



**MINUTES
CITY OF LAWDALE
PARKS, RECREATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING – JULY 27th, 2020**

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chairperson Woods called the WebEx hosted virtual meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Daniel Woods, Chairperson
Christina Carroll, Vice Chairperson (Tardy)
Shirley Rudolph, Commissioner
Madonna Sitka, Commissioner
Erica Harbison, Commissioner

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Mike Estes, Director of Community Services

B. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Sitka led the commissioners and those in attendance in the flag salute.

C. APPROVAL OF JULY 13th, 2020 MINUTES

Commissioner Rudolph made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sitka, to approve the minutes of July 13th, 2020 as written.

Motion carries 4-0 (Commissioner Carroll tardy)

D. PRESENTATIONS

None.

E. ITEMS FROM CITIZENS

None.

F. ITEMS FROM COMMUNITY SERVICES STAFF

1. 8th Annual Lawndale Blues Festival:

Director Estes reported the following to the PRSSC pertaining to the 8th Annual Lawndale Blues Festival: 1) a report was taken to City Council on July 13th, 2020 recommending that the 8th Annual Lawndale Blues Festival be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic; 2) the City Council unanimously approved the recommendation without any discussion; 3) each of the four

bands invited to play mentioned that they would like to play at the Lawndale Blues Festival in 2021; and 4) the second Saturday in September for 2021 would be September 11th.

2. Park Status Report for Addams, Green and Rogers/Anderson Parks:

Director Estes informed the PRSSC the following regarding the recent opening of each of the three school district-owned parks: 1) the parks were opened to the public on Monday, July 6th, 2020; 2) park hours are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; 3) the landscape contractors will leave each of the parks open after morning cleaning; 4) Community Services Department staff will lock each of the parks at approximately 6:00 p.m. each day; 5) one employee will lock the three City-owned parks and a second employee will lock the three school district-owned parks; 6) six parks need to be secured and locked in a short period of time which means some parks may close a little earlier than 6:00 p.m. while others may remain open a little later than 6:00 p.m. each day; 7) all areas that are off limits such as playgrounds, picnic areas, fitness zones and other areas where groups can congregate have been taped off and are unavailable for use; 8) new signage has been posted at each of the parks displaying parks hours, the necessity of wearing face coverings and social distancing at a minimum of 6 feet; 9) parks will remain open until the school district gets back into school for online learning on August 26th; 10) there will have to be more discussion with the school district to see if they will allow the parks to open from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on school days once school is back in session in late August; and 11) the restrooms will remain closed

There were other discussions about who is responsible for keeping the caution tape up.

One commissioner commented that she is happy that the school district-owned parks are open and she sees people social distancing, honoring the tape and enjoying the parks.

Another Commissioner complimented the City for getting a school district-owned park near his house open so his wife can walk the dog each day.

However, one nuisance was reported relating to an individual that climbs the fences at one of the parks and stays in the park until late at night.

G. PARK IMPROVEMENTS AND FACILITIES UPDATE

3. Water Bottle Filling Station Project Report:

Director Estes reported to the PRSSC that this project was recently completed. Significant project delays of approximately 10 weeks were a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Each of the four water bottle filling stations are installed and fully operational. Three of the stations have been installed at Rudolph Park and one other was installed at Hogan Park. To keep the project within budget on the installation end, one station that was earmarked for Hogan Park had to be moved to Rudolph Park to avoid cost overruns that would have put the project over budget due to additional trenching, cement removal and eventual replacement. The stations have three water fountain elements: 1) a drinking fountain for people; 2) a drinking fountain for canines; and 3) a bottle filling element.

One commissioner stated that she has gotten some positive comments about the stations from residents that have used them.

H. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

4. Halloween Haunt Event, Saturday, October 31st, 2020, Lawndale Civic Center Plaza:

Director Estes reported to the PRSSC that not much has changed in the way of public gatherings and events that draw large crowds. It is still unclear whether this event will be able to take place or not. Public health officials have feared that a second wave of the pandemic may take place in the fall once the weather starts to cool off. The City has been cancelling events on a case by case basis as new information comes about. At this time, the City is taking a “wait and see” approach, but it seems unlikely that this event will happen as scheduled.

5. Angel Tree Lighting Event, Friday, December 4th, 2020, Lawndale Civic Center Plaza:

Director Estes reported that the City is taking a “wait and see” approach for this event as well. As with other events that have been cancelled and/or discussed, this event may need to be considered for cancellation as well for some of the same reasons mentioned above – events that draw large crowds and public gatherings at which social distancing is difficult to accomplish are discouraged from taking place.

I. SPECIAL EVENTS UPDATE

6. Special Events Cost Analysis Report:

Director Estes reported to the PRSSC that he is working on a “Special Event Cost Analysis Report” that will eventually be distributed to the City Council analyzing event costs for the City’s 13 special event programs. This report can be shared with PRSSC at a later date once it has been distributed to the City Council.

One commissioner mentioned that the COVID-19 pandemic may likely affect the City’s ever-popular and annual Santa Sleigh program.

J. MISCELLANEOUS

7. Individual Comments from Commissioners:

One commissioner suggested that staff let the PRSSC know if money is needed for anything.

K. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

No agenda items were added.

L. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Woods adjourned the meeting at 7:37 p.m. to a regularly scheduled meeting to be held on Monday, August 10, 2020, via the Cisco WebEx teleconferencing platform.

Daniel Woods, Chairperson

Attest:

Mike Estes, Director of Community Services