THE CITY OF COSTA MESA
MEETING OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MARCH 24, 2016; 6:00 P.M.

1. **Call to Order:** The Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman Eckles at 6:00 p.m. on March 24, 2016 at City Hall, 77 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa, California.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Chairman Eckles

3. **Roll Call**

   Present: Chairman Eckles, Vice Chairman Graham, Commissioner de Arakal, Commissioner Pederson
   Absent: Commissioner Harper
   Staff Present: Tamara Letourneau, Assistant Chief Executive Officer, Justin Martin, Interim Recreation Manager, Samantha Hall, Administrative Secretary, Bruce Hartley, Maintenance Manager, & Bart Mejia, Acting City Engineer

4. **Approval of the Minutes of the February 25, 2016 Meeting of the PRC.**

   MOTION made by Commissioner de Arakal to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Pederson. MOTION carries 4-0 with Commissioner Harper absent.

5. **Public Comments**

   1. Speaker, Costa Mesa, spoke on petitions for Fairview Park and sober living homes.

   2. Rocky Evans, Costa Mesa, spoke on the Skate Park and asks for extended hours.

6. **Consent Calendar** – No Items.

7. **Old Business** – No Items.

8. **New Business**

   a) Instructional Class Proposal

   Mr. Justin Martin presents report.

   Chair Eckles welcomes Interim Recreation Manager Justin Martin.

   Commissioner de Arakal spoke on background of class proposal and Institute for Conservation Research and Education (ICRE).

   Commissioner Pederson spoke on the potential for the class to reach other venues

such as schools and other parks and expressed interest in attending the class.

Vice Chair Graham also expressed interest in attending the class.

Commissioner de Arakal asked for ICRE representatives to give an overview.

Chair Eckles asked about capacity for classes.

Mr. Martin advises a cap has not been identified yet.

ICRE representative Matt Yurko gave class overview.

Discussion ensued on current, similar ICRE classes, previous ICRE work in Fairview Park, and recent contractor work in Fairview Park.

Public Comment:
Jay Humphreys, Costa Mesa, spoke in agreeance with the class proposal.

Chair Eckles expressed his approval of the class proposal.

MOTION made by Commissioner de Arakal to approve class proposal, seconded by Commissioner Pederson. MOTION carries 4-0 with Commissioner Harper absent.

b) City Hall - Outdoor Meeting Space

Asakura Robinson Company, a contracted vendor presents Outdoor Meeting Space and Plant Palette.

Commissioner Pederson has concerns over the proposed plant's water needs, asked if Mr. Hartley's team has looked over the plans, and said he liked the concept.

Mr. Hartley advised his team had not.

Vice Chair Graham expresses concern over creating an attractive nuisance, such as a campground.

Mr. Larry Dreiman advises intent is to provide a screening feature, and that at the current time a campground was not a concern due to lighting and security in the area.

Chair Eckles asks about wifi.

Mr. Larry Dreiman advises wifi and power will be available on the outside, and secured for City use.

Chair Eckles advises safety may be a concern.

Vice Chair Graham reminds that City Hall is next to a University.

MOTION made by Chair Eckles to approve plant palette for outdoor meeting space, revised to include review and confer process by Costa Mesa Public Services Department, seconded by Commissioner de Arakal. MOTION carries 4-0 with Commissioner Harper absent.

c) Tree Removal Request – 3140 Jefferson Avenue

Mr. Bruce Hartley presents report.

Discussion ensued on the bricks preventing root pruning, the crack in the block wall, the Macadamia tree and the plant palette, the preemptive root pruning and barrier placement that would have taken place if the block wall had not been present, global warming and shade provided by existing trees, upcoming Streetscape and Median standards changes, and possible resident removal of the brick pavers so that root pruning could be done.

MOTION made by Commissioner Pederson to notify resident of upcoming Streetscape meetings and to deny two tree removals, seconded by Vice Chair Graham. MOTION carries 3-1; Commissioner Harper absent and Commissioner de Arakal voting no.

d) Tree Removal Request – 1881 Maui Circle

Mr. Bruce Hartley presents report.

Discussion ensued on extra pruning.

Public Comment:

Lilian Long, Costa Mesa, spoke on tree removal request, cycle of maintenance over the previous 27 years, possible hazards, and potential planting of succulents. (59:04)

Discussion ensued on water pooling in gutter, previous pruning, global warming and shade provided by existing trees, battery-pack blowers to clean underneath the tree, sidewalk damage and grinding, and lack of property damage.

MOTION made by Chair Eckles to deny tree removal, seconded by Commissioner de Arakal. MOTION carries 4-0 with Commissioner Harper absent.

e) Tree Removal Request – 1883 Maui Circle

Mr. Bruce Hartley presents report.

Discussion ensued on sidewalk damage, root pruning, shaving the sidewalk, trees are city asset and should be protected, and future chance for removal.

Ilene Moritz, Costa Mesa, spoke on tree removal request, water run, hazards of water and roots, barrier raised above ground level causing trip hazard, damaged sidewalk, and fruit on the ground.

Discussion ensued on root barrier being present, remedy to root barrier hazard, tree shade and parking alternatives, value of trees, economic and environmental impact, specific standards regarding tree removals, lack of property damage, and lack of public nuisance.

MOTION made by Chair Eckles to deny tree removal, seconded by Vice Chair Graham. MOTION carries 4-0 with Commissioner Harper absent.

f) Tree Removal Request – 216 Flower Street

Mr. Bruce Hartley presents report.

MOTION made by Commissioner de Arakal to deny tree removal, seconded by Chair Eckles. MOTION carries 4-0 with Commissioner Harper absent.

9. Recreation Manager's Report

Mr. Justin Martin presents 'Fall & Winter Highlights' PowerPoint presentation. He also spoke on departmental reorganization, attendance of CPRS Conference, CPRS 'Award of Excellence', department win of five pieces of outdoor exercise equipment valued at $22,000, Egg-Citement event, C-3 Tournament, and the Costa Mesa Community Run.

Commissioner Pederson welcomed and thanked Mr. Martin and spoke on the once decline and now rise of participation in the ROCKs Program.

Commissioner de Arakal thanked Mr. Martin and commended Travis Karlen for his previous work.

Vice Chair Graham asked about contingency plan for activities during transition of NCC.

Mr. Martin says a concierge team is working to relocate and rehouse the user groups and classes that take place in that facility, compiled an encyclopedia of possible places to relocate, and that groups are all aware.

Chair Eckles thanks Mr. Martin.

10. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Pederson has no comments.

Commissioner de Arakal asked Justin to notify the Senior Center about the Fairview Environmental Workshop and Bill AB 2496 to establish year-round standard time in California, would like staff to have a preliminary analysis on what daylight hours we would lose and what impact that might have on our recreation groups, or alternatively if the City Council agrees that it is a bad idea, would like to see the Council send a letter to Assembly Member Harper and Senator Moorlach expressing extreme displeasure with AB 2496 and would like to agendize the issue for the April PRC Meeting.

Vice Chair Graham spoke on Chair Eckles leading a good meeting and thanked fellow Commissioners and staff.

Chair Eckles commented on lack of public attendance at meeting, adding AB 2496 on the April PRC agenda, field inventory, light feasibility studies on the City Council agenda, terrorist attacks, and current school lockdowns, and wishes Commissioners and staff a Happy Easter.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Eckles at 7:55 p.m.

The Next Regular Meeting Of The Parks And Recreation Commission is Thursday, April 28, 2016

Prepared by Samantha Hall
PRC Secretary

Submitted by Justin Martin
Interim Recreation Manager