

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE EL SEGUNDO RECREATION & PARKS
COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 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	-	Absent (Arrived at 6:08 PM)
Commissioner Stolnack	-	Absent

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

Mel Quo, President of Beach Cities Alpha, expressed his disappointment with the Aquatics Business Plan presentation delivered at the Aquatics Subcommittee meeting. He requested that the proposed changes to user group allocation be removed from the current cost recovery presentation and instead be addressed separately in a transparent and collaborative manner.

Tim Arnold, El Segundo resident and board member of Beach Cities Alpha (BCA), provided public comment on the user group allocation outlined in the Aquatics Business Plan. He expressed concern that none of the user groups will have access to the Plunge during prime time hours. He also pointed out what he perceives as an inequity in the current fee structure, noting that BCA pays a higher hourly rate than another water polo team that uses the El Segundo Aquatics Center. He questioned why the city doesn't increase fees for the other team to better support cost recovery.

David Tom, Director of Beach Cities Alpha and El Segundo resident, emphasized the significant impact the proposed user group allocations would have on the organization's operations and long-term vision. He urged the committee to reconsider the allocation changes and engage user groups in a more inclusive planning process.

A. CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. MOTION by Commissioner Lubs, SECONDED by Commissioner Cavagnolo, approving Regular Commission meeting minutes of June 18, 2025, MOTION PASSED. 4/0

B. NEW BUSINESS

2. Employee Spotlight: Devon Bargmann and Parks Team

Recreation Supervisor Shawn Green and Recreation Manager Linnea Palmer spoke about the achievements of Recreation Coordinator Devon Bargmann.

Recreation Coordinator Bargmann provided comments and thanked staff and the Commission for recognition.

Director of Recreation, Parks, and Library Aly Mancini and Parks Superintendent Christopher Hentzen recognized the contributions of the Parks Team, highlighting the efforts of Joseph Casillas, Ben Gutierrez, Noe Moreno, Miguel Torrez, and Travis Morris.

3. Summer 2025 Wrap Up Presentation

Aquatics Coordinator Bailey Myers, Senior Lifeguard Specialist Mark Monin, Recreation Supervisor Rachel Cummings, Recreation Coordinator Bargmann, Recreation Supervisor Green, and Recreation Supervisor Ryan Delgado presented the Summer 2025 Wrap Up Presentation. Director Mancini commended the Recreation Team for their dedication and hard work throughout the summer.

4. Teen Center, Plaza, and Skatepark Renovation Project

Jennifer Zell from MIG presented the Teen Center, Plaza, and Skatepark Renovation Project. Commissioner Lubs questioned the inclusion of a seat wall in the east side of the basketball court. Commissioner Cavagnolo inquired about the stormwater retention area. Vice Chairperson Watson asked whether each light pole would include more than one light fixture. Chairperson Motta requested clarification on the water tower lettering alternatives. Jennifer Zell provided additional information.

Director Mancini clarified that trees will not be added along Grand Avenue. The commission provided further feedback on the project's design and features.

C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5. Tree Replacement at Library Park

Director Mancini led the discussion regarding tree replacement at Library Park. Commissioner Cavagnolo asked whether the decision would prevent the future planting of a tree at that location. Director Mancini provided additional information.

MOTION by Chairperson Motta, SECONDED by Commissioner Cavagnolo, approving staff's recommendation not to replace the tree at Library Park at this time, MOTION PASSED. 4/0

D. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Mancini provided a follow-up on the beach shuttle. She recommended reducing the current service level to improve overall efficiency and find better ways to utilize the allocated funding.

Chairperson Motta requested that an additional column be added to the Park Matrix in the Director's Report to indicate the status or completion of each item. Vice Chairperson Watson inquired about where reports submitted through ESConnect are directed and asked for an update on the ongoing issue at Campus El Segundo. Director Mancini provided additional information.

E. STAFF COMMENTS

None

F. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Lubs expressed his appreciation that full-time employees were recognized during this meeting, noting that recognition is often focused on part-time staff. He also commended the Summer 2025 Wrap Up Presentation and congratulated the department for successfully managing the summer season without the pool. He thanked all staff for their hard work.

Commissioner Cavagnolo reported on the Aquatics Subcommittee, noting that the completion date for the Plunge has been delayed to February. He mentioned a three-million-dollar fundraising gap but shared that corporate contributions are expected. He also expressed appreciation for the public comments shared by the Beach Cities Alpha team.

Vice Chairperson Watson provided an update on the Major Events Ad Hoc Committee. She stated that within the next twenty days, a proposal package will be prepared and presented to the City Council requesting street closures, funding, reduced Airbnb restrictions, and adjustments to various permits. She encouraged those with interest or connections to the event to attend the meeting. She also thanked the Recreation, Parks, and Library staff for their work and presentation and thanked Director Mancini for resolving the Campus El Segundo issue. Additionally, Vice Chairperson Watson commented on the upcoming City Council meeting scheduled for October 7th, where the Aquatics Business Plan will be discussed, and expressed concern over the item being rushed to Council before the process is fully complete.

Chairperson Motta thanked Director Mancini, Recreation Manager Palmer, and Recreation Supervisor Cummings for their work on the Field Allocation Policy. He announced that the policy was approved by City Council and suggested it could potentially serve as a model for the Aquatics user group allocation if needed.

Adjourned at 7:36 PM

Viviann Gonzalez

Viviann Gonzalez, Senior Administrative Specialist