



CITY OF BELL GARDENS

REGULAR MEETING EDUCATION COMMISSION

MINUTES

Thursday, November 10, 2022

Call to Order:

Chairperson Miguel Flores called the meeting to order at 5:07pm

Roll Call:

Commission Secretary Daisy L. Moreno:

Chairperson Miguel Flores-	Present
Vice-chair Kristina Paulo -	Excused
Commissioner Francis De Leon Sanchez-	Present
Commissioner Oscar Boado Jr.-	Present

Reporting on Posting of the Agenda:

Commission Secretary, Daisy L. Moreno stated that the agenda was posted in accordance with state law.

Approval of Minutes:

Chairperson Miguel Flores asked if there was any deletions or corrections to the minutes from the meeting on October 13, 2022. Chairperson Miguel Flores asked for a motion to approve the minutes October 13, 2022. Commissioner Francis De Leon Sanchez motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Oscar Boado Jr. seconded the motion to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

- A. Department Updates** – Recreation Supervisor Ana Avalon informed commissioners about the Farmers Market on Fridays at Bell Gardens Veterans Park from 11:00am to 3:00pm and will be ongoing every Friday. Tree Planting Day that took place on Saturday, November 4th at Ford Park. Upcoming events the Veterans Day event taking place Friday, November 11th from 10:00am to 11:00am at Veterans Park Memorial Monument. Fishing Derby Saturday, November 12th at Ford Park from 8:00am to 12:00pm. The Department of Fish and Game will come and deliver fresh fish to our pond. Families are encouraged to come and fish with us. Children ages 13 and up do need a fishing license. Fishing licenses can be purchased at Big Five Sporting Goods. The Lion's Club is co-sponsoring the fishing derby. There will be raffles and prizes for children ages 5-15. Another upcoming event is the Holiday Movie Under the Stars Friday, November 18th 6:00pm that will take place at Bell Gardens Veterans Park. The movie showing is Elf this year a holiday favorite. November 30th at 6:00pm Tree Lighting Ceremony at City Hall. It's a beautiful event where we deck the halls at City Hall and inaugurate the holiday season with the lighting of the tree. Winter Wonderland event which will take place on Saturday, December 17th 3:00pm-7:00pm. The snow has been secured and we're working on all the little details for that day. A Toy Giveaway will also be part of the event and more details to come. Holiday Food Distribution will most likely take

place the day before the Winter Wonderland event. Pet Vaccine Clinic which is held monthly at Veterans Park from 1:00pm to 3:00pm.

- a. Chairperson Miguel Flores commented that last year there was a discussion on how many students and how many people have been hired as time progresses. Has it been steady or has there been changes. I know that I see a lot of new faces.
- b. Recreation Supervisor Ana Avalos commented we were fortunate enough to be able to keep majority of the staff we hired for the summer. In the summer, we do have to go heavy, because of aquatics and summer camps. We were so short staffed for the last couple of years and our budget allowed us to keep everyone on board, except for those who were moving away for college. We have a lot of new recreation leaders who are learning how to plan and that's exciting. We will be hiring more new staff in the coming months. We've also had some recent promotions. Some of our staff have moved up to higher positions and a little bit more responsibility. We have a good team right now.
- c. Chairperson Miguel Flores commented that it's great that we continue to hire.

B. Adhoc Update: Banner Program - Chairperson Miguel Flores mentioned how we are moving on with that.

- a. Commissioner Francis De Leon commented we had an ad hoc committee and unfortunately now we're down to one, just me. If anyone else want to jump on that committee so we can move forward with it. Last time we discussed the number of brackets and banners, we also discuss how there may be other banner programs happening during that time and how we can share that time. Want to start this a little bit sooner than later, so that we can have it implemented by the end of April or May.
- b. Recreation Supervisor Ana Avalos commented that can be up sooner so the program can get up and running.
- c. Chairperson Miguel Flores commented just to confirm April or May we want the application out or the banners up.
- d. Recreation Supervisor Ana Avalos commented we should go sooner than that, so they are up during May since graduation is mid-June. We need to establish do we want their names, do we want their photos, and do we want the college that they are going to be attending.
- e. Commissioner Francis De Leon Sanchez commented they do usually have the photo, the name, and the college they're attending. I think those three things are components that would be good to start off with.
- f. Chairperson Miguel Flores commented that he would like to join the Adhoc Committee for the Banner Program.
- g. Commissioner Francis De Leon commented if we were able to get a sample from Norwalk on their program.
- h. Recreation Supervisor Ana Avalos commented we do have a few samples, but since we have our Veterans program, we've established our own application. Just needs to be modified to reflect it's for the students. A copy can be provided at the Ad Hoc Committee Meeting.
- i. Chairperson Miguel Flores commented in regards to funding, do we need to set or earmark anything aside for this program.
- j. Recreation Supervisor Ana Avalos commented money was earmarked last year for this fiscal year. So, there's funding for it. Since, we're starting with the veterans Banner Program we'll just follow on with that.

