

**Community & Library Services
Commission
Wednesday, October 9, 2024
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
LISA-LANE BARNES, Commissioner
LAURA COSTELLOE, Commissioner
DR. RICHARD HARRISON, Commissioner
TARYN PALUMBO, Commissioner

CALL TO ORDER – Chair Edsell called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm, at which time a quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Commissioner Barnes

ROLL CALL – Baker, Barnes, Costelloe, Edsell, Harrison, McHardy, Palumbo
Cole, Martinez, Framson, Uemura, Vukoje, Barraza, Katayama, Thol, Ruiz, Melgar, Gomez

SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNICATIONS – None

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. 24-732 Approve and Adopt Minutes of the September 11, 2024 Meeting

MOTION: Commission Costelloe moved to adopt with Vice Chair McHardy seconding. The motion was approved (7-0).

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

PRESENTATION

Cole announced Wysocki was unable to attend the meeting, and, therefore, he would report on her behalf.

1. 24-730 Meadowlark Charity Golf Tournament Opportunity Drawing

Cole provided background on the charity golf opportunity saying in accordance with the lease, one (1) charity would be selected to hold an event in 2025 with waived greens and cart fees. Cole announced the eligible charities entered in the annual Meadowlark Charity Golf Tournament opportunity drawing and their corresponding bingo ball number as:

- American Legion Post 133 (#1)
- Bolsa Chica Conservancy (#5)
- Christ Lutheran (#4)
- International Surf Museum (#2)

- Robyne's Nest (#3)
- Surf City Rotary of Huntington Beach (#6)

Recreation & Programming Manager, Kristen Martinez, assisted with the drawing of the numbers. The winner of the 2025 Meadowlark Golf Club Charity Tournament was awarded to #4-Christ Lutheran with #5-Bolsa Chica Conservancy as the alternate.

Cole congratulated the winning organization, thanked all the charities that participated, and asked them to join us again next year. Gomez will send out a formal notification to all participants the following business day.

2. 24-731 Summer 2024 Events & Programs Recap Presented by Staff

Cole announced the team of staff members in attendance, who would present a recap of programs and services provided over the summer for their respective areas:

Programs & Recreation Events – Manager, Kristin Martinez, introduced herself and summarized her division's summer programs and activities. She provided various statistics, including that the overall summer class programs brought in 16,247 participants. In addition to summer classes, there were several other events that took place with many more attendees. Martinez thanked her staff, who presented information on their specific areas:

- Youth Sports – Kaci Thol, Supervisor of Edison Community Center, introduced, Alex Melgar, Recreation Coordinator, who provided information on sports camps, youth basketball and congratulated the winning teams.
- Aquatics – Amber Ruiz, Supervisor of the City Gym and Pool, provided information on swim lessons, certifications for lifeguarding and water safety instructors, and their collaboration with marine safety.
- Camp HB – Aaron Katayama, Supervisor of Murdy Community Center, along with Recreation Coordinator, Ruby Vergara, ran "Camp HB". Katayama reported that the camp had been extended this past summer to add additional hours, offsite excursions, and more. A new Teen Camp was debuted, where campers were trained on becoming future recreation leaders.
- Adventure Playground – Eric Barraza, Supervisor of Technology and Marketing, spoke about Adventure Playground, which ran June 22 – August 17. A TikTok video went viral during the summer, which enhanced attendance. Service groups helped prepare the playground before the season started, and 2 Eagle Scout projects were completed later in the summer, which will premiere next season.

- Senior Service – Bill Sandoval, Senior Supervisor of the Senior Center in Central Park, provided information and data on recreation events and classes. He thanked Hoag for their sponsorship of the Health & Wellness Pavilion and Fitness Center. Sandoval also reported on Care Management and Nutrition programming, which included meals served, and Surf City Seniors on the Go! transportation. Sandoval thanked all the volunteers that provide numerous hours and valued services to the Center. He also spoke of the Travel and Trips services provided by Huntington Beach Council On Aging (HBCOA).

Library Services – Jessica Framson, Library Services Manager, provided information on the following programs:

- Summer Reading Challenge – This was the largest annual library program with 2,998 participants, which ran June through August, along with other special events. Framson also shared information on “Preventing Summer Slide”, which is the “learning-loss” of young people when not engaged in educational activities during the summer.
- Special Events & Programs - These included Wild Wonder Animal Show, Shikey Nature Center, Snackventure, and Powerhouse Percussive Dance.
- StoryTime - HBPL was voted “Best Storytime in Orange County” for the third year in a row and was featured in the September issue of Parenting Magazine.
- HB Art Center – The Art Center hosted such events as Surf City ART with guest curators Lyn Semeta and Mark Zambran. In addition to multiple talks and associated programs, the show was featured in the Daily Pilot. The Art Center also provided 6-weeks of camps with various themes.

