

**MINUTES OF THE  
MONROVIA COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION  
HELD TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2016**

**CONVENE:** Chair Matthews convened the Regular Meeting of the Community Services Commission on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Center Monroe Room, Monrovia, California. Staff in attendance: Public Services Director Tina Cherry, Senior Recreation Supervisor Lisa Hansberger, Recreation Supervisor Rebecca Romero, Senior Administrative Assistant Tina Wells, and Hillside Wilderness Preserve Supervisor Eugene Suk.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Commissioner Mills led the Flag Salute.

**PRESENTATIONS:** None

**ROLL CALL:** In attendance: Commissioners Dittmar, Hirsch, Mills, Wong, Vice-Chair Yuille, and Chair Matthews. Commissioner Ulm ~ Absent/Excused.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:** It was moved by Commissioner Dittmar, and seconded by Commissioner Wong to accept the consent calendar consisting of CC-1, and CC-2. There were no objections, and the motion was unanimously approved.

**CC-1** Unadopted Minutes of the February 9, 2016 Regular Meeting

**CC-2** Hillside Wilderness Preserve Patrol Updates for February, 2016.

**ITEM(S) PULLED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR, IF NEEDED:** None

**YOUTH COMMISSION REPORT:** Alejandra Rodriquez, a sophomore at Monrovia High School provided an update on current and upcoming activities.

**PUBLIC INPUT:** None

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

**AR-1 Proposed Smoking Ban in Monrovia Parks:** Tina Cherry, Director provided an overview of the proposed Smoking Ban in City Parks, and the steps taken to get the sub-committee to where they are today. The sub-committee includes; Commissioners Dittmar and Hirsch, Chair Matthews, Vice-Chair Yuille and Mayor Pro Tem Spicer. Objectives were defined and stakeholders identified. The sub-committee was also mindful to ensure inclusion for all, as well as study the various tobacco products such as e-cigarettes, vapes, and chewing tobacco to minimize any oversight of loop holes.

The sub-committee distributed flyers, and conducted additional outreach. It should also be noted that "some" park users, who smoke, were not opposed to the ban; however, requested an area be identified where smoking would be allowed.

After reviewing all the information, the sub-committee felt it was important to recommend to City Council that we look at banning tobacco use, and smoking in Monrovia's public parks. Through this discussion there were a few items which may benefit from further discussion by the City Council, they are;

- What are the boundaries?
- Enforcement, and
- Define smoking devices to include tobacco use

Based on the information gathered during the assessment, the sub-committee would like to recommend that the Community Services Commission consider proposing to the City Council that smoking is banned in City parks.

**CC-1**

**After discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Yuille and seconded by Commissioner Dittmar** to accept the recommendation based on the information gathered during the assessment; the sub-committee recommends the Commission propose to the City Council that smoking is banned in the City parks. There were no objections, and the motion was unanimously approved.

## **SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**SCR-1** Julian Fisher Park Phase II Renovations – Tina Cherry, Director reported; held the first meeting with the development crew for the Julian Fisher Park renovations. Items discussed ~ fencing around the park, basketball court size and surfacing, lighting, and neighborhood outreach. Talked about the historical and interpretive signs, and future restrooms, the project currently does not include the restroom; and landscaping and plant pallet recommendations, and next steps.

Commissioners Dittmar and Mills provided an update; lighting poles will be significantly different, and will affect the homes on the California and Almond sides of the park. We will reach out to the community for input. The outreach can be coordinated through MAP. Include the incorporation of art within the park, and a banner announcing the parks arrival would help. Discussion will need to be had on how the new lighting affects the neighbors to the west of the park.

Commissioner Dittmar will request that the Art in Public Places committee look into historic signage for the park, and set aside monies for a mural.

Mayor Pro Tem Spicer recommended an entrance from the School District parking lot to the park.

**SCR-2** Parks Needs Assessment – Tina Cherry, Director reported; provided to the county the needs assessment from the two community meetings. We have funding available to secure a consultant to help update our Park Master Plan. Will take advantage of the network available at the CPRS Conference to interact with consultants who might be interested in working on this project.

Requested clarification on the sub-committee members for the Parks Needs Assessment – they are: Commissioners Mills, Dittmar, Vice-Chair Yuille and Chair Matthews.

