



**MINUTES  
CITY OF LAWDALE  
PARKS, RECREATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING – JUNE 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020**

**A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Chairperson Harbison called the meeting to order at 6:57 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber, located at 14717 Burin Avenue, Lawndale, California.

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

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Mike Estes, Director of Community Services

**B. FLAG SALUTE**

Chairperson Woods led the commissioners and those in attendance in the flag salute.

**C. APPROVAL OF JUNE 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 MINUTES**

Commissioner Rudolph made a motion, seconded by Vice Chairperson Carroll, to approve the minutes of June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 as written.

**Motion carries 5–0**

**D. PRESENTATIONS**

None.

**E. ITEMS FROM CITIZENS**

None.

**F. ITEMS FROM COMMUNITY SERVICES STAFF**

**1. Inaugural Lawndale Music Festival:**

Director Estes reported the following to the PRSSC members in attendance: 1) the City Council moved to cancel the event without a reschedule date; 2) all bands have been notified that the event has been cancelled; and 3) no funds have been removed from the PRSSC Fireworks Trust Fund account.

**2. Potential Expenditure, Lawndale Care Package Program:**

Director Estes provided a brief synopsis pertaining to the first event on May 8<sup>th</sup> for the commissioner that was absent when this issue was initially discussed on June 8<sup>th</sup>. In addition, Director Estes summarized the attached staff report for the potential expenditure being considered. As well, Director Estes confirmed that the funds are available in the PRSSC Fireworks Trust Fund account. There were no discussions pertaining to this item.

Commissioner Harbison made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Rudolph, to approve PRSSC Resolution 1084-20.

**Motion carries 5-0.**

**3. Park Status Report for Hogan, Hopper and Rudolph Parks:**

Director Estes informed the PRSSC the following as it pertains to the City-owned parks: 1) the City-owned parks will remain open from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. each day; 2) all areas that encourage group gathering and those at which social distancing is not possible have been delineated and taped off to discourage use; and 3) areas such as, playground equipment, fitness zones, picnic benches, picnic shelters, seating areas and restrooms have been closed until further notice. The parks are available at this time for exercise purposes first and foremost and other activities that do not require long periods of time to participate in.

Director Estes also mentioned that Rudolph Park seems to be the most popular park at this time due to the walking track around the perimeter of the park which is being used consistently in the late afternoons and evenings. As well, there are no City staff supervising the parks nor staff monitoring the activities at the parks. It is the City's hope that individuals at the parks will pay attention to the social distancing and face covering signage installed at the parks and adhere to the guidelines established by the Los Angeles County Safer at Home Order and State orders as it pertains to outdoor facilities.

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

Director Estes reported the following to the PRSSC as it pertains to the school district-owned parks: 1) the Community Services Department has been getting a number of calls as to which parks are open and which are not; 2) staff is communicating with the Lawndale Elementary School District regarding the school district-owned parks and when we will be opening them; 3) many people don't understand that there are City-owned parks and school district-owned parks as most think they are City-owned parks so this is something we have to explain once in a while; 4) the Community Services Department is making plans to open the parks as soon as possible, but will not do so until the parks are safe, or void of open areas that will encourage people to congregate.

**5. Facility Status Report for Harold E. Hofmann Community Center:**

Director Estes reported the following to the PRSSC as it pertains to the Harold E. Hofmann Community Center: 1) the community center remains closed to outside visitors until further notice per the Los Angeles County Safer at Home Order and State orders; 2) there is no specific date as to when the community center will be able to open to the public; 3) per the Los Angeles County Safer at Home Order update on June 11, 2020, community centers are considered "high risk" recreational sites. This means that the community center will likely not open in the near future and possibly not until Phase 5 of the Los Angeles County's five phase reopening plan. With the recent spike in new cases and deaths in the County, the community

center may not be able to open until late 2020 at best; 4) This is the best we can tell people that inquire when the community center will reopen; and 5) once the community center is able to open the City will have to make substantial changes to facility reservation attendance, contract class attendance, attendance numbers in the fitness room and computer lab as well as providing hand sanitizing stations, social distancing policies and requiring face coverings.

**G. PARK IMPROVEMENTS AND FACILITIES UPDATE**

**6. Water Bottle Filling Stations Project:**

Director Estes provided the following project status report to the PRSSC: 1) this project has recently started back up again after being on the shelf for approximately two months due to the COVID-19 pandemic; 2) installation began recently for two stations at Rudolph Park which are very close to completion; 3) installation of these units are very challenging due to the trenching and tie-in to the water lines; 4) once the stations are installed, visitors to the park can carry their water bottle with them and fill up at City-owned park locations such as Rudolph, Hogan and Hopper parks; and 5) the water bottle filling stations are three-feature fountains which also include a drinking bowl for dogs and a traditional drinking fountain for people.

Due to a question from one commissioner, Director Estes informed the PRSSC that the project is being paid for with a \$2,000.00 grant from West Basin Municipal Water District. The balance of the costs for the project will be paid for with Park Development Fees, or Quimby Act Fees as they are often called.

**H. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

None submitted.

**I. SPECIAL EVENTS UPDATE**

**7. 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Lawndale Blues Festival:**

Director Estes reported to the PRSSC that due to the recent spike in new COVID-19 cases and deaths in Los Angeles County that although September is still just short of three months away, September is not that far off and it is becoming more and more likely that this event will not be able to take place this year. In addition, in the latest Los Angeles County Safer at Home Order. Festivals are specifically mentioned as those that are still prohibited. As is true with the opening of the community center, it is likely that festivals will be prohibited for quite some time and possibly through the end of the year. Finally, the City does not want to invest any advertising dollars, or any other dollars for that matter, for an event that will not happen.

All five members went on record as believing that the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Lawndale Blues Festival should be cancelled.

**J. MISCELLANEOUS**

**8. Individual Comments from Commissioners:**

There was a question about Fireworks stands in Lawndale and whether they will be allowed to operate this year. Others commented that a number of fireworks stands have been erected in the City and it seems as though they will be operational this year.

Two commissioners asked to be kept informed about status of the parks in the City.

**K. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING**

None submitted.

**L. ADJOURNMENT**

Chairperson Woods adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m. to a regularly scheduled meeting to be held on Monday, July 13, 2020, via the Cisco WebEx teleconferencing platform.

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Daniel Woods, Chairperson

Attest:

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Mike Estes, Director of Community Services