

CITY OF BELL GARDENS

REGULAR MEETING SENIOR CITIZEN COMMISSION

MINUTES

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

Call to Order:

Chairperson Diana Rivera called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Community Services Stephanie Perez forewent the invocation and the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call:

Commission Secretary Miriam Vargas-Cervantes:

Chairperson Diana Rivera Present
Vice Chairperson Stephanie Perez Present
Commissioner Ana Maria Sanchez Present

Commissioner Tiffany Quintero Maldonado Arrived at 6:15 p.m.

Public Participation Comments on Agenda Items:

Commission Secretary, Miriam Vargas-Cervantes confirms there are no public comments.

Approval of Minutes:

Chairperson Diana Rivera asked to motion the minutes from the regular meeting of May 10th, 2023. Vice-Chairperson Stephanie Perez motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Ana Maria Sanchez seconded the motion to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairperson Diana requests Commission Secretary Miriam Vargas-Cervantes to take roll call vote.

Chairperson Diana Rivera
 Vice-Chairperson Stephanie Perez
 Commissioner Ana Maria Sanchez

Recreation and Community Services Department Updates

A. Supervisor Ana Avalos provided Recreational and Services update. She announced the city has initiated the summer night series. Opening night will be with a concert at Bell Garden Veterans Park. The upcoming band has been playing with the city since 2011. They have a great appreciation for the community. Along with the concert we will have Art in the Park along with face painting and crafts. Games will also be available for all ages. The Fusion dance team will be performing. The activities begin at 6:00 p.m. and the concert from 7:00-9:00 p.m. In the weeks following we will offer movies and concerts every Thursday night. The movie nights are held inside the baseball field. The concerts will be held near the picnic shelters. Those events are completely free to the public. The Community Family Services will be hosting an immigration workshop Saturday, July 8th at Bell Gardens Veterans Park at 10:30 a.m. A great opportunity for residents to

acquire crucial information or guidance concerning immigration status. The afterschool program just had a final highlight. Over 100 participants joined these activities. With the sports division, they are wrapping up small fry soccer. They had a total of 146 participants ages 4-7 years old. Awards night will be held Thursday, June 15th at the ABC field. Youth baseball had 136 participants between the ages of 8-13 years old. The awards night will be on Tuesday, June 20th at 6:00 p.m. held at Bell Gardens Veterans Park. Teen basketball had four teams with a total of 348 participants between the ages of 14-17 years old. The aquatics division just renewed the MOU contract with the city of Montebello. Swimming lessons will continue at the same location. The city was awarded a grant from LA84 for \$10,000. That grant will be used for a learn to swim program and provide 333 residents with free swim lessons this summer. Commissioner Ana Maria Sanchez motions to file report. Commissioner Stephanie Perez seconds the motion to file the report.

Chairperson Diana requests Commission Secretary Miriam Vargas-Cervantes to take roll call vote.

Chairperson Diana Rivera yes
 Vice-Chairperson Stephanie Perez yes
 Commissioner Ana Maria-Sanchez yes

B. Senion Updates:

Supervisor Ana Avalos provides an update of the senior activities. A Father's Day celebration will be hosted to celebrate all father figures. This free event will include food and a fun backyard event. As a token of appreciation for their hard work and dedication to their families. It will be held on Thursday, June 15th between 1:00-2:30 p.m. at the Clara Senior Center. On Monday June 19th from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. at the Bell Gardens Veterans Park Senior Center. The center will also be hosting coffee with the detective. They collaborated with the neighborhood watch and Bell Gardens Police Department to present seniors with the three-part workshop series about fraud targeting older adults. On Monday June 12th we had our first presentation discussing grandparent's scams and government impersonations after the presentation seniors will have the opportunity to ask officers questions and even shared some of their personal experience with scams. Our seniors are very much looking forward to next week's Bell Gardens Police Department Workshop scheduled for Monday, June 19th at 12:30 p.m. Lastly, they will have the summer kick off at the Bell Gardens Senior Center. Live entertainment and an ultimate ice cream bar with many delicious flavors and toppings to choose from. The festivities will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 22nd at the Clara Senior Center. The Bell Gardens Veterans Park Senior Center will host their own on Tuesday, June 27th. Chairperson Stephanie Perez motions to file report. Commissioner Ana Maria Sanchez seconds the motion to file report.