**SCR-3** Community Center Needs Assessment Update – Tina Cherry, Director provided a power point presentation, and overview of the long term needs of the Community Center. Community feedback will be gathered, and a meeting with users will be scheduled. Programming staff will also be engaged in the assessment. The next steps include feedback from the Commission related to the process, current needs and future needs.

## **REPORTS FROM STAFF**

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Tina Cherry, Director;

- Staff has been given direction by City Council to work in partnership with the Monrovia Unified School District to bolster the Monrovia Day's celebration, and bring back the parade. Monrovia Day's will be scheduled for three days, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. An overview of the activities was provided.
- California Park & Recreation Society (CPRS) Conference begins on Wednesday, March 9 and runs through Friday. Thursday evening Councilmember Crudgington will be recognized, as well recognition of the Station Square project.
- Wilderness Preserve Foundation Update – Member recruitment efforts have paid off. Received interest from 11 people. The recruitment will continue through June.
- An invitation from Art in Public Places has gone out for the unveiling of a mural on Friday evening at the Library.

## **COMMISSION LIAISON REPORTS:**

### **CSC LR-1 Commissioner Dittmar –**

- The next meeting of Art in Public Place is April 20. Updates on projects being funded by the group including a bronze statue with the film theme, the artist is in the process of completing the clay mock-up. The finished piece will be placed in the area of the Krikorian Theater. Continuing to work on the utility boxes.

### **CSC LR-2 Commissioner Hirsch –**

- National signing day was February 3. This is the first day that a high school senior can sign a binding National Letter of Intent to play college football with a NCAA school. Senior running back Lawrence Spicer made his official commitment to the Air Force Academy.
- Santa Fe Middle School participated in the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Science Olympiad at Occidental College. Of the 40 participating schools, Santa Fe ranked 17<sup>th</sup> overall.
- Spamalot, a Monrovia High School drama department production ran last weekend to full houses at each performance.
- Healing Connections annual March 4 Balance: campaign to prevent youth suicide is conducting “in-reaches” at the middle and high school campuses.
- Boys & Girls Club ~ Youth of the Year Awards. This year’s local award winner, Alize Neal, proved to be such a strong contender that she is a finalist at the county level. The award ceremony is Friday, March 18, 5:30 – 7:00 (free admission). Also honored at the event: Community Partner of the Year – City of Monrovia Public Services Department, Corporate Partner of the Year – Interior Services, and Lifetime Giving & Services Awardees ~ Blaine and Linda Fetter.

### **CSC LR-3 Chair Matthews –**

- CAPRCBM – the annual meeting of this association is this Thursday 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. at the convention center.
- Coordinating Council meeting is Monday, April 4 at 7:30.
- Senior Clubs, not able to attend the March or April meetings. Commissioner Hirsch is the alternate for this liaison.

### **CSC LR-4 Commissioner Mills –**

- MAP, the Youth Leadership group will have its last day on Wednesday, April 13, with the graduation on Tuesday, April 19 at 6:30 p.m.
- Care for Your Neighborhood Program – The group worked at 222 West Cypress Avenue on February 27 and helped to beautify the property. This program was created to assist the elderly and disabled homeowners in correcting code enforcement issues, and offering a drought tolerant long term solution to blighted landscape issues. Code Enforcement and MAP leaders work to identify unique situations where traditional code enforcement does not effectively work to correct the issues.
- CERT – held basic training. Provided a booth at the LA FTC Robotics Championship at Monrovia High School.
- Mental Health Consortium – Created by Grace Napalitano and meets quarterly. Attended the first quarterly meeting, and discussed the sharing of resources and how to address a situation when a person is experiencing a mental health issue. The next meeting will focus on how nutrition affects mental health.

**CSC LR-5 Commissioner Ulm – Absent/excused**

**CSC LR-6 Commissioner Wong –**

- MOTAB - discussed upcoming street closures for Monrovia Days, and 4<sup>th</sup> of -July. Rudy Castrelleon resigned from the board.

**CSC LR-7 Vice–Chair Yuille – Youth Commission**

- MAD Town Council – attended the February 17 meeting, discussed the parks needs assessment. 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at various locations.

**NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:** The next meeting of the Monrovia Community Services Commission is scheduled for Tuesday, April 12, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. Monroe Room, 119 West Palm Avenue, Monrovia, California.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The regular meeting of the Community Services Commission was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

**CC-1**