

Unofficial until adopted by the  
Parks and Recreation Commission

June 2, 2016  
Action Item III  
APPROVE

MINUTES  
ALHAMBRA PARKS AND RECREATION  
April 7, 2016

The Alhambra Parks and Recreation Commission met at 7:00 p.m. on April 7, 2016, at the Joslyn Adult Center 210 N. Chapel Avenue, Alhambra, CA 91801

Commission members present: Barnett, Flowers, Mejia, Mumford, Norrington, Rivera, Whelan,

Commission members absent: Bodeman, Martinez, Valdez

Also attending: Director Martin Ray

Deputy Director Julian Venegas

Recreation Supervisor Michael Macias

Deputy City Manager/Director Ray led the flag salute, introduction of commissioners and election of President as the last president was not in attendance and the office of Vice president is vacant.

**INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS**

The Commissioners introduced themselves to the Commission and public.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT**

Commissioner Whelan moved to nominate Donald Mumford as President of the Parks and Recreation Commission for the 2016-2017 term. Seconded by Commissioner Mejia the motion carried with the following roll call vote:

AYES: Barnett, Flowers, Mejia, Mumford, Norrington, Rivera, Whelan

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bodeman, Martinez, Valdez

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Commissioner Whelan moved to nominate Glenn Barnett as Vice President of the Parks and Recreation Commission for the 2016-2017 term. Seconded by Commissioner Rivera the motion carried with the following roll call vote:

AYES: Barnett, Flowers, Mejia, Mumford, Norrington, Rivera, Whelan

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bodeman, Martinez, Valdez

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Whelan moved to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of April 7, 2016. Seconded by Commissioner Barnett the motion carried with the following roll call vote:

**AYES:** Barnett, Whelan

**NOES:** None

**ABSTAIN:** Flowers, Mejia, Mumford, Norrington, Rivera

**ABSENT:** Bodeman, Martinez, Valdez

Commissioner Bodeman arrived at 7:15 p.m.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Deputy Director Macias gave a recap of the Eggstravaganza Event held at Almanson Park which was very well attended.

Deputy City Manager/Director Ray listed the events that are either City of Alhambra sponsored or supported, including the Eco Fair, Eighth Grade Promotions, Memorial Day event, Latino Heritage Festival, Relay For Life, Pumpkin Run, July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration, Wellness Expo, 7K Run, and Holiday Home Decorating Contest.

## **MONTHLY STATUS REPORTS**

Deputy City Manager/Director Ray gave an update of the items listed in the report.

## **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Sean McMorris, member of the Alhambra Lawn bowling Club, objected to the removal of one or both of the lawn bowling greens in order to relocate tennis courts if the parking structure project moves forward. He requested that at least one lawn bowling green be renovated for the club and stated he supported the residents against the parking structure.

Ms. Lola Armendariz asked if the Memorial Day event was centered in the memorial area and if there would be other activities. Ms. Armendariz requested that the sign regarding the emptying of the memorial fountain be relocated closer to the fountain and at ground level so that the public is more aware of water conservation efforts.

Vicki Orlando, resident of Almanson Street, spoke against the parking structure project and reiterated reasons brought up at prior meetings. Ms. Orlando stated the Emmaus Lutheran Church is willing to open up their parking lot for overflow parking from the park and if the gates are kept open on Adams Street then people can park on those streets and enter the park from Adams. Ms. Orlando stated that a parking structure in their neighborhood would bring down property values and no one wants to see a parking structure in front of their home.

Cheri Cabbot, boardmember of the Alhambra Lawn Bowling Club, spoke in favor of saving the lawn bowling greens and spoke against adding more tennis courts.

Darlene, resident of Almansor Street, reiterated concerns brought up at previous meetings opposing the parking structure. Darlene stated that a representative from Emmaus Lutheran Church said the church was willing to lease 160 parking spaces to the City to be used as overflow parking and she wanted the City to explore this option.

Hoang Banh, resident of Alhambra, stated that table tennis used to be played in the Granada Park Gym before it was renovated. After the renovation of the gym, table tennis was moved to the activity room and this room is not large enough to accommodate the number of tables needed for all the people who wish to play table tennis. He requested that the City allow table tennis to be played in the gymnasium again.

### **COMMISSION ORALS**

Commissioner Mejia stated that his son plays ball at Almansor Park and there is a shortage of parking spaces. Some parents have to walk 3-4 blocks just to get to the park or arrive an hour early in order to find parking close to the park.

Commissioner Norrington stated that Almansor Park has lack of parking. The church has offered their parking lot in the past and there have been times where no one was there to unlock the gates.

Commissioner Flowers stated that she can relate to the residents. She lives a block away from Almansor Park and when there are events at the park the streets are overcrowded. Overall the parking problem is an issue. She asked if the parking structure would have one or two entrances.

Deputy City Manager/Director Ray replied that the preliminary design has two entrances in order to have a way out if something happened.

Commissioner Barnett stated that his next door neighbor is a supermarket parking lot. If it were up to him he would not subject the residents of Almansor Street to a parking structure.

Commissioner Rivera stated that she concurred with the residents in that she would not want to open her front door and see a block of concrete. She would like the City to do a 12 month trial lease with Emmaus Lutheran Church before starting any type of construction. Commissioner Rivera stated that the parking structures off of Main Street have attracted a lot of illegal activity and problems.

Commissioner Bodeman suggested the relocation of the tennis courts in order to create a larger one level parking area.

In response to Commissioner Rivera's question, Deputy City Manager/Director Ray responded that the proposed parking structure would accommodate approximately 400 cars.

President Mumford stated he would like more information on this project and asked that the Commission revisit this item at a future meeting.

Commissioner Whelan asked that this item be agendaized so it can be discussed.

Deputy City Manager/Director Ray stated that he has to go by City Council direction. At this time, the City Council has put the project on hold until they decide what they want to do. At this time he does not have any additional information to add to the original presentation.

President Mumford informed the public that the Parks and Recreation Commission is only an advisory commission. They cannot make decisions one way or another.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Whelan moved to adjourn the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Barnett, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.