



# CITY OF MERCED

Merced Civic Center  
678 W. 18th Street  
Merced, CA 95340

## Minutes Recreation & Parks Commission

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Monday, September 28, 2020

5:30 PM

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### A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair HUITRON called the Recreation and Parks Commission meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

### B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### C. ROLL CALL

**Present:** 6 - Ralph Morris, Eric Moore, Norma Cardona, Chairperson Valente Huitron, Justin Anderson and Vice Chair Doug Piuser

**Absent:** 1 - Yesenia Curiel

### D. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

### E. CONSENT CALENDAR

#### E.1.

**SUBJECT:** Adoption and Filing of Recreation and Park Commission Meeting Minutes of August 24, 2020

#### REPORT IN BRIEF

Recreation and Park Commission Meeting Minutes of August 24, 2020.

#### RECOMMENDATION

**Recreation and Park Commission** - Adopt a motion approving and filing the Recreation and Park Commission Meeting Minutes of August 24, 2020.

**A motion was made by Member Cardona, seconded by Member Anderson, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Member Moore  
Member Cardona  
Huitron  
Member Anderson  
Vice Chair Piuser

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Member Curiel

Abstain: 1 - Member Morris

**F. REPORTS**

**F.1.**                    **SUBJECT:** Brown Act Training to be Presented by the City Attorney's Office

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Training presentation on the Brown Act

**RECOMMENDATION**

Information only-no action needed

City Attorney Phaedra NORTON gave a presentation on provisions in the Brown Act.

Chair HUITRON and Commissioner MOORE asked clarifying questions.

Information only- no action taken.

**F.2.**                    **SUBJECT:** Update from the Ad Hoc Park Site Selection Committee Regarding Adding Three (3) Additional Park Site Options for the Proposition 68 Grant and Re-prioritization of Parks Priority List

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Update from the last meeting of the Ad Hoc Park Site Selection Committee

**RECOMMENDATION**

Information only- no action needed

Recreation Supervisor, Jennifer ARELLANO gave an update from the last meeting of the ad hoc Park Site Selection Committee.

Information only- no action taken.

**G. BUSINESS**

**G.1.**                    **SUBJECT:** Discussion on Setting Commission Goals and Priorities

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Discussion to set goals and priorities for the Recreation and Parks Commission.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Make a motion to set goals and priorities for the Recreation and Parks Commission.

Commissioner CARDONA discussed 3 goals for the Commission to adopt.

Commissioner MOORE offered an additional suggestion.

Interim City Manager Stephanie Dietz suggested the Commission bring a recommendation to City Council in January.

Commissioners discussed the options and asked to continue this item to the next meeting.

**G.2.****SUBJECT: Needs Assessment Survey for Parks and Recreation Programming****REPORT IN BRIEF**

Discussion on a potential process to evaluate Parks and Recreation programming.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Information only-no action needed.

Commissioner Cardona asked for commissioners to keep in mind the different types of parks when reviewing this item at the next meeting.

Commissioner Piuser asked how many types of parks the City has.

**A motion was made by Member Moore, seconded by Member Anderson, that this agenda item be tabled. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Member Morris  
Member Moore  
Member Cardona  
Huitron  
Member Anderson  
Vice Chair Piuser

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Member Curiel

**G.3.**

**SUBJECT:** Discussion on the Use of Participatory Budgeting for Measure Y Revenue and Making a Recommendation to the City Council for Budgeting Future Measure Y Revenues

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Discussion on the possibility of using a participatory budgeting process for the Measure Y revenue.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Discuss participatory budgeting and make a motion to make a recommendation to city council for budgeting future Measure Y revenues.

Commissioner CARDONA gave a presentation on a participatory budgeting process.

Commissioners asked questions and discussed the possibility of using a participatory budgeting process for the Measure Y Revenue allocated to Parks and Recreation.

Interim City Manager Stephanie DIETZ clarified processes for Measure Y revenue and suggested the Commission make a recommendation to City Council.

City Council member Anthony MARTINEZ discussed his perspective on the matter as a City Council member.

Interim City Manager Stephanie DIETZ suggested the Commission establish a sub-committee to develop the idea more fully to recommend to City Council during the budgeting process.

