

**CITY OF ONTARIO
RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION
FEBRUARY 22, 2021
MINUTES**

MEMBERS PRESENT: DEAN, RILEY, NELSEN, OVITT, BINNEY, CASKEY,
BRAVO, ESCOBOSA,

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: GONZALEZ, HUISMAN, HICKEY, PONCE, COUNCIL
MEMBER DORST-PORADA

MEMBERS ABSENT: TRINIDAD (excused)

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Marty Binney, Commissioner

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M/S (BINNEY/RILEY) TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR JANUARY 2020 CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ozzie Varela, Inland Valley Soccer League, Inc. submitted an electronic public comment form. Mr. Varela stated that the Inland Valley Soccer League Inc. has not received a response to their submitted comment at the January 25, 2021 Recreation & Parks Commission meeting. His initial comment was in regards to athletic field reservation fee increases will impact sports organizations, parents, youth, and young adults. Many families are struggling financially. He asked that we re-consider the increase or put on hold until things get back to normal.

COMMENT: Nicholas Gonzalez, Recreation & Community Services Director responded to Mr. Varela that there will be detailed information presented later on in this evening's agenda.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Monthly Statistical Reports for January 2021.

M/S (BINNEY/OVITT) TO APPROVE THE MONTHLY STATISTICAL REPORT
FOR JANUARY 2021 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 January 2021.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Field Reservations Update - Christopher Ponce, Senior Recreation & Community Services Supervisor and Nicholas Gonzalez, Recreation & Community Service Director shared a PowerPoint Presentation which included historical background on the fee policies from 1965 through 1999. The presentation included information on the current fee structure and the decision process that led to the fees being adjusted after 20 years. The presentation explained the positive benefits to the reservable facilities that come from the fee adjustments and recommended that the Recreation & Parks Commission not adjust the current fee structure.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **AmeriCorps Youth Mentors Presentation** – AmeriCorps Members, Karina Palma, Nanette Perez, Hannah Hernandez and Nicole Celera shared a PowerPoint Presentation with the Commission on their approach, marketing and goals as they plan activities and increase participation by offering a mentorship program for the youth that are involved in the Ontario Youth Activities League.

COMMENTS:

DORST-

PORADA: “Thank you for attending this evening’s meeting. It was good to listen to all the different things going on in Recreation & Parks.”

McAlary: “Thank you to the Council and Commission for being here tonight. The presentations were great! I’m proud of our Youth Mentors and we are excited about the upcoming programming opportunities.”

NELSEN: “It’s great to have more involvement with the youth. Due to COVID-19, having these strong support systems for our young community members is key. I think AmeriCorps has that to offer. The City of Ontario has been so generous to its community members. I am happy with the Senior lunch program and that Chick-fil-A has been helping out. Nutrition is so important to keeping the Seniors involved and supporting their mental health by our daily contact. Thank you so much for providing that service.”

OVITT: “We learned a lot tonight through the AmeriCorps and the fee system presentations! We have been underpriced for so long and we value the facilities

we have and the residents of Ontario. We deserve to take care of our property values.”

BINNEY: “Given COVID-19 and our limitations, it’s nice to see the department offering so many opportunities to our residents.”

CASKEY: “Thank you Nick for your visit at Whispering Lakes Golf Course. It’s good to have the communication opened up. Chris Ponce, thank you very much for the fee protocol update. I have to ditto what Ken Dean and Gary Ovitte said about the AmeriCorps tonight, you stole the show!”

BRAVO: “I am excited for what’s to come after listening to all of the plans that were presented tonight.”

ESCOBOSA: “I am excited to continue working with you all. You’ve done so much already and there’s so much more we can do together!”

RILEY: “Tonights meeting was so full of information! Thank you to the AmeriCorps for their presentation!”


DEAN: “I am so impressed with the number of Senior meals we serve each month!”

NEXT RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MARCH 22, 2021 AT 6:00 PM:

M/S (OVITT/NELSEN) TO ADJOURN IN MEMORY OF COL. CHARLES L. MILHISER JR., BROTHER OF JAMES MILHISER ONTARIO CITY TREASURER, ALSO IN MEMORY OF RITA NELSEN’S MOTHER WHO PASSED AWAY IN JANUARY.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:35 PM


Ann Huisman, Recording Secretary

APPROVED:

Kenneth Dean, Chairperson