

**Community Services Commission  
Wednesday, January 13, 2021  
6:00 PM - Regular Meeting  
MINUTES**



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

STAFF:  
CHRIS SLAMA, Director  
Community & Library Services  
CHARLENE GOMEZ, Recording Secretary

JANIS MANTINI, Vice Chair  
NANCY BUCHOZ, Commissioner  
LAURA COSTELLOE, Commissioner  
LISA KEMMERER, Commissioner  
JOHN PARTINGTON, Commissioner  
REV. JAMES PIKE, Commissioner  
DICK THIEL, Commissioner

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## **CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Mantini called the meeting to order on Zoom at 6:06 pm at which time a quorum was met.

## **ROLL CALL**

Commissioners: Buchoz, Costelloe, Kemmerer, Mantini, Partington, Pike, Thiel  
City Staff: Slama, Gomez

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by Commissioner Thiel.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS – Written only**

Gomez announced that one written comment had been received prior to the meeting and read a statement from Chris Varga, a resident of the City, who asked that Commission continue to support the effort of returning the Rodgers Seniors' Center Site to a neighborhood park.

## **PRESENTATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. **Introduction of New Commissioners and Oath of Office** - Slama thanked the outgoing Commissioners, Jay Kreitz, Krista Sterud, and Joe Carchio, and welcomed the newly appointed Commissioners, Nancy Buchoz (representing City Council Member Ortiz), Laura Costelloe (representing City Council Member Moser), and John Partington (representing City Council Member Kalmick). Gomez administer the Oath of Office to new commissioners.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

1. **Election of Chair and Vice Chair** - The annual election of Chair and Vice Chair were conducted. Commissioner Mantini presided over the election of Chair:
  - a. Commissioner Pike nominated Commissioner Mantini for the position of Chair with Commissioner Thiel seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously with all in favor.
  - b. Commissioner Mantini nominated Commissioner Kemmerer for the position of Vice-Chair with Commissioner Thiel seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously with all in favor.

## **MINUTES**

1. Approval of the September 10, 2020 minutes was requested. Commissioner Thiel moved to accept the minutes as written with Chair Mantini seconded the motion.

**Aye:** Mantini, Kemmerer, Pike, Thiel  
**Noes:** None  
**Abstain:** Costelloe, Partington and Buchoz

## **DIRECTOR'S ITEMS** - Not Agendized

1. **Community and Library Services Department Update** – Slama announced the merger of Community Services and Library Services as part of a citywide reorganization. Libraries are now offering programs and facilitating as community centers, which makes each department a good fit for the other.
2. **Parks Development** – The Parks Development Division and Farhad Bolourchi, Parks Projects Coordinator, have moved under Public Works Department, Park Maintenance. Community Services Commission will continue to oversee park funds and park improvement approvals.
3. **Servicing the Public** – Due to the ongoing pandemic, community centers and our libraries are still closed to the public, however, service to the public is continuing with virtual classes and events being held online. The Senior Center in Central Park continues to distribute meals and provide transportation to our seniors, and the Library is providing drive-up services as well. Chair Mantini asked if the Commission would take on some library projects. Slama said he is not certain at this time, but they do have their own Library Board. Commissioner Thiel inquired about youth sports grants for this year. Slama said it doesn't look like there will be grant funds available because the funds come from park impact fees and there is a large need for park improvements first.

## **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

1. **Capital Improvement Projects** – Slama provided a slide showing an overview of approved and continuing projects from FY 2019/2020; new CIP Projects for FY 2020/2021; new projects from general park fund funding; and proposed CIP Projects for FY 2021/2022. Projects included parks and clubhouse improvements, Central Park restrooms updates, park trail improvements and completions, and Bluff Top railing and trail improvements to name a few. See the attached document for individual projects.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS** - NONE

Gomez will send out information on the current committees.

## **STAFF AND MEMBER COMMENTS** - Not Agendized

Commissioner Partington asked for a list of parks. Gomez will send a link to the City website that lists all of the parks and their locations.

Commissioner Buchoz said there are a few friends of Edison Community Foundation that would like to help with the exterior improvements at Edison Park and Community Center. Chair Mantini suggested looking at a subcommittee.

Commissioner Pike congratulated new Chair Mantini. Pike also congratulated Slama on keeping the department and services going through Covid-19 pandemic.

Costelloe is excited to join the Commission. Discussion ensued on the types of parks, such as the difference between neighborhood and community parks.

Theil thanked staff as well for a job well done during the pandemic.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

1. Standing committees (look at current, vs. new)

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. September 10, 2020 meeting minutes

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Huntington Beach Community Services Commission is Wednesday, February 10, 2021 at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers, Civic Center, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, California.

Internet access to community service commission agenda and staff report material is available prior to the Community services commission meetings at <http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov>.

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