

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE EL SEGUNDO RECREATION & PARKS
COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2025

CALL TO ORDER – Chairperson Bob Motta called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

ROLL CALL

Chairperson Motta	-	Present
Vice Chairperson Watson	-	Present
Commissioner Cavagnolo	-	Present
Commissioner Lubs	-	Present
Commissioner Stolnack	-	Present

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS – (Related to City Business Only – 5-minute limit per person, 30-minute limit total)

Barbara Bolland from El Segundo Blue Butterfly Conservancy expressed her gratitude to the Parks Department for their efforts in the Hillside Maintenance project that took place on Saturday, April 12, 2025. In addition, she proposed planting a California Coastal Live Oak Tree as the replacement tree at Library Park and advocated for more native plants throughout the city.

Tracey Miller-Zarneke, Chairperson of the El Segundo Environmental Committee, agreed with Barbara Bolland's public comment. She also emphasized the importance of incorporating more native plants throughout the city and offered her assistance in furthering those efforts.

A. CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. MOTION by Vice Chairperson Watson, SECONDED by Commissioner Cavagnolo, approving Regular Commission meeting minutes of March 19, 2025, MOTION PASSED. 5/0

B. NEW BUSINESS

2. Employee Spotlight: Tyler Fujii

Recreation Manager Linnea Palmer spoke about Recreation Specialist Tyler Fujii's achievements. Director of Recreation, Parks, and Library Aly Mancini thanked Tyler Fujii for his hard work and dedication.

3. Land Use Element Update Technical Advisory Committee

Director of Community Development Michael Allen spoke about the Land Use Element Update and appointment of the Technical Advisory Committee. Commissioner Lubs asked questions regarding the purpose of the committee, the involvement of City Council members, and the committee's specific responsibilities. Commissioner Stolnack asked questions regarding the

involvement of the school district and the total number of committee members. Commissioner Cavagnolo asked for clarification on who would be making key decisions and the studies being conducted. Vice Chairperson Watson asked questions regarding transportation and its relationship to land use planning. Director Allen provided additional information.

MOTION by Chairperson Motta, SECONDED by Vice Chairperson Watson approving Commissioner Stolnack as Primary and Vice Chairperson Watson and Commissioner Lubs as Alternates for the Technical Advisory Committee, MOTION PASSED. 5/0

C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4. Replacement Tree for Library Park

Parks Superintendent Christopher Hentzen presented the tree replacement options for Library Park. Commissioner Lubs asked questions regarding whether selecting replacement trees would now fall under the Commission's responsibilities, whether a planting site had been selected, financial implications, and whether the tree would be used for hanging Christmas lights. He also inquired about the space requirements for the tree, whether all options minimized droppings and pollen while providing adequate shade, the staff's original recommendation, and the reason behind selecting a tree with a "Christmas tree" appearance.

Vice Chairperson Watson expressed her support for planting native trees. Commissioner Cavagnolo asked questions regarding the inclusion of the Brisbane Box and Sycamore Tree as potential options and stated that he was willing to support the majority's choice. Commissioner Stolnack commented on her findings from her research on native tree species and recommended a Big Leaf Maple Tree for consideration. Chairperson Motta supported staff's recommendation and asked about the Canary Island Pine Tree. Parks Superintendent Hentzen provided additional information.

MOTION by Commissioner Stolnack, SECONDED by Vice Chairperson Watson for Big Leaf Maple Tree to be the tree replacement at Library Park, MOTION PASSED. 3/2

D. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director of Recreation, Parks, and Library Aly Mancini presented the Director's Report to the Commission.

E. STAFF COMMENTS

Recreation Manager Linnea Palmer spoke about the two reports presented at the City Council meeting on April 15, 2025. The first report focusing on the Aquatics Program, highlighting Success Criteria and offering an update on the

upcoming contract with Councilman Hunsaker. The second report addressed the Recreation Court usage, presenting data and comparisons between pickleball and tennis court usage at the park. In addition, Recreation Manager Palmer shared updates on recent and upcoming community events, including the Egg Hunt and Camp Expo, the Hometown Fair, the Annual Bake Off and the Free Luncheon for Elder Fest.

Parks Superintendent Hentzen asked whether the tree replacement would be going to City Council. Director Mancini provided additional information. Parks Superintendent Hentzen stated that he is happy to plant tree selected.

F. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Stolnack asked about the cost difference between selecting a 36-inch versus a 48-inch box for the selected tree. She also expressed her support for the storybook trail at Library Park, calling it a great addition to the park and suggested passing the feedback along to the Library Department. Commissioner Stolnack provided an update on the Hillside project and thanked Joseph and the Parks team for adding trashcans at Washington Park. In addition, she requested an update report on the Joslyn Center.

Commissioner Lubs stated that he enjoyed the tree replacement discussion.

Commissioner Cavagnolo thanked Parks Superintendent Hentzen and his team for their work in the selection of trees.

Vice Chairperson Watson echoed the comments shared by fellow commissioners and extended her thanks to Parks Superintendent Hentzen for his efforts. She provided an update on the Field Allocation Subcommittee highlighting the progress made on updating the policy.

Chairperson Motta thanked staff for their hard work.

Adjourned at 7:14 PM

Viviann Gonzalez

Viviann Gonzalez, Temporary Administrative Specialist