- k. Commissioner Oscar Boado Jr. asked if Chairperson Miguel Flores will be joining the Adhoc Committee for the Banner Program. It was confirmed by Chairperson Miguel Flores that he is.

C. Adhoc Update: Senior Scholarship Program - Chairperson Miguel Flores mentioned if there is any update.

- a. Commissioner Oscar Boado Jr. that the Adhoc Senior Scholarship committee consists of himself and Vice-chair Kristina Paulo. The committee needs to meet again and get it restarted.
- b. Chairperson Miguel Flores asked if they will be meeting next week, and Commissioner Oscar Boado Jr. confirmed.

D. The Yearly Calendar - Chairperson Miguel Flores commented that there is a couple of reasons why he wants to put this forward and for us to discuss. We have had some very positive outcomes about what we're doing. We find ourselves regularly busy and want to make sure that we're all literally on the same page. That way, there's no crossover, and we're all active. We are slowly successfully building a template for the Education Commission as it moves forward with the Art Project, Banner Program and Senior Scholarship. We're at a good foundational place and if whoever were to join after or to replace us can also take that lead. What I wanted to do is kind of finalize and fill out a couple things.

- a. Chairperson Miguel Flores commented let's start with the Art program and what the goal was.
 - i. Recreation Supervisor Ana Avalos commented that it was the Cesar Chavez art and essay contest which incorporated art and the essay as the project.
 - ii. Chairperson Miguel Flores commented I think that's why it's important for us to start looking at it because our January, February March gets busy.
 - iii. Chairperson Miguel Flores commented if we launch around Cesar Chavez's birthday, that way students in schools can participate a little more. We'll collect the art projects around mid-March.
 - iv. Recreation Supervisor Ana Avalos commented will collect the projects in April.
 - v. Commissioner Francis De Leon Sanchez commented kick-off a week before his birthday through his birthday until and look at the time frame so its relevant. Judging should be done during spring break.
 - vi. Chairperson Miguel Flores commented about setting up an Adhoc Committee for the Cesar Chavez Contest.
 - vii. Recreation Supervisor Ana Avalos commented each piece of art/essay will need to be submitted with an application so, it is easier to reach out to the winners.
- b. Chairperson Miguel Flores commented let's move into some of the things we are working on.
 - i. Chairperson Miguel Flores commented on the Senior Scholarship to award and finalize awards by the end of June.
 - ii. Chairperson Commissioner Francis De Leon commented that first semester official transcripts and get a grade report to be used for the Senior Scholarship submits.

- c. Chairperson Miguel Flores commented that the goal is to have the banners up by May.
 - i. Recreation Supervisor Ana Avalos commented to announce in March, applications available in April and submit end of April.
 - ii. Chairperson Miguel Flores commented double side the application for the Senior Scholarship, so it includes the Banner Program as well. So, students have the option on doing both or just doing one if they choose.
 - iii. Recreation Supervisor Ana Avalos commented double sided flyer and a half sheet of the application.
 - iv. Chairperson Miguel Flores commented combining the Adhoc Senior Scholarship program and the Adhoc Banner program.
 - v. Recreation Supervisor Ana Avalos commented that colleges graduates can be added on to the banners but will be discussed further when the Adhoc committee meets.
 - d. Chairperson Miguel Flores commented on other upcoming events to take place in August, September, and October.
 - i. Commissioner Oscar Boado Jr. Health Fair should be in a parking lot.
 - ii. Commissioner Oscar Boado Jr. Youth conference also should be in a parking lot.
 - iii. Chairperson Miguel Flores commented we need to figure out what our role would be in there and how we would support through the commission and the Youth Conference would definitely something that would be great to participate. It will be put on the calendar as proposals and can talk about these topics as time progresses.
 - iv. Recreation Supervisor Ana Avalos commented that if a Youth Conference is done as a commission there could be a table set-up and instead of staff that the Education Commission would take care of passing out recreation and city information. The High School does a Youth Conference that they could take part in, and it will be looked into for dates and times.
- E. Safer Routes** - Chairperson Miguel Flores commented that there has been a discussion on safer routes in the past and decide whether or not we want to support this as a group.
- i. Commissioner Francis De Leon Sanchez commented that there have been some residents raising concerns regarding obstructions and homeless people who are mentally ill who are bothering residents and not making it safe. Other cities and other communities have created safer routes to school.
 - ii. Commissioner Oscar Boado Jr. commented that he would be on board with this project.
 - iii. Chairperson Miguel Flores commented agencies we would work with on this project.
 - iv. Recreation Supervisor Ana Avalos commented that the agency would probably be the Traffic and Safety Commission and Community Development. On Monday's City Council meeting there was an agenda regarding an agreement with the Montebello Unified School District about crossing guards. There are currently seven crossing guards in the city and the agenda items is to add eight more.

