

**CITY OF ONTARIO  
RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION  
July 26, 2021  
MINUTES**

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**      Marty Binney, Commissioner

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**              RILEY, NELSEN, OVITT, BINNEY, CASKEY, MACIAS, TRINIDAD, DETRES

**NON-MEMBERS PRESENT:**      GONZALEZ, MCALARY, HUISMAN, HICKEY, DAVIS, HESTER, MALDONADO, MAYOR PRO TEM WAPNER

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**              ESCOBOSA (EXCUSED ABSENCE)

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

1. No Public Comments

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Minutes for Regular Meeting on June 28, 2021

**MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR JUNE 28, 2021 (TRINIDAD/CASKEY) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

2. Activity & Attendance Report for June 2021

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE ACTIVITY & ATTENDANCE REPORT FOR JUNE 2021 (BINNEY/MACIAS) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**SPECIAL CEREMONIES:**

3. Recognition of Outgoing Recreation & Parks Commissioner, Kenneth Dean – Commission Chair, Virginia Riley presented a plaque to Kenneth Dean from the City Council thanking him for 22 years of dedicated service to the residents of the City of Ontario. Mr. Dean thanked the Commission members for the opportunity to serve the community.

**COMMENTS:**

**OVITT:** Ovitt expressed his thanks to Ken Dean and stating that he has always been a stable influence on the Commission and is well respected throughout the community. Mr. Ovitt congratulated Ken on becoming a Planning Commissioner.

**BINNEY:** Binney stated that Ken Dean was so welcoming to him when he joined the Commission. Ken served as a gracious representative of the citizens of Ontario.

**NELSEN:** Nelsen stated how much she enjoyed working with Ken Dean on the Commission over the years. She shared that he brought comfort and stability and has always been so welcoming to everyone. He kept things in perspective, and she thanked him for being their leader and their friend.

**TRINIDAD:** Trinidad thanked Ken for always being a comfort not only to the Commission but on a personal level offering career and family advice. Trinidad stated that Ken will be greatly missed and wished him good luck on his new endeavor.

**CASKEY:** Caskey stated that Ken welcomed him when he recently joined the Commission. He is a consummate professional.

**MACIAS:** Thanked Ken for his dedication to this city that is so precious to us all.

**RILEY:** Riley stated that she and Ken joined the Commission at the same time and that she has always enjoyed working with him over the years and wished him luck.

#### **DEPARTMENT REPORT:**

4. **Recreation & Community Services** – Nicholas Gonzalez, Recreation & Community Services Director, narrated a PowerPoint presentation on department highlights of program activities that occurred in June 2021.

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

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

5. **Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Departmental Budget Update & Organization Chart** – Nicholas Gonzalez, Recreation & Community Services Director presented a presentation to the Commission on the approved Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget for the Recreation & Community Services Department. Gonzalez's presentation included budget details regarding programming and staff. This also included department goals for this upcoming fiscal year.

#### **COMMENTS:**

**CASKEY:** Asked if our staff can confirm the process of accounting for the attendance numbers for the Whispering Lakes Golf Course.

**GONZALEZ:** Stated that he will inquire with the operators of Whispering Lakes Golf Course and find out how they calculate and track their attendance numbers.

**NELSEN:** Nelsen talked about the new homes in Ontario Ranch and asked if our programming is currently being promoted in the New Haven and Park Place developments. She stated that the last time she attended a concert at Ontario Town Square she spent time talking with residents and confirmed that many of them are coming from that area of Ontario.

**GONZALEZ:** Confirmed that all residents in those areas are receiving the Ontario Living magazine each month. Our department is currently planning more outreach to that area.

**OVITT:** Mr. Ovitt stated that the entrance to Whispering Lakes Golf Course is not looking very good. There is a lot of land there and hopes that it will start to get more attention.

**GONZALEZ:** Gonzalez stated that part of our goal this year is to work with the operator of Whispering Lakes Golf Course as much as we can and come up with ways to enhance their programming which can increase their revenue and enhance the grounds of the golf course.