Events & Rentals – Molly Uemura, Specific Events Manager, reported on the following items:

- Specific Events
 - **120th Independence Day Celebration** – The season kicked off with a new contractor. Because they came on board a bit late, the overall event went back to basics, which included the Surf City 5K Run, the Independence Day Parade, Fireworks Over the Ocean, and Main Street Block Party. The events hosted over 500,000 visitors to the beach and downtown area over the weekend.
 - **The US Open of Surfing** – Lexus was the new title sponsor. The event included a small-scale music festival, featuring Sublime and other entertainers, and hosting over 300,000 visitors during the 9-day event.
 - **Other Notable Summer Events** - The NSSA National

Championship Surfing Competition, PGF Girls Softball Tournament and Opening Ceremonies, OC Yogafest, HB Concert Band Summer Series, Life Rolls on Adaptive Surfing Event and Civil War Days.

- Rentals – 166 clubhouse rentals occurred during the May 28 through September 1 summer season. Rentals include Harbour View Clubhouse, Lake Park Clubhouse and BBQ, Memorial Hall, and the Newland Barn.
- Technology Update - Launch of Eproval, which is a new permitting software accessible through the City's website. It automates the rental process by streamlining multiple application types into one program.

Facilities & Development – Chris Cole, Manager, Facilities & Development Division, provided information on the following items:

- New Leases – The concessions lease at the Sports Complex was awarded to HBSC Partners, who currently operates the Sports Complex from the facilities and activities end. Some of the proposed enhancements include enclosing the outdoor patio for dining and local craft beers, the addition of televisions, which would show not only youth sports playing at the complex but other national sports programs, and food delivery service to the surrounding fields. This is particularly beneficial to the outlying field which could be more than 1,000 feet from a concession building.
- Park Development – Conceptual plans for Marina and Carr Parks were approved by City Council, as recommended by Commission. Cole provided highlights of the improvements and thanked Commission for their input and support
- Parking & Camping – Milan Vukoje, previous Senior Supervisor of Parking & Camping (now moving to the Specific Events division), provided information and data for parking and camping, including the implementation of the electronic pay method, "Passport", and upgrades to the Main Promenade Parking Structure and Wi-Fi connection at the campground. Vukoje reported on the new parking enforcement team established in June. The Police Department had planned to outsource services, but the program was brought in-house and filled with part time CLS employees. Vukoje provided statistics on the new parking enforcement program, reporting a 340% increase in citations.

Cole thanked staff and asked for questions. Chair Edsell asked about enforcement at the Sports Complex. Vukoje said the Police Department oversees parking enforcement at the Complex, however, Community & Library Services oversees the meter machines.

Commissioner Barnes asked if parking funds collected were directed to programs such as beach maintenance or the new citation program. Vukoje said all funds collected go into the City's general fund; however, they trickle down to such areas as lifeguards, beach maintenance, policing, etc. Cole noted that the new program recognized the Department was assisting with the City's general fund revenue generation efforts.

Commissioner Costelloe praised the summer camps and asked if the teen camp attendees paid for the camp or if they volunteered. Martinez said it was a paid camp. Costelloe recommended Tiktok be utilized for future marketing of programs if it has the effect reported by Barraza. She also recommended field trips to the Art center and commented on the increased parking enforcement program efforts.

Chair Edsell asked if statistics could be pulled from the parking enforcement program to show the difference in Huntington Beach residents versus out-of-town visitors, who are cited. Chair Edsell asked if more signage could be displayed regarding the increase in parking enforcement. Vukoje said new signage had been installed in the 6th street lot and would be implemented in other areas to provide notification to parking lot users.

Commissioner Barnes commented on senior services, and request that next year, staff provide photos and an update on the previous years' Meadowlark Golf Club Charity and the success of the winning non-profits fundraising efforts.

Edsell thanked staff for their efforts throughout the summer and their presentations.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS - None

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. **24-733 Calendar of Events** – Cole provided the following event information:
 - a. Family Arts Day – Triangle Park Saturday, October 12, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm
 - b. Falloween – Thomas Ridley Bandstand, Central Park Saturday, October 26, 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm
 - c. DINOVember Party – Central Library Friday November 8, 3:00 - 4:30 pm
 - d. Namaste in the Park – Senior Center in Central Park Saturday, November 9, 8:00 am - 10:00 am (flyer provided at the dais)
 - e. Breakfast with Santa – Senior Center in Central Park December 7, 8:30 am - 1:30 pm
 - f. Senior Center's Holiday Dance – Senior Center in Central Park Saturday, December 14, 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm (flyer provided at the dais)

Costelloe asked for digital flyer, which Gomez will provide.

STAFF ITEM – None

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None

COMMENTS – Not Agendized

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chair Edsell moved to adjourn at 7:04 pm, with Commissioner Costelloe seconding the motion.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Huntington Beach Community & Library Services Commission is Wednesday, November 13, 2024, at 6:00 PM in City Council Chambers at City Hall, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648.