

**Community & Library Services
Commission
Wednesday, April 09, 2025
6:00 PM – Regular Meeting
MINUTES**



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

STAFF:

ASHLEY WYSOCKI, Director

Community & Library Services

CHRIS COLE, Manager, Facilities & Dev.

Community & Library Services

CHARLENE GOMEZ, Sr. Admin. Assistant

Community & Library Services

AUSTIN EDELL, Chair

LOLLY MCHARDY, Vice-Chair

CEASON BAKER, Commissioner

STEVE BARNES, Commissioner

TEISHA NIM-HUSAINI, Commissioner

JEANNE PARIS, Commissioner

TRICIA THIENES, Commissioner

CALL TO ORDER – Chair Edsell called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Commissioner Barnes

ROLL CALL

Baker (absent), Barnes, Edsell, McHardy, Nim-Husaini, Paris, Thienes

Staff: Wysocki, Cole, Gomez (absent), Sandoval, Ruiz, Vargas

PRESENTATION

Community & Library Services Part-Time Employee of the Month Presentation - City Gym & Pool Supervisor, Amber Ruiz, honored part-time Pool Manager, Isaac Vargas. Ruiz thanking him for going above and beyond in his service and for becoming LGI certified.

Commissioner Barnes asked for an explanation of the LGI license. Vargas responded that it was a license to teach in-house lifeguard training and allowed for training of the City's lifeguards as well.

SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNICATIONS – None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Norm Westwell spoke regarding conditions at Greer Park South and the lake, listing some of the issues, and potential solutions. Mr. Westwell stated that he wanted to give Commissioners a heads-up, as he had started a "Save Greer Park South" Facebook page and they may receive community feedback soon. Additionally, Mr. Westwell invited Commissioners to go out and tour the park and he would be happy to show them the issues.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

25-280 Request approval of the March 12, 2025, meeting minutes.

MOTION: Chair Edsell moved to accept the minutes as written with Commissioner Barnes seconding the motion. (passed 6-0-1, Baker, absent)

AYES: Barnes, Edsell, McHardy, Nim-Hussaini, Paris, Thienes

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

25-281 Re-establish the Commission's Special Interest Committee – Wysocki announced that staff was requesting the re-establishment of the Commission's Special Interest Committee, specifically to work on an Adopt-A-Park program, and work alongside staff and potentially stakeholders to develop a formalized program. Wysocki spoke on the various levels of involvement of volunteers, and said once established, the concept would come back to Commission for approval.

MOTION: Chair Edsell moved to re-establish the Special Interest Committee and assigned Commissioners Paris, Barnes and Baker to serve on the Committee and work on the development of an Adopt-A-Park program with Commissioner Barnes seconding the motion. The motion passed 6-0-1 (Baker absent).

AYES: Barnes, Edsell, McHardy, Nim-Hussaini, Paris, Thienes

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Baker

25-282 Establish the Parks & Recreation Master Plan Project Liaisons – Wysocki expressed the need to establish a working focus group to work alongside staff to review the living document to be brought back to Commission for final approval. Wysocki went on to provide information on a master plan, saying they are typically performed every 5-10 years, and it is a roadmap for staff to follow in the development of the parks according to foreseen needs.

Commissioner Barnes asked when the master plan was last updated, and if the input from the Commission and community set the priorities. Wysocki responded that the last update was in 2016, which brings us near the 10-year mark. Priorities are set, but not specifically the number of amenities needed, such as pickleball courts, but moreover, it addresses whether amenities are adequate for a City of our size. Wysocki elaborated on other aspects of the report, including acreage, deficiencies, trends, and where attention should be directed. Discussion ensued on what the plan contains and who provides the information, such as community input so that community needs are met.

MOTION: Chair Edsell moved to establish a working liaison group for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and assigned himself, Vice Chair McHardy, and Commissioner Thienes to assist staff with review of the Master Plan. The motion passed 6-0-1 (Baker absent)

AYES: Barnes, Edsell, McHardy, Nim-Hussaini, Paris, Thienes

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Baker

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS - None

25-185 Calendar of Events – Wysocki announced the events calendar was provided in the agenda packets for Commissions review.

STAFF ITEMS

SANDS Recreational Scholarship – Wysocki reported that staff was continuing to evaluate scholarship opportunities through the SANDS, and that Council Member Kennedy brought up the idea of scholarships at two meeting Wysocki had attended with him recently, noting that it was a priority. Wysocki reached out to a distribution list of state agencies for input on their programs and has received information from about 20 agencies thus far providing examples. Staff will continue to review and develop a plan to bring back to Commission for approval.

Wysocki announced that with the resignation of Council Member Strickland and the new appointment of Council Member Andrew Gruel, Council Member Gruel has elected to re-appoint Commissioner Nim-Husaini as his representative.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None**COMMENTS – Not Agendized**

Discussion continued on how the new committees will meet to discuss their individual items. Staff will be in touch to survey Commissioners for availability.

Edsell thanked Mr. Westwell for speaking on the conditions of Greer Park South. He and Vice-Chair McHardy visited the park in the past and had seen the conditions first-hand.

ADJOURNMENT – With no further business, Chair Edsell called for adjournment.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Huntington Beach Community & Library Services Commission is Wednesday, May 14, 2025, at 6:00 PM in Meeting Rooms B-7 & B-8, lower level of City Hall located at 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648.