



**MINUTES
CITY OF LAWDALE
PARKS, RECREATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING – MARCH 9th, 2020**

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chairperson Harbison called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber, located at 14717 Burin Avenue, Lawndale, California.

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

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 FEBRUARY 24th, 2020 MINUTES

Commissioner Rudolph made a motion, seconded by Vice Chairperson Woods, to approve the minutes of February 24th, 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. PRRSC Reorganization, Election of Chairperson:

Director Estes provided an administrative document outlining the process and briefly discussed the nominations process for both PRSSC Chairperson and Vice Chairperson to ensure that the process runs smoothly.

1) Chairperson Harbison opened the floor to nominations for PRSSC Chairperson; 2) Commissioner Rudolph nominated Vice Chairperson Woods for Chairperson; 3) Vice Chairperson Woods accepted the nomination; 4) Commissioner Rudolph moved to close the floor to nominations; 5) Commissioner Carroll seconded the motion to close the floor to nominations; 6) Chairperson Harbison closed the floor to nominations; and 7) by a show of hands, Vice Chairperson Woods was unanimously chosen as Chairperson for the remainder of the term.

2. PRSSC Reorganization, Election of Vice Chairperson:

1) Chairperson Harbison opened the floor to nominations for PRSSC Vice Chairperson; 2) Commissioner Sitka nominated Commissioner Carroll for Vice Chairperson; 3) Commissioner Carroll accepted the nomination; 4) Commissioner Sitka moved to close the floor to nominations; 5) Commissioner Rudolph seconded the motion to close the floor to nominations; 6) Chairperson Harbison closed the floor to nominations; and 7) by a show of hands, Commissioner Carroll was unanimously chosen as Vice Chairperson for the remainder of the term.

3. Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, April 11th, 2020, 10:00 a.m., William Green Park:

Director Estes reported to the PRSSC results of the discussion staff had with the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) as it pertains to planning for this event to give more children the opportunity to find a golden egg. YAC comments were as follows:

- It is not fair that only some children get a golden egg and special prizes.
- The youngest aged children, which are mostly babies, do not need a golden egg since the parents often interfere with the hunt by entering the area.
- The golden egg should be removed from the egg hunt altogether so the children can just focus on collecting the regular eggs.
- We should fill goody bags with items such as pencils, stickers and candy so each child can take something home.
- If we want to continue to have the golden eggs, maybe there can be a competition to win one but there are so many children at this event, it would be hard to organize.
- We should let the Easter bunny decide which children in line get the golden eggs and special prize inside during the Easter bunny visits.

After some discussion, the PRSSC favored the following ideas: 1) continuing to provide regular candy-filled eggs for the hunt; 2) providing goody bags (bullet point four) for each child at the event; 3) to consider sponsoring this portion of the event; and 4) eliminating the golden eggs altogether.

4. Youth in Government Day, Tuesday, March 24th, 2020:

Director Estes reported to the PRSSC that: 1) Youth in Government Day is in the planning stages and is scheduled to take place on March 24th; 2) the attached memorandum has been distributed to staff as a means to get adult participation and is available to PRSSC; 3) it is understood that PRSSC members traditionally have not participated and may have difficulty participating due to their careers, jobs and simply not being available.

G. PARK IMPROVEMENTS AND FACILITIES UPDATE

No report.

H. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Director Estes reported the following to the PRSSC based upon previous discussions that had taken place at various meetings in the past: 1) it was suggested that the PRSSC could have a “Master Funding Plan” of eligible expenses that prioritize PRSSC funded projects over a specific period of time; 2) the Master Funding Plan would hold the PRSSC responsible for completing projects on the list that would stand the test of time and be a tool that future PRSSC bodies use to complete PRSSC funded projects if applicable; 3) continue to work on the list of projects until the list has been completed; and 4) with the understanding that future PRSSC bodies may not be held accountable for completing the project list if the majority does not have the same priorities.

During follow up discussions, the following suggestions and comments were made:

One Commissioner suggested that the things that the current PRSSC spends money on be included on such list such as: 1) Holidays Baskets Program Donations; 2) Halloween Haunt Giveaway Items; 3) Youth Advisory Movie Night Sponsorship; and 4) Lawndale Music Festival Sponsorship.

Contributions to eventual skate park amenities after the park is built was mentioned as another area of donation by the PRSSC. Contributions to the actual project would likely not be an option as it would be a County-funded grant project and we would not be interested in saving the County money with PRSSC contributions.

One commissioner suggested potential sponsorship of the Youth Sports Programs and/or Pee Wee Sports programs. This may or may not be an option unless funds were eliminated from the City’s General Fund Budget.

One commissioner reiterated staff’s previous suggestion that the PRSSC consider adopting a scholarship program for disadvantaged children that live in Lawndale to take recreation classes at no cost upon qualifying for the program. Director Estes reported to the PRSSC that this would require an annual stipend each year that would be available on a first come, first served basis until funds are exhausted. After a year or so of the program, we would have an idea what amount of funds would need to be contributed to this ongoing program. There were a number of other discussions pertaining to this item.

One commissioner suggested a fundraiser through a local restaurant at which a percentage is donated back to the City as a means to acquire more funds for these purposes.

I. SPECIAL EVENTS UPDATE

No report.

J. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Individual Comments from Commissioners:

One commissioner inquired if staff needs help for the Easter Egg Hunt special event.

K. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

- 1. Inaugural Lawndale Music Festival**
- 2. PRSSR Fireworks Stand Fundraising Program**
- 3. 8th Annual Lawndale Blues Festival**
- 4. McKenzie Gardens Cleanup Project**
- 5. PRSSC Master Funding Plan**

L. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Harbison adjourned the meeting at 8:08 p.m. to a regularly scheduled meeting to be held on Monday, March 23rd, 2020, at the Lawndale City Hall Council Chamber located at 14717 Burin Avenue.

Erica Harbison, Chairperson

Attest:

Mike Estes, Director of Community Services