

MINUTES - April 7, 2022

A meeting of the Inglewood Park and Recreation Commission was convened on April 7, 2022, via Zoom. Commissioner Denmon called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. followed by the flag salute.

Roll Call

Present

Commissioner Lee Denmon, District One
Commissioner Jacob Fragoso, District Two
Commissioner Cynthia, McLemore, District Three
Sabrina Barnes, Director-Parks, Recreation, and Community Services
Thomas Uwal, Human Services Superintendent
Gilbert Gonzalez, Graffiti Abatement Supervisor
Anthony Harris, Recreation Supervisor
Stephanie Maldonado, Senior Management Assistant

Absent

Commissioner Christopher Beck, District Four
Commissioner Henry Brown, Commissioner at Large

Public Comments

None

Approval of the Minutes

Commissioner Fragoso made the motion to approve the minutes from March 3, 2022. Commissioner McLemore seconded and the minutes were approved as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Fragoso, McLemore, and Denmon
Nays: None

Staff Report

Stephanie Maldonado presented a staff report recommending the Park and Recreation Commission recommend the Mayor and Council Members reject all bids received on March 9, 2022 for the Darby Park Restroom Project, CB-22-03 and authorize the rebid of the project.

Commissioner Fragoso made a motion to approve the staff report. Commissioner Denmon seconded and the motion was approved as follows:

Ayes: Fragoso, McLemore, and Denmon
Nays: None

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Verbal Reports

Gilbert Gonzalez gave a verbal report on behalf of the Parks Administration regarding the following:

- 50 flats of gazanias and 50 flats of purple ice plants were planted along the center median on Manchester Boulevard from Prairie Avenue to Crenshaw Drive.
- Six (6) camphor trees that were vandalized at Edward Vincent Jr Park were replanted.
- The Graffiti Abatement staff has been busy in all districts especially Districts 1, 2 and 4.
- Staff repainted the baseball bleachers at both Rogers and Edward Vincent Jr Parks. Darby Park will be completed soon.

Anthony Harris gave a verbal report on behalf of the Recreation Division regarding the following:

- On Saturday, April 9, 2022, the Parks, Recreation and Community Service Department in partnership with Science of Sport will host the first annual Inglewood STEM Fest from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Edward Vincent Jr, Park. The free event will expose students in grades kindergarten through sixth to science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) through experiences that focus on several familiar sports. This inaugural event is designed to bring Los Angeles-based sports organizations to provide an engaging day of STEM and sports to the Inglewood community. Activity stations will be set-up throughout the event providing STEM lessons centered on breath work & yoga, basketball, soccer, tennis, baseball, softball, football and track & field. The event will also feature STEM presentation by Science of Sport and a panel discussion with industry professionals. Community partners for the inaugural event include Angel City Football Club, Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation, Los Angeles Lakers, Los Angeles Rams, The Marvin Group, USTA So Cal, LAFC (Los Angeles Football Club), Los Angeles Clippers, Los Angeles Chargers, LA Galaxy, Morgan Stanley, First Republic Bank and LINXS Constructors. We encourage you to stop by if your schedule permits
- This year Earth Day will be held on Friday, April 22, 2022. We are excited to partner with Hollywood Park to host a beautification project at Darby Park from 9:00 a.m. to noon. The event will include planting of new trees, sprucing up existing planters and adding some curb appeal to the parking lot with the planting of additional plants and flowers. On Saturday, April 23, 2022. Our own a local non-profit organization will partner with the Dobby Garden to beautify the garden area at Rogers Park. Volunteers from the organizations will clean up and re-plant existing planters, add new garden beds, and clean up the patio area. The group organizers will maintain the area and host workshops throughout the year.
- We are excited to announce a Palm Painting class for tots ages 3-5. The Department has partnered with Budding Artist - a non-profit organization committed to providing young children with art experiences. The FREE one-hour class will be held on Saturday, May 7, 2022 at Siminiski Park. Registration is open to Inglewood residents. Register at www.parksrec@cityofinglewood.org
- After 9 weeks of screening, vetting weekly COVID tests and limited attendance at games, tonight represents Championship Thursday for our All American and Prep divisions of the

