

**CITY OF ONTARIO
RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION
JULY 23, 2018
MINUTES**

MEMBERS PRESENT: DEAN, NELSEN, RILEY, BINNEY, SAUCEDO,
TRINIDAD, ZENDEJAS, MEDINA

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: OVITT (excused)

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: The meeting called to order by
Commission Chair, Kenneth Dean at 6:03 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Brittany Zendejas, Student Representative

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

**M/S (RILEY/BINNEY) TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR JUNE 2018 CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY.**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. Monthly Statistical Reports for June 2018.

**M/S (TRINIDAD/SAUCEDO) TO APPROVE THE MONTHLY STATISTICAL REPORT
FOR JUNE 2018 CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

1. **Recreation and Community Services** – Kathy Hickey, Recreation and Community Services Manager narrated a Power Point presentation on department highlights of center activities that occurred in June 2018.

A copy of the department presentation may be obtained upon request from the Commission Secretary.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. No Old Business

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Fireworks and Parade Award Presentation** - Kathy Hickey, Stacy Michalak and Amber Fazlurrehman
 - a. Amber Fazlurrehman, Coordinator reported that the 2018 Fireworks Show had one of the largest crowd in attendance on record. Approximately 15,000 people were in the Westwind Park and at the Whispering Lakes Golf Course. We offered 13 food vendors. There was a face-painting booth, a magician and a roaming stilt walker and juggler. There were 5 carnival rides set up and carnival games ran by our Fire Explorers. All of the raised funds in the carnival area were to benefit our Fire Explorer program. Pyro Spectaculars set off over 765 different fireworks. The show was coordinated with the radio station; KOLA 99.9 playing patriotic music and adding to the festivities, Luna Beltran sang our National Anthem for her third year. She is 11 years old and she gets better and better each year. "Ace" Band (a community favorite) provided the pre-show entertainment. Next year, they will celebrate their 20th year performing with us at Westwind. We collaborated with our City Fire, Police and Parks Departments. We would like to thank all of them for their help in putting on this event that was enjoyed by all.

COMMENTS:

NELSEN: "I couldn't believe that night, when the event was over, all of your staff, T.A.C. Fire Department, Police and Parks staff were all clearing out and picking up trash to restore the park to its original condition. It cleared so quickly and I want to thank you all! It was beautiful!"

- b. Robyn Hockenhull, Sr. Supervisor invited Mayor Pro tem Alan Wapner and the Recreation and Park Commissioners to help present the 2018 parade awards. Robyn stated that there were 80 parade entries, 12 dignitaries, 27 vehicle entries, 12 clubs, 8 bands, 12 walking groups, 3 equestrian groups and over 12,000 spectators. She thanked them all for attending the meeting tonight. 1st Place Award Winners were all presented with trophies. Refreshments were offered to everyone after the meeting at the Senior Center.

COMMENTS:

NELSEN: "I spoke with the marching group from Scotland. They shared with me that they marched in a parade in New York City and nothing can compare to the parade here in Ontario! Please come back again!"

WAPNER: "Independence Day is a long time tradition for Ontario. It starts very early in the morning with the parade, All States Picnic, Concert in the Park and then finally the firework show. The entire day would not take place without our great staff!"

All of these employees give up their holiday that they could be with their families starting at 4:00 AM until at least midnight. In addition, without you as participants, the parade would not be what it is. I want to thank you all on behalf of the City Council.”

SAUCEDO: “Congratulations to everyone, very well deserved. Please come back again next year! Unfortunately, I was out of town this year but I look forward to being here next year.”

RILEY: “Thank you to all of the parade entries. When I was a kid, I remember coming to the parade and attending the All States Picnic. I now live within walking distance of the parade. I would also like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Gary Ovitt who opened their driveway to all for some food and water. They are always such gracious hosts. Mr. Ovitt is on the Commission but is currently on a photo Safari in Africa. On another note, I would like to ask our Commission Chair if tonight’s meeting could be adjourned in honor/memory of Mayor Paul Eaton from our neighboring City of Montclair. He passed away yesterday morning. Services will be held later in the month.”

TRINIDAD: “I thank you to all! I appreciate especially the T.A.C. who arrive early and stayed late for these events. I saw them working very hard. I would like to thank my family for coming out to see the parade and fireworks celebration. During this month, I was able to visit one of the centers when we had the heat wave to see how things were going. I actually thought there would be more community members at the center but those that were, enjoyed the cool water and temperatures at the Dorothy A. Quesada Community Center.”

BINNEY: “People come from all over the region to our parade and see you all! You are the show! Thank you so much for participating. Thank you to the staff who worked so hard on both events. You all do an awesome job.”

ZENDEJAS: “Thank you for doing such a wonderful job, both the parade and fireworks show were amazing. Thanks for making the 4th of July special in the City of Ontario.”

NELSEN: “I attended the last City Council meeting and I wanted to thank the T.A.C. who presented on ‘Smoke Free Parks’. They discussed the benefits of having our city parks smoke free. The teens picked up thousands of cigarette butts and made this profound poster depicting the statistics of the impact of smoking near our public centers and parks. They asked the Council if they would consider approving their ordinance prohibiting smoking in those areas. The vote was unanimous! 5-0! It was very well received. In regards to the parade, when I was parking my car a few blocks away that morning, I talked with other people who were parking and walking to Euclid Avenue. People were coming from miles away, some from Hemet, Fontana and Temecula. We are so blessed that the city puts on the parade. The highlight was the beauty if all of the participants and the parade goes together, it was a unified experience!”

DEAN:

“What a parade! Thank you to all! It was great to see new and returning participants. I was so proud of T.A.C. when they progressively made their presentations to our Commission, Planning Commission and then on to the City Council. The new ordinance will take a while to get into position and enforce but you young people, you must know that you really do make a difference! I attended the Tiger Shark Meet last weekend. The comradery with the staff and students and the enthusiastic spectators was a joy to see. It was an amazing event. Candice and Darrell did an awesome job managing the staff and organizing the event with all of its activities. It was very clear to me that the staff involved really loved what they were doing. In regards to the high temperatures we have been experiencing, please be careful with yourselves. Watch your senior relatives, neighbors and pets, please stay hydrated.

M/S (RILEY/TRINIDAD) MEETING ADJOURNED IN MEMORY OF MAYOR PAUL EATON, CITY OF MONTCLAIR. THE NEXT RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE ON AUGUST 27, 2018 AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT: 8:10 PM



Ann Huisman, Recording Secretary

APPROVED:



Kenneth Dean, Chairperson