

4.a.1. Recreation Division

This summer, Day Camp returned its traditional location, Village Green Park. Due to a staffing shortage, maximum weekly capacity needed to be reduced. Nevertheless the 9-week program was completely booked each week with 60 campers plus 45 counselors in training throughout the summer. Excursions were brought back this summer; excursions included, Knott's Berry Farm, Boomers, Disneyland, and an Angels game.

The Aquatics program also needed to be modified a bit due to staffing issues. Lessons were offered at Gary Hall and Woodbury pools but with modified hours. Approximately 550 youth were taught to swim. Kudos to aquatics staff who traditionally run the program with about 45 staff, began with only 12 this year. Additional staff were hired throughout the summer which allowed for additional classes and expansion of programming hours. Pool rentals were offered on the weekends.

Two movies in the park were offered to the community as part of the summer movie series. The first one was at Eastgate Park featuring *Sing 2*; about 250 people were in attendance. Pacific Symphony performed a free concert prior to the featured movie. The second movie was shown at Garden Grove Park featuring *Spider-Man: No Way Home*; this one brought in a larger crowd of 350-400 people.

Summer Youth Basketball program had 18 teams, 170 youth participated.

Coming up is the annual Halloween event, Jack O' Lantern Jamboree taking place on October 22 at Atlantis Play Center. Activities include a pumpkin patch, reptile shows, puppet shows, inflatables, crafts, and a petting zoo. Commissioners can speak to Sugeiry if interested in attending the event.

Winter in the Grove event is scheduled for December 3 from 3PM-7PM. Program includes performances on stage, multiple snow slides, inflatables, a crafters boutique, photo op area, the tree lighting, and a visit from Santa.

4.a.2. Human Services Division

Buena Clinton Youth and Family Center (BCYFC) had a successful summer program, serving 45-60 children in the community. The Center partnered with Second Harvest Food Bank to provide a summer food program. On August 11, BCYFC celebrated its 20th anniversary. They had a live concert and resource fair, which was well attended. They honored the youth of the year who was presented with a "Futuro Brillante" scholarship of \$500 funded by parent fundraisers. Bracken's Kitchen was also recognized as

community partner of the year; they have been instrumental during the pandemic, supporting different sites within the division.

Magnolia Park Family Resource Center continues to offer case management and counseling services. Summer highlights include a two-week summer day camp program, food distributions, developmental screenings, and a back to school drive providing free school supplies and backpacks to children.

Upcoming events include a Halloween Resource Fair at the Senior Center on October 18. Bracken's Kitchen will be providing brunch for seniors. Albertsons will be providing a free clinic for flu shots and COVID boosters.

Magnolia Park Family Resource Center will be having their 2nd annual Trunk or Treat event on October 20, from 4-7PM.

Buena Clinton Youth and Family Center will be hosting a Halloween movie night and resource fair on October 27. Bracken's Kitchen will be providing free meals for families.

Both family resource centers are focusing on collecting toys for their annual holiday drive.

Senior Center staff are working to implement monthly excursions for seniors, giving them the opportunity to get out of isolation that many have been experiencing due to the pandemic. Summer excursions included trips to San Juan Capistrano, Huntington Beach, and a Newport Beach Yacht tour. This fall, they will be going to Centennial Farm. Commissioner Perez asked if there is a charge for senior outing. Staff replied there is a minimal charge to cover admission fees. Fortunately transportation grant funding covers transportation fees.

4.a.3. Facilities Division

There were a total of six summer concerts from June 23 – July 28. The first concert was held at Garden Grove Park and featured Vietnamese performers. The second concert was held on Main Street and featured a Bruno Mars tribute band. All four concerts in July were held at Eastgate Park. There was an average attendance of about 2,500 at each concert. Tijuana Dogs concert brought in a huge crowd of about 4,000 in attendance, the most crowded staff has ever seen Eastgate Park. The Voice of Garden Grove, a vocal competition for GGUSD students returned for the summer. The winner was a student from Pacifica High School, and runner up was from Bolsa Grande High School.

Coming up at the Gem Theatre on Main Street is a new production *Avenue Q* showing through October 23. The next production, *Gypsy* runs from November 25 – December 18.

Commissioner Strickland inquired about the Garden Amp and any incidents that might have required law enforcement. Staff replied that an incident occurred about a year ago that did require police assistance, discussions were had about increasing security presence and since then, no other incidents have taken place.

Chair Stevens shared that he is happy to see that concerts are being held at other parts of the city and not just in the west end of Garden Grove.

4.b. Capital Projects

4.b.1. Garden Grove Park Dedication

Commissioners should have received an invitation to the Garden Grove Park playground dedication on October 25 at 4:00PM. This is the second phase of the larger project that included the remodeling of the large picnic pavilion and three smaller picnic shelters. The theme pays homage to the park's history; Garden Grove Park sits on what was a landing strip for the Navy during World War II. This will be one of the first parks in Garden Grove that will include some ADA accessible playground equipment and panels that have ADA components.

