



City of Arts & Innovation

**MINUTES
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

Monday, May 11, 2015 6:30 p.m.
Ysmael Villegas Community Center – Villegas Park
3091 Esperanza Street
Riverside, CA 92504
951-826-2000

Commissioners Present: **Whatley, Johnson, Lyles, Negron, Venegas, Cardullo, Rounds, Elliot and Feola**

Riverside Youth Council Present: Delgado and Simpson

Staff Present: Adolfo Cruz, Director
 Mario Lara, Deputy Director
 Patricia Solano, Community Services Superintendent
 Robin Metz, Recreation Superintendent
 Andrew Emery, Park Superintendent
 Randy McDaniel, Principal Park Planner
 Mayra Ocampo, Senior Administrative Assistant

Public Works Staff Present: Robert Filiar, Urban Forester
 Archie Washington, Field Services Operations Manager

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Whatley called the meeting to order at approximately 6:36 p.m.

City Clerk, Colleen Nicol, swore in Commissioner Joseph Feola.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were two speakers during public comment. Jason Hunter commented on plaques on City facilities, and Paul Chavez commented on window shades at Villegas Community Center.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Commission approved the minutes for the April 13, 2015, meeting as presented.

Motion: Johnson
Second: Lyles
Ayes: All

CONSENT CALENDAR

The following matters, presented to the Park and Recreation Commission on the consent calendar for consideration, were approved by a motion affirming the action appropriate to the

item:

3. April Community Service Division Monthly Report
4. April Recreation Division Monthly Report
5. April Parks Division Monthly Report
6. Capital Improvement Projects Tracking Report

Motion: Rounds
Second: Venegas
Ayes: All

DISCUSSION

7. STREET TREE PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AD-HOC COMMITTEE TO UPDATE THE URBAN FORESTRY POLICY MANUAL

Urban Forester, Filiar, informed the Commission that an ad-hoc committee is needed, per the request of the City Council, to review and provide recommendations to update the Urban Forestry Policy Manual.

Chair Whatley asked if any Commissioners were interested in being part of the committee. Commissioners Elliot, Johnson, and Lyles volunteered.

After discussion, a motion was made to accept the formation of an ad-hoc committee to review the Urban Forestry Policy Manual.

Motion: Johnson
Second: Cardullo
Ayes: All

8. REQUEST TO NAME THE GYMNASIUM AT VILLEGAS PARK COMMUNITY CENTER IN HONOR OF GLEN AND MARY AYALA

Director Cruz provided background to the naming request and informed the Commission that the Ayala family had provided additional documentation to support their request.

Eleven speakers (Pastor Laverne Gaines, Anthony Ayala, Ron Velasquez, Ofelia Valdez-Yeager, Ted Orozco, Ruben Ayala, Bonnie Ayala Rodrigues, Richard Ayala, James Ellis, Ana Martinez, and Linda Murillo) spoke in favor of the naming request. One speaker (Ed Martinez) spoke off topic. There were 76 members of the community in attendance, at the meeting who signed in, and all 100 seats that were set out were occupied. The audience in attendance was audibly supportive of the naming request.

Commissioner Negrón congratulated the community on their efforts, and confirmed they are making history by recognizing community leaders as heroes.

After discussion, a motion was made to accept the request to name the Villegas Community Center gym in honor of Glen and Mary Ayala, and to forward the request to the Community Services and Youth Committee.

Motion: Negrón
Second: Venegas
Ayes: All

ANNOUNCEMENTS, MEETING DATES, AND COMMISSION REQUEST

- Ruben Ayala informed the Commissioners about his program called, "Sandlot".
- Director Cruz introduced Anthony Zamora as a new Recreation Supervisor.
- Riverside Youth Liaison, Delgado, informed Staff and the Commission that he's graduating from high school, leaving for Texas to attend college, and therefore tonight is his last meeting. He is grateful for all that he has learned.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Whatley adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:38 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Monday, June 8, 2015, at the Johnny Martin Sotelo Youth Opportunity Center, 2060 University Ave, Riverside, CA 92507.



City of Arts & Innovation

Park and Recreation Commission

TO: HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS **DATE: MAY 11, 2015**

FROM: PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT **ITEM NO:**

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO NAME THE GYMNASIUM AT YSMAEL VILLEGAS COMMUNITY CENTER AT VILLEGAS PARK IN HONOR OF GLEN AND MARY AYALA

ISSUE:

The issue for Park and Recreation Commission consideration is a request to name the gymnasium at Villegas Park in honor of Glen and Mary Ayala.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Park and Recreation Commission review the request to name the gymnasium at Villegas Park in honor of Glen and Mary Ayala and make a recommendation.

BACKGROUND:

On August 8, 2011 the Community Services and Youth Committee considered the request to name the band shell at Villegas Park in honor of Glen and Mary Ayala and after discussion unanimously continued the item because there was insufficient documentation and justification to move forward.

On January 30, 2015, a request to name the gymnasium at Villegas Park Community Center in honor of Glen and Mary Ayala was received. This request was almost the same as the one that was previously considered by the Park and Recreation Commission and the Community Services and Youth Committee to name the band shell at Villegas Park in honor of Glen and Mary Ayala.

On April 13, 2015, the Park and Recreation Commission, with Chair Whatley; Vice Chair Johnson; and members Lyles, Negron, Venegas and Elliot present, voted 5:1 to table the request to name the gymnasium at Villegas Park in honor of Glen and Mary Ayala in order to give the Ayala family time to provide sufficient documentation to support their request.

On May 4, 2015, Anthony Ayala, grandson of Glen and Mary Ayala submitted various documents to support the request to name the gymnasium at Villegas Park in honor of Glen and Mary Ayala (reference attachments 5-9).

The Park Naming Resolution provides the Park and Recreation Commission with the following key guidelines:

- 1) Preference will be given to names relating to geographical location, historic significance or geologic features.

- 2) A park facility can be named for a person only in limited situations as outlined in Section 2 of the Resolution.
- 3) The Park and Recreation Commission (in its advisory capacity) are responsible for the selection of names for parks and recreation facilities, subject to the approval of the City Council.
- 4) A public meeting indicating that there is significant justification and support by the community is required prior to changing the name of a park or recreation facility.

The procedures outlined in the Naming of City-owned Land, Buildings and Facilities Administrative Policy states that the Commission/Review Body may choose not to move a request forward.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

Prepared by: Mario E. Lara, Parks Recreation and Community Services Deputy Director
Approved by: Adolfo Cruz, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director
Approved by: Alexander T. Nguyen, Assistant City Manager

Attachment:

1. Naming/Renaming Application 1/30/2015
2. Report of Community Services and Youth Committee 8/8/2011
3. Minutes of Community Services and Youth Committee 8/8/2011
4. Letter of Recommendation from Tom Schultz 4/16/2015
5. Letters of Recommendation
6. Newspaper Articles
7. Online Petition
8. Signed Petition
9. Rosters and Pictures of Glen and Mary Ayala