



CITY OF MERCED

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

Minutes Recreation & Parks Commission

Monday, November 23, 2020

5:30 PM

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Eric Moore, Norma Cardona, Chairperson Valente Huitron, Justin Anderson and Vice Chair Douglas Piuser
Absent: 2 - Ralph Morris and Yesenia Curiel

D. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

E. CONSENT CALENDAR

E.1.

SUBJECT: Adoption and Filing of Recreation and Park Commission Meeting Minutes of October 26, 2020

REPORT IN BRIEF

Recreation and Park Commission Meeting Minutes of October 26, 2020.

RECOMMENDATION

Recreation and Park Commission - Adopt a motion approving and filing the Recreation and Park Commission Meeting Minutes of October 26, 2020.

A motion was made by Member Cardona, seconded by Member Moore, 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: 2 - Member Morris
Member Curiel

F. REPORTS

- F.1. **SUBJECT:** Update from the Participatory Budgeting Ad Hoc Committee and Request to a Make Recommendation to the City Council on the Budget Process to be Used in a Pilot Program for Measure Y Funds for Fiscal Year 2021/22

REPORT IN BRIEF

Update from the last meetings of the Participatory Budgeting Ad Hoc Committee

RECOMMENDATION

Recreation and Parks Commission- Adopt a motion making a recommendation to City Council.

Commissioner Norma CARDONA gave an update on the participatory budgeting ad hoc committee's meetings and activities.

Vice Chair Douglas PIUSER gave his impressions and thoughts from the meetings he attended.

Recreation Supervisors Jennifer ARELLANO, Michelle REID, and Director of Parks and Recreation Joey CHAVEZ talked about the Department goals and concerns with the process based on their impressions of the meetings they attended.

Commissioner Norma CARDONA gave the committee's final suggested recommendations to bring to City Council.

City Manager Stephanie DIETZ gave an overview of the committees that review Measure Y funding.

City Council member Anthony MARTINEZ gave his thoughts and opinions on the recommendation.

Commissioners discussed the recommendations, asked clarifying questions, and finalized the recommendation.

A motion was made by Member Moore, seconded by Vice Chair Piuser, to accept the recommendation of the Participatory Budgeting Committee to recommend to City Council to begin a 2-3 year pilot program to use a participatory budgeting process to decide how to spend \$40,000 or 20% (whichever is lower) from the Measure Y funds allocated to Parks and Recreation, and use a portion of the Measure Y discretionary funds to run the process each year in a collaboration

with Building Healthy Communities, and 2 staff members from Parks and Recreation. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

No: 0

Absent: 2 - Member Morris
Member Curiel

F.2.

SUBJECT: Presentation of and Discussion Regarding the History of City Funding for the Boys and Girls Club for Summer Camp Programming

REPORT IN BRIEF

Discussion regarding the history of the annual grant to Boys and Girls Club for summer camp

RECOMMENDATION

Information only-no action needed.

Recreation Supervisor Jennifer ARELLANO gave a brief presentation on the history of the partnership with, and funding to, the Boys and Girls Club.

Commissioners asked clarifying questions on the process for requesting community funding from the City, as well as for details on the Boys and Girls Club programming.

Director of Parks and Recreation Joey CHAVEZ and Recreation Supervisors Jennifer ARELLANO and Michelle REID answered their questions.

Commissioner Eric MOORE requested that a copy of the current lease agreement and summer camp agreements be emailed to Commissioners.

City Manager Stephanie DIETZ informed the Commissioners that she was looking to make some changes to the community funding process this year.

Finance Officer, Venus RODRIGUEZ gave the history of the community funding budget to the Commission.

G. BUSINESS

G.1. **SUBJECT:** Review of the Draft Sports Park Usage Policy and Receive Recommendations for Outreach to Recreation and Parks Stakeholders

REPORT IN BRIEF

Review of a draft sports park usage policy, allowing for recommended changes to be incorporated prior to full outreach to all Recreation and Parks stakeholders.

RECOMMENDATION

Recreation and Parks Commission- Adopt a motion making a recommendation for changes to policy prior to fully engaging with Recreation and Parks stakeholders.

Recreation Supervisor Michelle REID gave a presentation on a draft sports park policy.

Commissioners discussed the proposed policy, asked clarifying questions, and offered feedback for modifications.

Recreation and Park Director Joey CHAVEZ and Recreation Supervisor Michelle REID answered questions and offered additional information.

Chair Valente HUITRON suggested an ad hoc committee be formed to continue to work with staff to finalize the policy, and asked that Commissioner Eric MOORE be on the committee with himself. Vice Chair Douglas PIUSER also volunteered to be on the committee.

A motion was made by Chairperson Huitron, seconded by Member Moore, that an ad hoc committee be formed to work with staff on the athletic field use and allocation policy, and to meet for the first time in December and then as many times possible and as needed before the January meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

No: 0

Absent: 2 - Member Morris
Member Curiel

G.2. **SUBJECT:** Commission Comments

REPORT IN BRIEF

Provides an opportunity for the Chair and/or Member(s) to make a brief announcement on any activity(ies) she/he has attended on behalf of the Commission and to make a brief announcement on future community events and/or activities. The Brown Act does not allow discussion or action by the legislative body under this section.

Commissioner Norma CARDONA thanked staff for the park naming flyer and asked if it would be translated into Spanish and Hmong as well.

Chair Valente HUITRON volunteered to translate the flyer into Spanish.

Recreation Supervisor Jennifer ARELLANO thanked Council member Anthony MARTINEZ for his service on City Council, and as the liaison to the Recreation and Parks Commission.

Council member Anthony MARTINEZ encouraged commissioners to keep up the good work- keep asking questions and doing the hard work of research, and said he appreciates their work on the Commission, and noted it had been a pleasure to help out.

Director of Parks and Recreation Joey CHAVEZ thanked Council Member Anthony MARTINEZ for what he has done for the department, and stated that he has been very supportive and attended many events.

Recreation Supervisor Michelle REID mentioned the Halloween drive-thru event, that Commissioner Anderson attended, and Council member Anthony MARTINEZ stayed at the end of the event to help staff pick up and was a huge help, and thanked him- it was amazing to have a Council member's support in that way.

Council member Anthony MARTINEZ thanked the Department for all the great events and stated he sees himself as part of the team.

Commissioner Norma CARDONA thanked Council member Anthony MARTINEZ and Commissioners offered a round of applause for his service as liaison.

G.3.**SUBJECT: Request to Add Item to Future Agenda****REPORT IN BRIEF**

Provides members of the Boards/Commissions to request that an item be placed on a future Boards/Commissions agenda for initial consideration by the Boards/Commissions.

Commissioner Eric MOORE requested a staff financial report on the public

works park maintenance and capital improvement budget for the last 3 years, and an item to discuss ranking parks and considering a divestment plan if feasible.

Chair Valente HUITRON requested an item to discuss the Boys and Girls Club contract.

H. ADJOURNMENT

The Recreation and Parks Commission meeting was adjourned at 7:49 PM.

Approved:



Valente Huitron
Chair

By:



Jennifer Arellano
Recreation Supervisor