

**CITY OF ONTARIO  
RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION  
JULY 27, 2020  
MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** RILEY, NELSEN, OVITT, BINNEY, SAUCEDO,  
BRAVO AND ESCOBOSA

**NON-MEMBERS PRESENT:** MCALARY, GONZALEZ, HUISMAN, HICKEY,  
MICHALAK, LEWALLEN, HOCKENHULL,  
VALENCIA

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Dean & Trinidad (excused absence)

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Commission Vice-Chair, Virginia Riley at 6:01 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Emily Bravo, Student Representative

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

M/S (SAUCEDO/NELSEN) TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR JUNE 2020 CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No Public Comments

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

1. Monthly Statistical Reports for June 2020.

M/S (BINNEY/SAUCEDO) TO APPROVE THE MONTHLY STATISTICAL REPORT FOR JUNE 2020 CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

1. **Recreation & Community Services** – Nicholas Gonzalez, Recreation & Community Services Director, narrated a PowerPoint presentation on department highlights of program activities that occurred in June 2020.

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

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021** – Nicholas Gonzalez, Recreation & Community Services Director shared the 2020-2021 Fiscal report with the Commission. He reviewed the Recreation Mission & Vision Statements, City Council goals and Recreation's priority values. Nicholas Gonzalez reviewed the budget process and the Recreation Agency

Strategic Objectives for the upcoming 2020-21 fiscal year. Nicholas Gonzalez also reviewed the department reorganizational chart.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Introduction of Westwind Community Center Acting Supervisor** – Nicholas Gonzalez, Recreation & Community Services Director introduced Clay Lewallen, Recreation & Community Services Coordinator who will be serving as Acting Senior Recreation & Community Services Supervisor for the Westwind Community Center. Nicholas shared with the Commission that Frank Salgado recently accepted a position with a Recreation Department in the high desert and we have since transferred Christopher Ponce, Senior Recreation & Community Services Supervisor from Westwind Community Center to the Armstrong Community Center to assist with the preparation of the development of the new Anthony Munoz Community Center and to oversee facility reservations and marketing our department and programming. Clay Lewallen comes to us from the Ontario Senior Center, and we are looking forward to his leadership skills in working with the existing Westwind Community Center staff and the surrounding community.
2. **Summer 2020 Tot and Day Camps Update** – Robyn Hockenull, Senior Recreation & Community Services Supervisor shared a PowerPoint presentation with the Commission on the current tot and summer day camps. Our tot program sold out for each session. All CDC and County Public Health guidelines were strictly followed throughout each session.
3. **Recreation & Parks Master Plan Update** – Nicholas Gonzalez, Recreation & Community Services Director reviewed the project timeline and shared that the Ontario Recreation & Parks Master Plan will provide a vision for the Recreation & Community Services and Parks Departments for the next decade. It will provide clear set goals for both infrastructure and program improvements. He stated that COVID-19 has affected how the project team and the City conduct community outreach, and we will be offering more opportunities moving forward for online outreach methods such as surveys and presentations. The Recreation & Community Services Department has created a dedicated webpage for the Master Plan located at: [www.OntarioCA.gov/RecreationMasterPlan](http://www.OntarioCA.gov/RecreationMasterPlan).

## **COMMENTS:**

**VALENCIA:** “Great presentation Nick! I want to shout out to *State Farm* that three of their local agents each donated \$500 to the O.Y.A.L. program. It is about the community. Especially with the recent civil unrest we have recently been experiencing. One of the things that kept coming out was about youth opportunities. Having quality outlets for our youth to engage in the community and feel like they are valued and part of the solutions. That is what the O.Y.A.L. really represents. We have a platform and the capacity with our great staff that is holding things together. During these times of

COVID-19, it is paramount that we think outside the box. You are starting to come together as a great team. Thanks to each of you and stay safe.”