- v. Chairperson Miguel Flores commented would line up with we are trying to achieve, and the next step is to identify.
- vi. Recreation Supervisor Ana Avalos commented that this was discussed previously to talking to the police department and the Neighborhood Watch.

F. Teacher Recognition - Chairperson Miguel Flores commented about a proposal for Teacher Recognition.

- i. Chairperson Miguel Flores commented if it is possible for this commission to identify or find ways of having a Teacher Recognition, we can look at as to what month and what we are thinking of.
- ii. Recreation Supervisor Ana Avalos commented that the Senior Scholarship/Banner flyer application can have a section to nominate a teacher for Teacher Recognition.
- iii. Commissioner Francis De Leon commented a teacher appreciation day person who would be nominated for Teacher Recognition would be recognized that week and the Education Commission would invite them to a meeting to present them with a certificate.

G. Non-Profit Partnership Involvement - Chairperson Miguel Flores commented being more involved with Non-Profits and how we move forward with that.

- i. Recreation Supervisor Ana Avalos commented that at this time she does not have a complete list.
- ii. Commissioner Francis De Leon Sanchez commented want to make sure what Non-Profits are working with the city and community to utilize those resources or add mor if need be.
- iii. Commissioner Oscar Boado Jr. commented wants to work with current Non-Profits that are working with the city and community before moving forward.
- iv. Chairperson Miguel Flores commented that if Commissioner Oscar Boado Jr. can work with Recreation Supervisor Ana Avalos to create a master list of the Non-Profits.

Public Comments: None.

Comments from Commission:

- A. Commissioner Francis De Leon Sanchez thanked Recreation Supervisor Ana Avalos continuously working with the team. Thank you to the Commissioners and Chairpersons that we have a good plan to move forward and that we have a lot of ideas and good ideas become action.
- B. Commissioner Oscar Boado Jr. thank the commission for amazing job. city employees and parks and recreation always doing a great job.
- C. Chairperson Miguel Flores echo the great things the city is doing through the Parks and Recreation Department. Thank You to Recreation Supervisor Ana Avalos and Clerk Typist Daisy Moreno for everything that has been established. Does like that their ideas become action and makes me very proud to be part of this and honored to be the Chairperson. The Yearly Calendar will remain a moving document and I will share with the committee.
- D. Recreation Supervisor Ana Avalos wants the Safer Routes to have an Adhoc Committee.
- E. Commissioner Francis De Leon Sanchez and Commissioner Oscar Boado Jr. have volunteered to be part of the Adhoc Committee for Safer Routes.

F. Chairperson Miguel Flores asked for a motion to create an Adhoc Committee for Safer Routes. Commissioner Francis De Leon Sanchez motioned to approved and Adhoc Committee for Safer Routes and Oscar Boado Jr. seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Francis De Leon Sanchez and Commissioner Oscar Boado Jr. will spear head the Adhoc Committee for Safer Routes.

Adjournment:

- Chairperson Miguel Flores requested a motion to adjourn the meeting.
- Commissioner Francis De Leon Sanchez motioned to adjourn the meeting.
- Commissioner Oscar Boado Jr. seconded the motion.
- Motion passed unanimously.
- Meeting adjourned at 5:49p.m.

Recorded By: *Daisy Moreno*
Daisy Moreno, Education Commission Secretary