

CITY OF SAN GABRIEL
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2015

7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Lubisich called the regular meeting of the Community Services Commission to order at 7:00 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Chair Lubisich, Vice-Chair Mullen, Commissioner Chen, Commissioner Velazquez, Commissioner Hopkins

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT: San Gabriel Unified School District Representative, Councilmember Sawkins

STAFF PRESENT: Acting Community Services Director, Tom Boecking, Commission Secretary, Raiza Ibanez

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Commissioner Mullen made a motion to approve the November 2, 2015 minutes. Commissioner Chen seconded the motion. The minutes were approved

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

NEW BUSINESS

- 1-A.** Staff Update (Oral Report)- Boecking announced the birth of Nathaniel Jack Perez, third son of Rebecca Perez, Community Services Director. In Perez's absence, Boecking is the Acting Community Services Director. Any inquiries or questions regarding the department should be directed to him until her return in March. James Lara was officially promoted to Recreation Supervisor on November 30th, after having been in the acting capacity for the past six months.
- 1-B.** 40th Annual Turkey Trot Recap (Written Report)- Boecking declared the run a fun and successful event. He expressed appreciation for the commissioners that attended the event and helped out. Money raised during the Turkey Trot will be going towards the Share a Dream Sponsorship Program, which gives eligible low income families the opportunity to participate in the City's classes and activities at a reduced fee. There were many volunteers on hand helping to make the event run smoothly. The vendor booths were successful. Chair Lubisich commented that it was a wonderful event and that people had a lot of fun. She mentioned that there was a great atmosphere with the music and staff members dancing to get the crowd excited. She thought the community booths were a great way of cross-promoting events, like the upcoming Jefferson race. Overall, Lubisich proclaimed this was a fantastic community-building event.

- 1-C.** Department Monthly Report (Written Report)- Boecking presented the report and mentioned that there was one item that was accidentally left off. Next month, the City will begin formal discussions with the San Gabriel School District in regards to joint-use agreements. Before the official meetings with the district, there will be internal discussions throughout the City regarding what types of outcomes everyone is hoping for. The meetings next month will serve to formalize all agreements that have been previously discussed. Boecking also reported that it is a busy time for the department as Winter Class Registration began this week. He mentioned that people were calling in first thing in the morning to sign up for watercolor classes. Commissioner Velazquez mentioned that art classes are very popular currently. Boecking also announced the Los Angeles (county-wide) Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment Meeting will be taking place on Dec 8th at the San Gabriel Library at 6pm. The department has partnered with Amigos De Los Rios and they will be the main facilitator. This meeting is an opportunity for community members to weigh in on what kinds of projects or improvements they would like to see. Although this was not a meeting that was not mandatory, as there is a lot of relevant data from last year's Strategic Plan, the department elected to have it in order to give residents/community members a chance to give their input. He extended an invitation to Commissioners to come to the meeting and weigh in on the topics at hand. Boecking also reported on the 39th Annual Holiday Tree Lighting. He commented that children were so excited about Santa that when they saw him, the line which had been formed for a couple hours, broke and kids rushed over to him. There were many more people in the park this year because there was more entertainment. There was pan dulce and hot chocolate provided for attendees, which were donated by local businesses. The department is planning something big to commemorate next year's Holiday Tree Lighting, which will be the 40th Anniversary. Mullen commented that there was not sufficient lighting in the tin decorating station and suggested better lighting be provided next year. She also mentioned that the strings on tins were not long enough to hang on the tree, so they had to be hung on the fence. Children were also encouraged to take their tins home. Mullen also inquired about the sound system. Boecking informed that for this event, a sound system was rented (the cost was split with the Mission Playhouse) and clarified that although the department does have a sound system, it is meant for much smaller crowds. Mullen asked if the department has future plans to invest in a new sound system, to which Boecking responded that there are indeed plans to upgrade the sound system, perhaps within the next budget cycle. The new sound system will be for small community events. The second annual Lunar New Year Festival will be held on Saturday, February 6th in the Mission District, 11am – 11 pm. The street will be closed off like it was last year. There will be a dance competition and children's art contest, which will be going out to all the schools. There will be different age groups (kindergarten-1st, 2nd-3rd, 4th-5th, 6th-8th grades). The theme will be the Year of the Monkey; however, the art work does not have to be limited to that specific theme. There is debate on whether there will be a high school category. The department is trying to reach out to the art teachers at Gabrielino High School to see if they can help put the word out to their students. The San Gabriel Fine Arts Association will be doing an adult art contest and showing. The department is reviewing the event budget to determine what the prizes will be. Boecking announced that there will be a lot of entertainment so the festival should be a very fun and lively event. Chair Lubisich inquired about the new Youth Basketball League. Boecking informed that although sign ups have been slow, there is a couple more registration dates scheduled and the department is hoping for more registrations. Once the registration period closes, the department will be able to plan how to proceed, depending on the number of participants.
- 1-D.** Commissioners Report- Mullen reported on the Historical Association's Victorian Open House. She estimated that about 20 people attended the event. Lubisich brought up the Starlings Volleyball team and mentioned that their gym time is contingent on the Youth Basketball League.

She asked that if any gym space opens up at Jefferson the team would be grateful, as they are currently practicing outside of the city. She asked for this topic to be on the agenda for the next Commission Meeting. Lubisich also proposed for the city's different youth sports groups to having a meeting/discussion with the department, as so many families are participating in multiple sports and activities. She mentioned that it would be an asset to James (Recreation Supervisor) to know what is going on throughout the city, as well as a chance to share what the department offers. This would be a great opportunity for different organizations to form partnerships and to establish good rapport with each other. Boecking asked if the Youth Sports Council still meets. Lubisich clarified that they do still meet, but mostly around facility issues.

1-E. Dates to Remember- The next Commission Meeting will be held on Monday, January 4th.

COMMENTS BY STAFF: None

COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS: None

**Chairperson Lubisich adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.
to a regular meeting on Monday, January 4 at 7:00 p.m.**

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The complete text of the Community Services Commission meeting minutes is available on tape and may be reviewed within 90 days after the meeting in the Community Services office during regular business hours.

Senya Lubisich, Chairperson
San Gabriel Community Services Commission

ATTEST: _____

Raiza Ibanez

San Gabriel Community Services Commission Secretary