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Inglewood Youth Basketball League. Saturday will be the final day of competition for the Pee Wee, Tom Thumb and Junior divisions. We are proud and fortunate our Junior teams were able to partner with our neighbors in Hawthorne to create a full league with 6 teams. I am proud to report that both our Rogers Park and Darby Park teams made the playoffs. The two Inglewood teams clashed in the semi-finals with Darby Park coming away with the victory. Our Darby Park team will play on Saturday, April 9, 2022 for the league Championship at the Betty Ainsworth Sports Center with the game beginning at 1:30 p.m. The season will conclude this weekend as all teams celebrate the season with food, fun and awards at Shakey's Pizza in Inglewood.

- Are you ready for some baseball? The Dodgers Dreamteam (formerly Dodgers RBI) spring season in Inglewood begins next week for 175 players. The spring season is designed specifically to focus on the younger age groups (ages 5-6 T-ball, 7-8 Coach Pitch). The 5-week season is a developmental environment that will introduce the game while honing in on the fundamentals of throwing, catching, hitting and base running. There are a total of 14 teams with seven (7) in each division. Teams will practice out of both Darby and Edward Vincent Parks. The season will consist of nine (9) games in 5-weeks playing under the lights on Wednesday evenings and all day on Saturday's. The opening ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, April 16, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. We look forward to the fun. Some of you may be wondering when the older age groups begin. Registration for the Minors, Majors, Junior Softball, Junior Baseball, Sr. Baseball and Sr. Softball begins April 18, 2022 with the season set to begin in mid-June.

Thomas Uwal gave a verbal report on behalf of the Human Services Division regarding the following:

- The Inglewood Senior Center recently re-opened its doors to provide seniors with classes and activities. More recently with the city slowly opening up starting in April 2022, the Senior Center has begun to allow more seniors to schedule classes. Seniors are still expected to wear full-face coverings, have their temperatures checked and provide proof of full vaccination. These measures are required in order to enter and participate in activities. These measures will remain until further notice to continue to ensure our seniors are as safe as possible.
- Our Senior and Disabled Transportation Program continues to provide trips to critical appointments such as dialysis and doctors' appointments. Drivers as well as passengers continue to wear mandated face masks coverings. We have also been scheduling our drivers to transport our seniors and persons with disabilities to other next day requested appointments. Our free trolley service which has 24 stops on its fixed route is now back in operation in the city of Inglewood. It operates from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and is free to the public to ride.
- The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) continues to provide Grab-N-Go meals to youth 18 and younger at three (3) sites (Crenshaw Library, Rogers Park and Darby Park). We continue to serve meals to our youth and the number of meals are expected to increase as COVID restrictions are easing. We are also in the process of issuing an RFP to renew our contract in September 2022.

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- Our Nutrition program provides seven meals per week to approximately 300 senior residents of Inglewood. We continue to provide monthly shelf stable meal packages in collaboration with the Los Angeles Food Bank, and weekly fresh produce deliveries in collaboration with the Social Justice Learning Institute. We have sourced 600 COVID-19 testing kits from Los Angeles Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services (WDACS) which will be distributed to seniors.

Director's Report

Sabrina Barnes gave a verbal update regarding the following Capital Improvement Projects currently in progress:

- Vincent Park Restroom Construction
- Groundbreaking of the Vincent Park Pump Track
- Unveiling of the renovated outdoor basketball courts at Rogers Park
- Walking track at Darby Park
- Playground resurfacing at Vincent, Rogers, Darby and Siminski Parks

Commissioner McLemore asked if the restrooms are complete at Vincent Park. Sabrina Barnes stated no, one (1) has been completed and we are currently working on the second. Once completed we will go to Darby Park to renovate, then return to Vincent Park with Queen Park to follow.

Public Comments

Imhotep Coleman stated the courts at Rogers Park are beautiful and asked if staff has ever considered constructing a pathway to courts. He also thanked everyone for their services. Sabrina Barnes stated yes, we are considering it as part of an upcoming parking lot resurfacing project.

Commissioner's Comments

Commissioner Denmon stated he recently took a walk around the lake at SoFi Stadium and asked if it is open to public. Sabrina Barnes stated to my understanding it is open and you can drive in and park when open.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.