

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSIONERS  
OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES**

**Thursday, February 15, 2024**

The Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners of the City of Los Angeles convened the Regular Meeting at 9:11 a.m. Present were, President Renata Simril, Vice President Luis Sanchez, Commissioner Fiona Hutton, and Commissioner Benny Tran. Also present were, Jimmy Kim, General Manager, Matthew Rudnick, Executive Officer, Deputy City Attorney IV Steven Hong and Deputy City Attorney III Brendan Kearns.

The following Department staff members were also present:

Cathie Santo Domingo, Assistant General Manager, Planning Maintenance, and Construction Branch  
Chinyere Stoneham, Superintendent, Recreation Services Branch  
Brenda Aguirre, Assistant General Manager, Special Operations Branch  
John Busby, Sr. Management Analyst, Finance Administration Branch

**CALL TO ORDER**

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

President Simril called for a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 1, 2024. Vice President Sanchez made such motion, and it was seconded by Commissioner Hutton. There being no objections, the motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 4-0.

**GENERAL MANAGER'S UPDATE**

Jimmy Kim, General Manager, began his update by introducing Anita Meacham, Superintendent of our Metro Region Recreation and Traci Goldberg, Superintendent of our Aquatics division to introduce staff and provide a little background on our Metro Region and El Sereno Recreation Center and the pool at El Sereno Recreation Center.

Mr. Kim provided a brief update on the Emergency management divisions efforts. The Emergency Management division is currently monitoring and stands by ready to support the department and the city on any mass care related requests due to the adverse weather that we're experiencing. During our operation the Department supported four augmented winter shelters for persons experiencing homelessness to bring them indoors. At the same time, we also activated Hanson Dam and Los Angeles Equestrian center to support large animals that were evacuated in the Latuna Burn scar area. The department closed key amenities at some of our sites that were prone to debris flow and hazards. Mr. Kim thanked the department staff for what they do on a daily basis, but also during local emergencies to support our City department, and the communities we serve.

President Simril thanked our RAP staff and Jimmy Kim for his leadership to the City of Los Angeles. She stated to go through that major weather even and not have a loss of life is to be commended.

Mr. Kim provided a few highlights for the department. He shared that our Aquatics Division has received an award from the Association of Aquatic Professional in the category of best of aquatics for our learn to serve and learn to kayak PlayLA adaptive program. He stated, RAP will be recognizing the aquatic staff at a future board meeting.

Mr. Kim provided a few report backs requested by the Commissioners. Mr. Kim stated the Venice Beach Lifeguard tower is owned by RAP but, is currently leased to the county beaches and harbors as part of the 1975 City and County joint powers Agreement. The Venice Lifeguard Tower has been nominated to be a city historic monument and it's been agendized for consideration today at the Cultural Heritage Commission meeting. So, we will report back to the Commission on the historic designation and related recommendations Secondly, I wanted to provide an update on the Windward **playground** the playground was removed due to safety concerns. It was over 20 years old. Regarding the artwork at Venice, RAP Staff will report back at a future meeting to provide more information as we are still gathering information to come back to the board. We also had a comment related to the Mar vista tennis courts. I wanted to report that the renovations are scheduled to start in June, and should be completed by October.

## **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Public comments on matters within the Board's jurisdiction were invited, 20 such requests were submitted.

## **BOARD REPORT PUBLIC COMMENT AND CONSIDERATION OF THE BOARD REPORTS**

Public comments relevant to the Board Reports were requested; no such request was submitted.

## **BOARD REPORTS**

24-043            Transfer As-Needed Meal and Catering Services—Award of Contracts

Board Report No. 24-043 was taken on consent.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

24-044            Various Centers – Proposed Agreement with the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk for the use of Thirty-Five (35) Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) Facilities to Host Voting Centers in Connection With the March 2024

Primary Election – Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article 19, Section 15301 [Operation, Repair, Maintenance, Permitting, Leasing, Licensing, or Minor Alteration of Existing Public or Private Structures, Facilities, Mechanical Equipment, or Topographical Features, Involving Negligible or no Expansion of Existing or Former Use] of California CEQA Guidelines and Article III, Section 1, Class 1(14) of City CEQA Guidelines

Board Report No. 24-044 was taken on consent.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

24-045 Elinor and Don Richardson Family Park – Playground Replacement (PRJ21391) (PRJ21764) Project – Commitment of Park Fees – Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 2 [Replacement of Existing Structures or Facilities Where the New Structure will be Located on the Same Site as the Structure Replaced and Have Substantially the Same Purpose and Capacity], Class 4(3) [New Gardening, Tree Planting, or Landscaping], Class 4(12) [Minor Trenching and Backfilling where the Surface is Restored] and Class 11(6) [Construction Or Placement of Minor Structures Accessory to (Appurtenant to) Existing Commercial, Industrial and Institutional Facilities] of City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Sections 15302, 15304(b), 15304(f) and 15311 of California CEQA Guidelines

