

Community & Library Services
Commission
Wednesday, August 14, 2024
Alternate Meeting Location 6:00 PM -
MINUTES

City of Huntington Beach
Central Library
7111 Talbert Ave., Rm C/D
Huntington Beach, CA 92648



STAFF LIAISONS
ASHLEY WYSOCKI, Director
CHRIS COLE, Manager, Facilities & Development
CHARLENE GOMEZ, Sr. Administrative
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 – Chair Edsell call the meeting to order at 6:12 pm, at which time a quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Commissioner Baker

ROLL CALL – Baker, Barnes, Costelloe, Edsell, Harrison, McHardy, Palumbo (Excused)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Amory Hansen spoken in support of Administrative Item #2, regarding the naming of the area known as the Nature Plateau in Central Park East.

Steve Engle spoke in support of naming the area in Central Park East as the Nature Plateau. Mr. Engle provided background on volunteer efforts to beautify the referenced area.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [24-559](#) **Approve and Adopt Minutes of the June 12, 2024**

MOTION: Commissioner Costelloe asked that the date of the meeting be corrected to show June 12, not May 8 in the header of the Minutes, and with that correction, she moved to approve. Commissioner Baker seconded the motion. The item was approved (6-0-1).

AYES: Baker, Barnes, Costelloe, Edsell, Harrison, McHardy,

NOES: None

ABSENT: Palumbo (Excused)

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

2. [24-562](#) **Naming of an Area within Huntington Central Park East, Referred to as the “The Nature Plateau”**

Cole provided background information on the naming opportunity, saying that the Park Naming & Memorials Committee met twice, reviewed the naming criteria in Resolution 2017-25, in addition to considering public comments, and data from a public survey. Cole also provided information on location and

how it came to be enhanced by HB Tree Society volunteers. Commissioner Costelloe and Chair Edsell thanked volunteers for their efforts.

Recommend Action:

Approve and make a recommendation to City Council to formally name an area of Huntington Central Park East, as “Huntington Central Park Nature Plateau” as recommended by the Community & Library Services Commission’s Park Naming & Memorials Committee (Committee).

MOTION: Chair Edsell moved as recommended with Commissioner Baker seconding the motion. The item was approved (6-0-1).

AYES: Baker, Barnes, Costelloe, Edsell, Harrison, McHardy,

NOES: None

ABSENT: Palumbo (Excused)

3. [24-561](#)

CIP Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Approval Update and Review

Cole reviewed the approved CIP projects for the 24/25 fiscal year. Some of the projects include the Newland House Museum paint and woodwork, Park Bench Café roof and siding, the Library Master Plan, Main Street Branch Library HVAC system, Edison Park Redesign Conceptual Plan and construction documents, and the All-Inclusive Park playground refurbishment, which Wysocki noted Kiwanis would donate \$25,000 to help offset project costs. Additionally, the rehabilitation of the Murdy Park softball fields, the Huntington Central Park Master Plan update, and Langenbeck Park playground improvements were referenced.

Wysocki reported that although Pleasant View Park playground was on the playground priority list, at the previous night’s Ocean View School District Board Meeting, their 7/11 Committee, which is a group of residents who review properties owed by the school district and make recommendations on whether or not the properties should be sold, recommended to the board that the Pleasant View school site be sold. Wysocki explained that the City has a Joint Use agreement with OVSD and staff will continue to monitor this situation. If the school is sold, it may not be in the best interest of the City to refurbish at this time, and therefore, funds will be held until more is known.

Cole continued with the CIP list, stating that funds had been allocated for the Main Promenade Parking Structure improvements. Discussion ensued on the conditions and services provided at the downtown parking structure with Commissioner Barnes recommending a biological agent, such as those used in a hospital to eliminate odors.

Commissioner Costelloe asked about the condition of the play equipment at the All-Inclusive Playground and ownership of the property. Cole said the property belongs to the State and provided information on the lease agreement between the City and State. Discussion continued on play equipment priorities and the Parks Master Plan process. Wysocki said master plans are updated every 5-10 years in order to identify the need of the community, provided examples, and answered question regarding the public input process. Commissioner Costelloe suggested that not only the local neighbors be included in the input process for Edison Park, but that a student demographic be added, with Edison High School directly across the street from the park.

Chair Edsell asked about the State Beach lease and location of City versus State Beach. Wysocki provided information on where State and City Beach boundaries are located and said the lease is scheduled to expire in 2026, however, discussions will begin soon so no lapse in the agreement will occur. Chair Edsell commented on the long list of CIP projects and asked about the probability of accomplishing all of the project in a year. Wysocki said some items may straddle a fiscal year, but it is possible to complete the list.

4. [24-565](#)

CIP Projects Review & Updates

- a. LeBard Park – Cole reported that the tennis courts were now open, and the improvements included the lighting. The park is close to completion with an anticipated full reopening in mid-September.
- b. Carr Park – Cole announced that the conceptual redesign plan was approved by City Council. The next phase would be development of the design and construction documents. Barnes asked if any of the ideas Mayor Pro Tem Burns suggested during the approval at Council could be accomplished. Cole said the entire story of Chris Carr’s military service, as provided by Mayor Pro Tem, may be difficult to fit on a commemorative plaque. Commissioner Barnes suggested that the story be broken up and spread throughout the park on several plaques along the walkway. Staff said they would take the idea into consideration. The flagpole as recommended by the Mayor Pro Tem would be installed on the corner of Springdale Street and Heil Avenue.

5. [24-566](#)

Calendar of Events – Wysocki announced the following upcoming events:

- a. Family Campout in Central Park - August 17
- b. Summer Movie in the Park at Lake Park - August 23
- c. HBAC Opening Reception, “Surreal 100” Exhibition, September 7
- d. HBAC Art for Lunch Program, September 12

STAFF ITEMS

6. [24-563](#) **Huntington Central Library has been selected for Parenting OC's Best Storytime in Orange County for the 3rd year in a row** – Wysocki reported on this outstanding accomplishment of the City's Library system.

7. [24-564](#) **Laptops Anytime Kiosk is Now Available at the Library** - Wysocki announced that new technology is now available at Central Library. The Laptops Anytime Kiosk is a bank of 12 laptops, attached to the Library's Wi-Fi system that can be checked out and used within the library only. Commissioner Harrison asked if there were restrictions. Wysocki said there are Wi-Fi content restrictions in the Children's library.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - See Administrative Item 24-562

MEMBER COMMENTS - Not Agendized

Commissioner Baker requested that Commission take a tour of the Park Bench Café in Central Park to enjoy their amazing pancakes. Cole commented on the French toast as well.

Chair Edsell congratulated staff, in particular, Molly Uemura, Specific Events Manager, for a job well done at the US Open, which the Commissioners toured during a scheduled facilities tour earlier in the week. Additionally, he provided kudos to the HB Police Department, the outside agencies who helped, along with the City's Fire and the Lifeguard units. Again, a congratulations to staff for making through and event filled summer.

ADJOURNMENT – With no further business, Chair Edsell motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 pm with Commissioner Baker seconding the motion.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Huntington Beach Community & Library Services Commission is Wednesday, September 11, 2024, at 6:00 PM in City Council Chambers at City Hall, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648.