

**CITY OF ONTARIO
RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION
July 2019
MINUTES**

MEMBERS PRESENT: DEAN, NELSEN, RILEY, BINNEY, OVITT,
SAUCEDO, SOTO

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: MCALARY, DOREY, HICKEY, MICHALAK,
SMITH, FAZLURREHMAN, HOCKENHULL,
HUISMAN

MEMBERS ABSENT: TRINIDAD, CAMARENA (Excused)

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Commission Chair,
Kenneth Dean at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Daniel Saucedo, Commissioner

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

**M/S (SAUCEDO/BINNEY) TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR JUNE 2019 CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY.**

PUBLIC COMMENT: No Public Comments

CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. Monthly Statistical Reports for June 2019.

**M/S (BINNEY/RILEY) TO APPROVE THE MONTHLY STATISTICAL REPORT FOR
JUNE 2019 CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

1. **Recreation and Community Services** – Julie Dorey, Recreation and Community Services Director narrated a Power Point presentation on department highlights of program activities that occurred in June 2019.

A copy of the department presentation is available upon request from the Commission Secretary.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Proposition 68 Galanis Park Project** – Amber Fazlurrehman, Coordinator reported the Community Life and Culture Agency along with Public Works is in the process of applying for funding from Proposition 68 with a focus on Galanis Park. We have reached out to all ages in the community through gatherings and surveys to see what

they would like for amenities. Proposition 68 is a 4.1-billion-dollar bond measure to fund state and local parks, environmental projects, water infrastructure projects and flood protection projects throughout California. Community meetings and presentations were held at Veterans Park, VFW, Ontario Housing and James Galanis Park.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Fireworks and Parade Award Presentation** – Robyn Hockenhill, Senior Supervisor reported that the 2019 Fireworks Show, was hosted once again at Westwind Park. Approximately 25,000 spectators gathered at both Westwind Park and Whispering Lakes Golf Course. This year’s special guest appearance performed the national anthem. Raivyn Hearne is a soldier and entertainer in the United States Army and student pursuing a bachelor’s degree in music from USC. This event is a multi-agency collaboration with our City Fire, Police and Parks Departments. We would like to thank all of them for their assistance in putting on this event that was enjoyed by all who attended.

Robyn Hockenhill and Candice Smith invited the Commissioners to help present the 2019 Independence Parade awards. Robyn stated there were 86 parade entries, 13 Dignitaries, 30 various vehicle entries, 14 floats, 7 bands, 18 walking groups and 4 equestrian units. Over 13,000 spectators enjoyed the parade along Euclid Avenue. 1st Place Award winners were all presented with trophies during the presentation. A reception for all parade winners followed the meeting at the Ontario Senior Center.

COMMENTS:

SAUCEDO: “A salute to all of you for your participation in our parade. This parade is not only for the City of Ontario residents but for all our surrounding communities. You help make our parade successful as we celebrate together!”

RILEY: “I agree with Daniel Saucedo. Not too long-ago the 4th of July events were much smaller in attendance. Everyone now looks forward to this each year and it has become such a wonderful community event! Thank you for participating!”

OVITT: “Ditto! We are so please to live in this city and to have witnessed this wonderful parade. It’s all about Americana. This is what America is built upon celebrating the independence of our country. We love having Ontarians in the parade, but we especially love those that come from outside of the community to participate and to be part of the crowd. Everyone loves a parade! I’ve been going to this parade all of my life!”

BINNEY: “Without all of you, there would not be a parade. You are the cream of the crop, you’re awesome. You bring a diverse collaboration of everything. It’s a great way to celebrate this awesome holiday. Thank you all!”

SOTO: “I want to congratulate every one of you. I really enjoyed the parade this year. It was so patriotic! I really loved it.”

NELSEN: “I look at the military presence and all of you here who represent the pride of Ontario and our surrounding cities is here. We are such a blessed city. As I walked to get to the parade, I would ask people where they were from. I’d hear Fontana, Rancho Cucamonga, Rubidoux and of course Ontario. We are a blessed group in diversity and that’s what makes us such a proud community and nation. I was so proud to see the American flag on everything! There’s no prouder moment than to see our flag waving. You make us proud and we will always welcome you to come back, we need you and appreciate you!”

MAYOR PRO

TEM VALENCIA: “I look at this crowd and I see so much diversity. It’s amazing that so many people, especially in the day and age we are in right now. We see all kinds of things happening around the world. On the 4th of July, we all come together and celebrate one thing and that’s our freedom. I appreciate you all coming out there. As long as I am in office, I’m going to make sure this happens each year. Myself and my family bring out our horses which is a challenge, but we do it for a great cause. I also want to thank our city staff including Police and Fire who many of them work double shifts on that day just so we can enjoy the parade and the fireworks show. I encourage you next year when you’re participating in these events to reach out and thank them.”

DEAN: “Thank you all! It was amazing to see how diverse we all are in all aspects of life.” We thank our city staff for putting on these two events. Their day begins very early before sunrise and they work well into the night after the fireworks show is over. Thank you for everything!”

M/S (NELSEN/OVITT) ADJOURNED THE MEETING IN MEMORY OF RETIRED FIRE CHIEF ELWELL WHOSE LIFE WE CELEBRATED ON JULY 27, 2019 NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 26, 2019 AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT: 7:45 PM



Ann Huisman, Recording Secretary

APPROVED:



Kenneth Dean, Chairperson