**A motion was made by Chairperson Huitron, seconded by Member Moore, that the Commission establish a sub-committee with Commissioner Cardona, Vice Chair Piuser, and Commissioner Curiel, to develop a proposal for a participatory budgeting process for Measure Y Revenue to recommend to City Council. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Member Morris  
Member Moore  
Member Cardona  
Huitron  
Member Anderson  
Vice Chair Piuser

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Member Curiel

**G.4.** **SUBJECT:** Discussion and Recommendation to the City Council on Ways of Making Parks More Youth Friendly

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Discussion on making parks more youth friendly.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Make a motion to recommend to city council specific changes to make parks more youth friendly.

**A motion was made by Member Cardona, seconded by Member Anderson, that this agenda item be tabled. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Member Morris  
Member Moore  
Member Cardona  
Huitron  
Member Anderson  
Vice Chair Piuser

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Member Curiel

**G.6.** **SUBJECT:** Discussion on Sports Park Usage Policy

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Discussion on a sports park usage policy suggested by Merced Soccer Association

**RECOMMENDATION**

Information only-no action needed.

**Clerk's Note:** This item was moved up in the agenda at the request of Interim City Manager, Stephanie DIETZ.

Chair HUITRON recused himself from this item due to his involvement with Merced Youth Soccer Association.

Parks and Recreation Director, Joey CHAVEZ gave a brief presentation on the current sports park usage policy and field usage agreements.

Commissioners asked questions and discussed some potential alternate options.

Jovan PULIDO, President of Merced Youth Soccer Association, Merced-discussed his request for a new policy.

Interim City Manager Stephanie DIETZ suggested Staff would draft up some potential new policies for turf and grass fields.

Information only- no action taken.

**G.5.**

**SUBJECT:** Discussion Regarding the Feasibility of Utilizing the Senior Center as a Youth Center After the Conclusion of all Senior Programming

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Discussion on the feasibility of using the Senior Center after hours as a youth center.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Information only-no action needed.

Commissioner Cardona discussed the possibility of utilizing the Senior Center as a youth center for teens.

Parks and Recreation Director, Joey CHAVEZ, Recreation Supervisor, Michelle REID, and Recreation Supervisor, Jennifer ARELLANO spoke on the history and usage of the Senior Center, and discussed why the option was not feasible.

Commissioners asked questions of STAFF.

Information only- no action taken.

**G.7.**

**SUBJECT:** Provide Direction to Staff for Use of Stephen Leonard and McNamara Youth Centers After the Current Contracts Expire Including, but not Limited to, Renewing Contracts with Current Tenants, Conducting A Request for Interest for Use of the Centers, or Making a Recommendation that Staff Offer Programming at one of the Sites

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Considers making a motion to direct staff on how to proceed with expiring

leases at Stephen Leonard and McNamara Youth Centers.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Make a motion recommending how to proceed with expiring leases at Stephen Leonard and McNamara Youth Centers.

Parks and Recreation Director, Joey CHAVEZ spoke about the current contracts for the McNamara and Stephen Leonard Youth Centers.

Commissioners discussed several options for the centers and asked questions of STAFF.

**A motion was made by Member Moore, seconded by Vice Chair Piuser, that the Stephen Leonard and McNamara Youth Centers be opened up to a Request for Interest process for the next lease term, and to make a recommendation for such to City Council. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Member Morris  
Member Moore  
Member Cardona  
Huitron  
Member Anderson  
Vice Chair Piuser

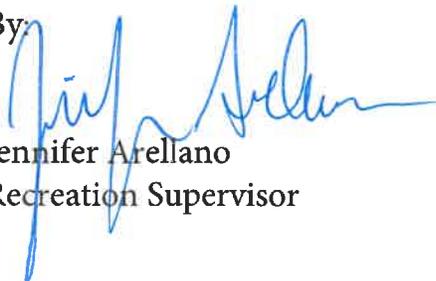
**No:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Member Curiel

**H. ADJOURNMENT**

The Recreation and Parks Commission meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

By:



Jennifer Arellano  
Recreation Supervisor

Approved:



Valente Huitron  
Chair

