committee, as recommended by staff.
- b) Chair Edsell to work with staff on assigning three (3) Commissioners to serve on the Committee until which time the current projects are concluded.

MOTION: Commissioner Costelloe moved to activate the Parks Naming & Memorials Committee as an ad-hoc with assignments of 3 Commissioners to be made by Chair Edsell, until which time the Committees business is concluded. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barnes. All in favor (5-0-2 Edsell, Palumbo excused)

AYES: Baker, Barnes, Costelloe, Harrison, McHardy
NAYS: None

2. **Standardized Park Identification Sign Criteria** – Staff is recommending the approval of design specifications associated with the standard concrete park identification signs to standardize design, language style, font type and material throughout the City’s park system.

Gomez provided a presentation, explaining that the standardization of the design specification would benefit not only current staff in standardizing park identification signs throughout the park system, but would work as a guide for future staff. The criteria included the standardization of material, dimensions, fonts, color, and language style. Gomez presented images in a slide presentation depicting the differences in signs at various parks.

Recommended Action:

Approve the design specifications for standard concrete park identification signs.

MOTION: Commissioner Costelloe moved to approve the standard park identification sign specifications as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baker. All in favor (5-0-2 Edsell, Palumbo excused)

AYES: Baker, Barnes, Costelloe, Harrison, McHardy
NAYS: None

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. **Meadowlark Golf Course Information** – Attached to the agenda packet was a staff memo outlining the efforts of the City and Lessee regarding recent residential improvement requests.

Cole discussed the staff memo included in the Commission’s agenda packet for their information. He provided updates on the progress made at Meadowlark. Cole outlined the complexity of the original contract and the subsequent subleases that have led to the current sublease with Arcis Golf, LLC. He explained that the City’s goal was to have the Lessee and Operator work with the residents who surround the facilities with their concerns. Cole highlighted some of the issues and the solutions provided by the Lessee management. There is an ongoing synergy and partnership between Arcis Golf and the residents. Further, Cole provided information from a meeting he attended with the lessee and a trajectory specialist who said that moving the hole causing the issues would cause a domino effect of other issues, so alternative solutions are being evaluated. Costelloe asked if this situation is something the Commission has oversight of or were public comments for

Commission information only. Cole explained that staff oversees the golf course lease and holds the Operator accountable to the terms of the lease. Costelloe asked about the comments at the last meeting regarding safety concerns, and when the issues are resolved, if the outcome could be brought back to Commission as an update. Discussion ensued on the some of the issues and activities taking place, the golf course marshals who are on the course, and the options for residents reporting incidents. Commissioner Barnes provided her insight as a golf player of the course, and stated from experience, that there is inherent risk if you live on a golf course. Cole reported that tree replacement and new placement was taking place to assist with the errant ball situation, and staff will continue to work with the Arcis Golf management team and the residents.

2. CIP Review & Project Updates:

a. Pattinson Park

New benches have been installed under the picnic shelter and throughout the park, in addition to new bike racks and an ADA swing, completing the improvements at the park.

3. Calendar of Events – Staff will provide a calendar of events for September/October.

STAFF ITEMS – Not Agendized

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None

COMMENTS – Not Agendized

ADJOURNMENT – With no further business, Vice-Chair McHardy called for adjournment at 6:34 pm.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Huntington Beach Community & Library Services Commission is Wednesday, October 11, 2023, at 6:00 PM in City Council Chambers at City Hall, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648.

Internet access to Community & Library Service Commission agenda and staff report material is available prior to the Community & Library Services Commission meetings at <https://huntingtonbeach.legistar.com/>

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the hearing impaired, American Sign Language interpreters, a reader during the meeting and/or large print agendas. Please contact the Community & Library Services Department at (714) 536-5434 for more information, or to request assistance from the staff at the meeting.