

Meeting Notes

June Meeting for FY 2023 Park Advisory Board

Valley Plaza Recreation Center and Park, Alexandria Park, Laurel Grove Park, Rhodes Avenue Park and Whitsett Ave. Sports Fields

A June 26, 2023 Park Advisory Board organizing meeting was convened at the Recreation Center, Valley Plaza Park, Archwood Ave., North Hollywood, beginning at 7 PM and adjourning at 8:30 PM. Refreshments and food were provided by Valley Plaza Rec Center and Monica Moye.

In attendance were Stephen Joyce, Park Superintendent, Ron Bitzer, president, Paula Velasco (Teen Rep), Tricia Williams Secretary, Monica Moye Vice President, David Acosta community leader, Carol Rose (NoHo West Neighborhood Council representative) and Leslie Ann Myrick-Rose (NoHo West Neighborhood Council representative).

Mission Statement --- Ron read from a Department of Recreation and Parks public statement for Park Advisory Boards as follows, "Rec and Parks believes that the partnership between staff and the community is of primary importance in identifying and meeting the recreational needs of the community."

New Business – LA Department of Water and Power & Valley Plaza Solar Project

Stephanie Macoritto and Samer Farkus were introduced to explain the proposal of LA DWP to install several charging stations at Valley Plaza Park for EVs (electric vehicles). Stephen asked that the stations be located at the pool parking area and not the tennis court parking area; no security cameras monitor the latter parking area and fewer cars are parked there in contrast to the main facility parking lot.

Ron noted that LA DWP is raising \$90 million to install storm water capture units below the park ground level at (a) Valley Plaza North, (b) Whitsett Ave. Sports Fields, (c) Valley Plaza South and (d) Alexandria Park, Parks will be under construction for up to 24 months each; North Hollywood enjoys a large water table in contrast to other County communities. Parks will then enjoy mitigation measures funded by LA DWP.

Old Business --- Monica motioned and Leslie Ann seconded approval of the minutes of the March 27, 2023 meeting.

Old Business --- Superintendent's report

- Security ---- Most cameras are working properly. Homeless encampments along the 170 freeway were cleared by CALTRANS. A fire was apparently set near the public library. The Tony Homes project of 100 units at Alexandria Park cannot not enjoy a permanent lease, as stated by Ron.
- Programs --- 70 children have enrolled in summer camp; 25 in the Teen Program. (Teens who sign out early will be noted as such in a phone call to parents).
- New programs include tennis instruction and boxing (Mondays & Wednesdays).
- Fall Sports League --- Registration starts August 5th
- Classes ---- Registration starts August 28th

New Business

- Rhodes Ave. Park --- Carol Rose provided an update on an outdoor movie nite during the summer at this park.
- Laurel Grove Park --- Ron shared print news reports of the May 15th groundbreaking ceremony with Paul Krekorian, CD#2, whose staff secured \$1.5M funding for park upgrades in cooperation with a neighborhood association.
- A City sponsored street closure (9 AM to 2 PM) (CicLAmini) is planned for Sunday, September 17th. Teen Club members may want to staff a table at this public event.