**BINNEY:** “My comment is in regard to the Dorothy A. Quesada Community Center the Teen Action Committee (T.A.C.) Team making a video to be posted on social media on how to reach out to other local teens. I really appreciate how we showcase our TAC program and letting the community know what TAC does. It is so important to market this program. I am also wondering if you will be reassigning someone to fill in Clay’s position at the Senior Center any time soon?”

**GONZALEZ:** “At this time, due to the uncertainty stemming from the coronavirus, we will be waiting for a directive from our City Manager as to when we can fill any positions that are left open. During this time, as we move forward, we will be relying very heavily on our part time staff to fill in the gaps. Losing six full time staff, this is going to give us the opportunity to develop our part time staff as leaders looking at managing our facilities.”

**SAUCEDO:** “Our staff is doing an awesome job! Nicholas and Helen’s leadership are reflective in your staff going beyond what is required of them. Even though this pandemic hit us unexpectedly, your pro-activeness and your ingenuity of all the things that you’re implementing, your foresight on what you really want this city to be as far as Recreation and Parks, I think that’s so positive. It is such a great example for the staff to see the leadership like that, you do not just say it in your words, you do it in deeds. You get in there and work side by side with everyone. We appreciate your leadership and that is what we desire and expect of our city staff and leaders, Ruben Valencia, the Council Members, and the Mayor. When we are done with this pandemic, I think people will flock even more to all the activities we have set for them in place. I am very excited as we make plans for the Great Park and the Anthony Munoz Community Center, it is going to exciting. We must stay positive and this will soon be over. We are here for the long haul and we will support as best as we can.”

**OVITT:** “Once again, I would like to echo the same thing, staff is doing a great job as they step up even though you’re short-handed. This COVID-19 is something we must plan for. It is amazing as we have talked in the past preparations for a major earthquake that could cut out the city from one part to another, but we have never imagined what a pandemic can do. When we come out of this, I know you will be able to move forward through the things you have learned from it. You will be able to be ready for anything like this in the future. I am anxious to hear how the community is going to comment on the Master Plan and the Great Park. I am very excited about it. Congratulations to Emily and Abril. I was not at last months meeting. I look forward to working with both of you.”

**NELSEN:** “I think the creativity of the staff decorating the community centers was wonderful. How beautiful the colors and creativity were! Talk about enthusiasm! One thing our staff does not lack in. I am looking forward to driving by the Anthony Munoz Park to see the development of the new center. I want to say Nicholas, your staff has been creative and energetic, and you are doing a phenomenal job. I think it starts at the top with your direction and Helen’s support. Thank you for being so insightful to make sure every base is covered. Thank you to Emily and Abril for being here. You are our upcoming leaders; it is so good to have you here. We believe in you and we look forward to your comments.”

**BRAVO:** “I am excited to be part of the Commission. I was apprehensive at first, but I have enjoyed tonight’s meeting. Thank you for this opportunity.”

**ESCOBOSA:** “Thank you for allowing me to be here today. I didn’t know what to expect but it’s great being part of the Commission.”

**RILEY:** “I am amazed and appreciative for all the programs and activities that continue despite this pandemic. It is wonderful to give people in our communities’ opportunities to participate. I am glad to see the number of participants for the senior meal distribution and that there has been such a good response for the aquatics program. I watched all five bands in the Ontario Battle of the Bands contest. Great music! I appreciate receiving the community senior newsletters each month. Thank you for sending it.”

**MCALARY:** “Thank you for being such a supportive Commission. Our staff really appreciates your comments and support.”

**NEXT RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 24, 2020 AT 6:00 PM:**

**M/S (BINNEY/OVITT) TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.**

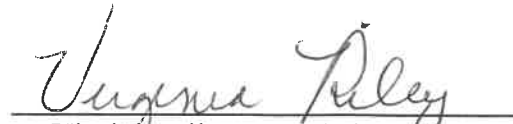
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**ADJOURNMENT: 7:07 PM**



Ann Huisman, Recording Secretary

**APPROVED:**



Virginia Riley, Co-Chairperson