4.b.2. Woodbury Park Expansion and Revitalization Project Update

Through a competitive process, staff selected landscape architect firm, David Volz Design to complete the design plans for the Woodbury Park project. Staff will share progress with commissioners and information regarding additional community meetings that may be required.

4.b.3. Chapman Sports Complex Parking Lot

Staff was made aware that there were some issues with ADA parking at the Chapman Sports Complex. Engineers have gone out to survey, modifications will be made to the curbing near the hockey rink that will allow for better ADA accessibility to rink and tennis courts. Engineers will be addressing this issue in the next week or two restripe to of parking lot and add additional handicap stalls. Staff addressed Commissioner Perez's question on who made the City aware of this issue, it was a member of the public.

4.b.4. Senior Center/Community Meeting Center Bridges Update

This project was brought forth due to the poor conditions of the bridges by the Community Meeting Center and Senior Center building. The original thought was to remove the bridges and convert into walkways, but staff decided to do a whole redesign to the west side of CMC building and keep the aesthetic appeal of a bridge for patrons, and construct a new walkway on the east side of the Senior Center building. Drought tolerant landscaping will be incorporated to design. The plans have been approved; the next step is to go out to bid for a contractor in the next couple of weeks. The goal is to complete this project by spring of 2023.

4.b.5. Magnolia Park Project

This project will be funded through a Prop 68 Per Capita Grant. Staff will focus funds toward a new playground structure and surfacing; replacement of the picnic shelter and fitness equipment; completing some ADA improvements; and replacing the fencing around the pool. Staff shared the conceptual design of the playground which will be themed after an orange citrus farm. ADA features will also be incorporated to playground equipment including the merry go round, one swing, and sensory boards. Staff will be purchasing parts in December, going out to bid in January, and beginning construction in March 2023.

4.b.6. Atlantis Splash Pad Update

The splash pad was shut down at the beginning of the summer due to a broken piece of the operating board. Unfortunately the broken piece is now obsolete. To replace the entire board will cost about \$20,000 which half would be labor costs. To save on labor costs for just that one broken piece, staff decided to close the splash pad for the summer and do a whole upgrade to splash pad system. Staff are currently obtaining quotes for materials, labor, and installation. The hope is to have the splash pad repaired and running by summer of 2023.

Commissioner Strickland inquired if there was much feedback from the community after shutting the splash pad down. Staff replied that there were some comments but most people understood. A few refunds needed to be issues for some patrons that booked parties at the park and paid for the splash pad to be operating.

Chair Stevens asked if the original splash pad is Vortex as well, Mark replied that it is and will be continuing with Vortex for replacement.

5. MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

Vice Chair Perez thanked staff for all their hard work and being there for the community.

Commissioner Strickland seconded Vice Chair Perez' comment.

Commissioner Tran expressed her gratitude to staff and shared that it was a pleasure working with them and this commission.

Chair Stevens commented on the blank pages on the Parks and Recreation Guide. Staff addressed his concern and explained that the guide needs to be printed in increments of 4 pages. The printed version was merely printed out as a sample for commissioners and is used only for internal purposes as the guide is now available to the community only in digital form.

Chair Stevens inquired if the City utilizes CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design). With CPTED police departments usually conduct surveys on parks dealing with issues such as homelessness or drug use. They can make

recommendations such as installing better lighting where needed, or trimming hedges to prevent bad behaviors. City of Long Beach utilizes CPTED often. Staff responded that they are not aware of this but would be happy to obtain more information and follow up with GGPD.

Staff added that the department does sit in on public safety meetings with the SRT (task force that addresses homelessness in the City) and they requested to be involved in the design planning of the Woodbury Park project to exercise some of those strategies similar to CPTED.

Chair Stevens congratulated Mark Freeman for his position as Present Elect for the California Parks and Recreation Society.

Vice Chair Perez asked if there is a hotline to report broken lights at facilities other than the Citizens Request. Staff replied that the public may call the Public Works general line in addition to reporting on the City website and app. She also inquired about the holiday drive and how it's promoted and how staff collect the toys. Staff replied that information is promoted on the City website and toys can be dropped off at City Hall or either of the family resource centers.

6. MATTERS FROM STAFF:

6.a. Application Process for Parks, Recreation and Arts Commission Upcoming Term

The current commission term will be coming to an end soon. Commissioners will be notified by City Clerk's office and commission secretary when the application window opens. All commissioners are encouraged to reapply. Appointments/reappointments are usually announced late January.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:02 p.m., the meeting was declared adjourned to Thursday, January 12, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Community Meeting Center, 11300 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove.

SUGEIRY REYNOSO
Commission Secretary