**OVITT:** Ovitt asked about the condition and preservation of Jay Littleton Ball Park.

**GONZALEZ:** Responded that Jay Littleton Ball Park is on our list for future renovation and the Department is working with Historic Preservation in the Planning Department.

**TRINIDAD:** Asked about the park attendants that were mentioned in the budget presentation. He asked if they will be assigned to monitor all our parks or just certain ones.

**GONZALEZ:** Park Attendants will monitor all our parks, especially those with reservations to make sure operations are running smoothly and that all field use is permitted.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

6. Emergency Senior Meals Program and Ontario Senior Center Update – Tracee Davis, Senior Recreation & Community Services Supervisor and Marquita Hester, Senior Recreation Leader presented a presentation of the Emergency Senior Meals Program that the Recreation & Community Services Department provided from April 2020 through June 2021.

### **COMMENTS:**

**BINNEY:** Binney stated he has worked as a volunteer with the Ontario Senior Center for over 20 years. He stated that the compassion and humanity for the community that staff shows towards our seniors always amazes him, especially during this challenging time.

**NELSEN:** Nelsen stated that the enthusiasm, love and concern for our community and its seniors is amazing.

**RILEY:** Stated that the cover sheet from agenda summary shows that from April 1, 2020 through June 4, 2020, Ontario city staff delivered 141,000 meals to the community. The daily deliveries and personal contact were so helpful and that the seniors appreciated it.

### COMMISSIONER/LIASION COMMENTS

#### **MAYOR PRO**

**TEM WAPNER:** Thank you for all that you do.

**DETRES:** No Comments

**TRINIDAD:** Stated that everyone is doing a great job and it's so encouraging to see us coming back strong. He welcomed Daisy Macias to the Commission.

**OVITT:** Stated that the Recreation & Community Services Department is phenomenal. He shared that we all value Nick Gonzalez's leadership and all the department staff. He went on to say he is very proud that the budget presentation was so well prepared and is impressed with all the strategies. Ovitt also shared that he attended an event with Ontario-Montclair School District and Anthony Munoz presented a check for \$25,000 to assist with the renovation of the Anthony Munoz Community Center.

**BINNEY:** Stated he visited De Anza Park and Anthony Munoz Park and how impressed he feels it's really a tribute towards the Recreation & Community Services Department and what has been accomplished in both parks.

**MACIAS:** Macias thanked everyone for all that they do. She thanked staff for their work and dedication.

**CASKEY:** Complimented Tracee Davis and Marquita Hester on their Emergency Senior Meals Program presentation and on the wonderful job they do. Caskey also complimented Gonzalez on the great job the Recreation & Community Services Department does and on the very informative budget presentation.

**NELSEN:** Stated that the department is doing a wonderful job with the budget. In addition, she stated that she will continue spreading the word to the Ontario Ranch Community to look for the Ontario Living Magazine for special event opportunities and classes.

**RILEY:** Riley shared how good it is to see everything reopening. She shared with the Commission that she learned from Candice Smith, Senior Recreation & Community Services Supervisor that a Soroptimist scholarship award winner is now an employee for the Recreation & Community Services Department, Kristy Garcia. Riley went on to say that she drove by Schimmel Dog Park and noticed it's always empty. She is curious if we know why.

**GONZALEZ:** Stated that there is no grass or trees at Schimmel Dog Park and can be too hot for dogs paws, especially during the summer months.

**M/S (TRINIDAD/CASKEY) TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. NEXT RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION MEETING WILL HELD ON AUGUST 23, 2021 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

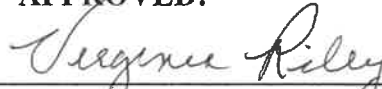
**ADJOURNMENT: 7:20 PM**



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Ann Huisman, Recording Secretary

**APPROVED:**



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Virginia Riley, Chairperson