

City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks
Mar Vista Recreation Center (MVRC)
Park Advisory Board Meeting (PAB)

7:00 pm Tuesday, September 17, 2024 at MVRC
Auditorium

Draft Minutes

1. Introductions
2. The meeting was called to order by Jerry Hornof at 7:06pm. In attendance were Keith Rice (MVRC), Pammela Jackson, Jerry Hornof, Jerome Jontry, Tom Ponton, and Albert Olsen. Guests: Mitchell Rishe and Cliff Chi.
 - Cliff Chi represented the Tuesday evening (5-7pm) ball hockey program. He requested that the park consider live feed camera placements at the hockey rink to facilitate players ability to access the rink conditions (weather, etc.) remotely. The identified challenge was the lack of any Wi-Fi coverage at the rink. There would need for the recurring cost of cellular service to support a camera at that location. The PAB appreciated the proposal and will continue to research.
 - Mitchell Rishe was inquiring about the “1st Thursday of the Month Roller Discos” and Instagram posting he provided. He did not object to the event but wondered whether a weeknight was the most appropriate evening. He also wanted to make sure the amplified music associated with the event would be managed. He lives adjacent to the park and is sometimes impacted by loud music. Keith agreed to review the posting and will be contacting the organizers to review the setup and conditions of the event.
3. Minutes
 - Minutes for the August 20, 2024 meeting were approved. (Tom 1st, Jerome 2nd, Approved unanimously).
4. Current Business
 - Facilities and Sports Fields, and Off-leash dog update
 - Keith reported that the tennis court fencing project and court resurfacing is complete.
 - The grills need to be repaired/replaced in the picnic areas 1 and 4. There was the question of how that would be paid. There was the consensus that the Municipal Recreation Program Fund should pay those costs. The picnic areas generate a revenue stream for the park and functioning grills is an expectation for folks reserving and paying for the sites.
 - Graffiti continues to be a problem with issues in the men’s bathroom, porta potties, and playground equipment.
 - More sand is needed in the play area. Keith shared his email exchange with construction and we are on the schedule for sand. Tom noted that the current sand should be cleaned before the addition of new sand.
 - Turf field and sports fields are in good condition. The netting on the soccer goals needed replacement and the small goals needed wheels on the frame to ease movement and minimize risk of damaging the turf field. Jerry reminded Keith to let

him know if a donation to the Parks Foundation would be helpful in getting this completed.

- The repair requests for the hockey rink have been submitted. The park is still awaiting completion of the 5 damaged kick plates (lower portion of the dasher boards) needing replacement and re-securing the fencing above the dasher boards; and new signage on the equipment shed. The fencing panel above the dasher boards needs to be replaced especially behind the goals at the ends of the rink. There is frustration with the delay in action on these work orders. Jerry agreed to follow-up with pressure to the department. Keith was reminded that a second sin for the rink has been requested.

- There are issues with homeless lingering around the pool area and RVs overnighing in the parking lot. Keith has contacted the appropriate offices to address this issue. RVs with expired tags are removed immediately. It was noted that the park closes at 10:30pm and more signage could help enforcement of the parking lot closures.

- Off-leash dog issues continue to be an issue. T-Ball and baseball programming is occurring and the off-leash dog issue is challenging for coaches to insure the safety of the players. Park rangers continue to come by between 11am-1pm when dogs are generally not present. This continues to be an issue throughout the entire LA Recreation and Parks (RAP) system. Park Rangers can be reached at 323-644-6661. There was the suggestion for more signage.

- At the May meeting Pammela discussed the trees in the park, especially noting the tree removed at Palms and McLaughlin. Where is forestry department at in replacing lost trees? Pammela researched the tree issues at the park. It was clear that forestry was aware of tree loss at MVRC and identified plans for replacement and maintenance as early as 2019. She has not been able to contact the arborist Steve Dunlap of the Forestry Division of LARAP so will begin pursuing other contacts.

- Park Encampment update

- There are issues with homeless lingering around the pool area and RVs overnighing in the parking lot. Keith has contacted the appropriate offices to address this issue. There are RVs on the Palms parking lot. An RV was cited.

- Park staffing and finance update

- Keith reported that staffing and finances are going well. The Municipal Park Programming (MSP) account is very healthy (~\$461,000). Due to Los Angeles City finance issues MVRC might lose those fund.

- Park programming status update

- There are a wide variety of new program offerings for the fall session. Programs are available online.

5. Old & New Business

- No new information was reported for the pool renovation. Keith indicated there is an allocation of \$170M as part of the 2028 Olympic in Los Angeles. The PAB wishes to stay current on that development.

- At the May meeting Pammela discussed the trees in the park, especially noting the tree

removed at Palms and McLaughlin. Where is forestry department at in replacing lost trees? Pammela researched the tree issues at the park. It was clear that forestry was aware of tree loss at MVRC and identified plans for replacement and maintenance as early as 2019. It was suggested that arborist Steve Dunlap of the Forestry Division of LARAP attend a future PAB meeting to discuss our concerns. Pammela also noted that it is useless to plant small trees that are quickly damaged and destroyed.

- Lighting for the turf field.
- Jerry reported that he had researched the lighting that Jon Lopes Gixra had researched and presented at the August meeting. The battery powered lights weigh approximately 50 pounds. The lights are designed as safety lighting timed to be in dim mode unless motion detected. Another model affords more control to keep the lights continually brighter. They thought they should sustain the brighter light for at least 3 hours on a full charge. There is still research to be completed on the lumens and would it be sufficient to cover the field. It was the view of the PAB that we needed to have a full understanding of the scope of the project (including timeline) before proceeding to meeting with the community. There would also need to be strong support from the soccer community. Finally, Melody informed Keith to look at the lighting provided to the Rancho Cienega Recreation Center (Martin Luther King Jr Blvd and Rodeo Drive). They were installed in a very short period of time. Jerry agreed to visit the location.
- Jerry presented a project proposal for a shade structure in the MVRC playground area to cover the swing set area using the Project Proposal Form provided to the PAB by the District Office. The proposal involved funding through the MRP fund. The PAB voted to advance the proposal to the District. Jerry will forward the proposal to Melody.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:55 PM (Albert 1st, Pammela 2nd, Approved unanimously).

Prepared by: Jerry Hornof