Board Report No. 24-045 was taken on consent.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

24-046 Inell Woods Park – New Park Project – Approval of Final Plans – Naming of Park as “Inell Woods Park” – Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article 19, Section 15303(e) [Accessory (Appurtenant) Structures Including Garages, Carports, Patios, Swimming Pools, And Fences] and Section 15311(a) [On Premise Signs] of California CEQA Guidelines and Article III, Section 1, Class 3(6) and Class 11(5) of City CEQA Guidelines

Darryl Ford, Superintendent, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 24-046

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

24-047 Michelle And Barack Obama Sports Complex and South Park Recreation Center – License Agreements with Water Replenishment District Categorical EXEMPTION FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 19, SECTIONS 15301 [OPERATION, REPAIR, MAINTENANCE, PERMITTING, LEASING, LICENSING, OR MINOR ALTERATION OF EXISTING PUBLIC OR PRIVATE STRUCTURES, FACILITIES, MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT, OR TOPOGRAPHICAL FEATURES, INVOLVING

NEGLIGIBLE OR NO EXPANSION OF EXISTING OR FORMER USE]; 15306 [BASIC DATA COLLECTION, RESEARCH, EXPERIMENTAL MANAGEMENT, AND RESOURCE EVALUATION ACTIVITIES WHICH DO NOT RESULT IN A SERIOUS OR MAJOR DISTURBANCE TO AN ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE] AND 15308 [ACTIONS TAKEN BY REGULATORY AGENCIES, AS AUTHORIZED BY STATE OR LOCAL ORDINANCE, TO ASSURE THE MAINTENANCE, RESTORATION, ENHANCEMENT, OR PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT WHERE THE REGULATORY PROCESS INVOLVES PROCEDURES FOR PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT] OF CALIFORNIA CEQA GUIDELINES AND ARTICLE III, SECTION 1, CLASS 1(14), CLASS 6(2) AND CLASS 8 OF CITY CEQA GUIDELINES

Board Report No. 24-047 was taken on consent.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

24-048 Wattles Farm And Community Garden – Agreement With Wattles Farm and Neighborhood Gardeners, Inc. for the Continued Operation and Maintenance of Wattles Farm – Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant To Article 19, Section 15304 [Minor Public or Private Alterations in the Condition of Land, Water, and/or Vegetation Which Do Not Involve Removal of Healthy, Mature, Scenic Trees Except for Forestry or Agricultural Purposes] of California CEQA Guidelines and Article III, Section 1, Class 4(7) of City CEQA Guidelines

Priya Macwan, Management Analyst, Special Operations Branch, presented Board Report No. 24-048.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

President Simril requested a Motion to approve the Board Reports that were taken on Consent. It was moved by Vice President Sanchez and seconded by Commissioner Hutton that the Board Reports that were taken on consent be approved. There being no objections, the motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 4-0.

President Simril requested a Motion to approve Board Report 24-046 and 24-048 as presented. It was moved by Vice President Sanchez and seconded by Commissioner Tran. There being no objections, the motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 4-0.

**NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Discussion with Neighborhood Council Representatives on Neighborhood Council Resolutions or Community Impact Statements Filed with the City Clerk Relative to Any Item Listed or Being Considered on this Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Meeting Agenda (Los Angeles Administrative Code 22.819; Ordinance 184243)

There were no comments from Neighborhood Council Representatives relative to the Agenda Items being considered.

**COMMISSION TASK FORCE UPDATES**

**Commission Task Force on Concessions**

This Task Force did not meet.

**Commission Task Force on Facility Repair and Maintenance**

This Task Force will meet following today’s meeting, and will report back at our next meeting.

**COMMISSION BUSINESS**

Comments from the Commissioners on Matters within the Board’s jurisdiction and Requests by Commissioners to Schedule Specific Future Agenda Items were requested. Commissioner Lloyd requested a report our relationship with cultural affairs. Vice President Sanchez would like a report back on Centennial Park and the Venice Beach Boardwalk near the lifeguard tower, the sculptures, the playground, and the Poetry Monument, and also the carousel. Vice President Sanchez would also like a report back on El Sereno RC Playground.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Meeting adjourned at 10:21 a.m.

**ATTEST**

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**PRESIDENT**

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**BOARD SECRETARY**