Chairperson Diana requests Commission Secretary Miriam Vargas-Cervantes to take role call and file this report.

Chairperson Diana Rivera yes
 Vice-Chairperson Stephanie Perez yes
 Commissioner Ana Maria-Sanchez yes

C. Senior Health Fair:

Supervisor Ana Avalos announces it is scheduled for Thursday, July 13th at 11:00 a.m. at Veterans Park. Resources and educational health sessions will be offered. The department has partnered with Alzheimer's LA HAS and FHCCGLA which is the clinic here in Bell Gardens. Free Zumba

class will be offered. Chairperson Diana requests to motion and file the report. Commissioner Ana Maria Sanchez motions to file the report. Vice-Chairperson Stephanie Perez seconded the motion.

Chairperson Diana requests Commission Secretary Miriam Vargas-Cervantes to take role call and file this report.

Chairperson Diana Rivera yes
 Vice-Chairperson Stephanie Perez yes
 Commissioner Ana Maria-Sanchez yes

D. Tournaments:

Supervisor Ana Avalos shares the center is having Loteria on a weekly basis. Every Wednesday and Friday at 9:30 a.m. at the Clara Senior Center. They also have a cards club, prizes for seniors are held every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. at Veterans Park. Seniors who win a game also get entered to a raffle. Lastly, pool tournaments are tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, August 16th at 10:30 a.m. at Veterans Park Senior Center. More details to come for the pool tournament. Chairperson Diana Rivera for the record announces Tiffany Quintero-Maldonado arrived at 6:15 p.m. Vice Chairperson Stephanie Perez would like to know if they can implement a tournament with other ideas. Probably bringing like a chess or domino tournament with teens vs seniors. Requesting to obtain a budget for a tournament. Supervisor Ana informs Stephanie the department does have budgetary restrictions. She will take a note of it and shared the center has had international tournaments. Tournaments with High School students from the eye care program. Supervisor Ana will make the recommendation to the Supervisor Diana Ortiz about a chess and domino tournament. Chairperson Diana requests to motion and file the report. Vice-Chairperson Stephanie Perez motions to file the report. Commissioner Ana Maria Sanchez seconded the motion.

Chairperson Diana requests Commission Secretary Miriam Vargas-Cervantes to take role call and file this report.

Chairperson Diana Rivera yes
 Vice-Chairperson Stephanie Perez yes
 Commissioner Ana Maria-Sanchez yes
 Commissioner Tiffany Quintero yes

Public Comments:

Commission Secretary, Miriam Vargas-Cervantes confirms there are no public comments on non-agenda items.

Comments from Commission:

Vice Chairperson Stephanie Perez would like to express that she is looking forward to the health fair. Since she comes from a public health and science background. She is very excited that the department is implementing a health fair for the seniors because it's important to the community.

Chairperson Diana Rivera requested to implement something about nutritional and educating seniors on other types of meals or snacks. Possibly exercise like Zumba class a walkathon or a high blood pressure orientation.

Supervisor Ana Avalos made a note of that and informed commissioners the center provides different medical screenings throughout the month including blood pressure screenings. She will inform Coordinator

Edith Lopez and Supervisor Diana Ortiz of the healthy cooking and nutritional components requested including the walkathon.

Adjournment:

Chairperson Diana announces the meeting will be adjourned if there is no objection by the commissioners. Meeting adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

Recorded By: Miniam US- Connts Miriam Vargas-Cervantes, Senior Citizen Commission Secretary