

Minutes  
**COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION**  
**Tuesday, March 31, 2020**

A regular meeting of the Community Services Commission was called to order at 4:32 p.m. by Stephen Penner, Chairperson, meeting held via conference call.

1. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS
  - A. Commissioners Present: Stephen Penner, Chairperson; Tom Brandt, Vice Chairperson; Heather Alvarez; Shirley Ito; Angelina Rodriguez; Maria Rodriguez.
  - B. Commissioners Absent: Jean Clemons.
  - C. Youth Representatives: Present – Erika Sosa Absent – Asami Nelson
  - D. Staff Present: Sarah Reid, Community Services Director; Elizabeth Amaya, Office Assistant; Jodi Botello, Senior Citizen Coordinator; Madison Leighty, Recreation Coordinator; Jesus Rodriguez, Recreation Coordinator.
  - E. Others Present: None.
  
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES  
It was moved by Commissioner M. Rodriguez, seconded by Commissioner Ito, that the minutes of December 19, 2019 be approved. The motion carried.
  
3. PUBLIC DISCUSSION – None.
  
4. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS – None.
  
5. NEW BUSINESS
  - A. **Recommendation of naming opportunities for Ray Soleno** – The City received a letter recommending that the City of Reedley considers naming something after Ray Soleno. Soleno has a passion for youth programs, served as Reedley Little League President, and has served on the City Council for many years. The future baseball field at Sports Park would be a great fit. Commissioner Alvarez points out that it would be nice for Soleno to see the outcome of the project. Commissioner M. Rodriguez asked if there are other potential project locations that can be named after Soleno. Reid mentions that because of Soleno’s history with Little League a baseball field seems most appropriate. Commissioners recommend on having this discussion on future agendas allowing time to think this through.
  
6. YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS
  - A. Asami Nelson-Absent
  - B. Erika Sosa- Erika Sosa reported that herself and Asami will be helping both our Recreation Coordinator and Senior Citizen Coordinator with Grab-N-Go events that are happening at the Community Center. Erika is a senior that attends Reedley Middle College High School and mentioned that graduation was cancelled.
  
7. STAFF REPORTS

Minutes  
**COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION**  
**Tuesday, March 31, 2020**

- A. Sarah Reid, Community Services Director – Appreciated commissioners calling in for the meeting. Darren Minami reached out to Reid to join the Commission, and will be appointed at the next Commission meeting. Reid also mentioned to commissioners that Kayla Cheney, Administrative Assistant, went out on maternity leave and gave birth on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Reid received two bids for shade structures that will be placed at Trimble Park. Those bids came to \$70,000. The donation was initially for \$100,000. With the remainder, it would be ideal for the play structure. Reid met with the City Engineer to find a piece that would fit. The grant that Reid applied for Camacho Park was not awarded. Another round of grants will be in August. Reid intends to reapply and address certain areas. The State of California Department of Parks and Recreation mentioned a regional park grant opportunity, which could benefit for development of Sports Park. The Parks and Recreation Foundation would be eligible to apply as the County or a non-profit has to be the lead agency. With this grant, it is hopeful to get a phase done at the Sports Park. Reid also mentioned that Taxi Scrip is the only service that the office is still offering at this time.
- B. Madison Leighty, Recreation Coordinator – Leighty is in charge of the Facebook page, City of Reedley Community Services Department. This encourages the community to Stay Connected. Leighty shared the types of posts she has put up. Some of these include: live classes, activities, webcams, family game night ideas, and others. This helps the department stay engaged with the community. Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> is a Grab-N-Go Easter Egg Hunt Kit. Each family will receive a bag full of Easter eggs to put on their own egg hunt. Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, the preschool teacher will be live doing a yoga class for viewers. Each week there will be different activities that people can follow along with. Reid encouraged commissioners to follow the Facebook page as a good resource for information.
- C. Jodi Botello, Senior Citizen Coordinator – Botello has been working closely with FMAAA to get home-delivered meals to seniors that came to congregate meals. Many seniors have been calling in, informing us that meals were being delivered. EOC is cooking the meals and delivering to the 120 program participants. Each delivery consists of: 7 breakfast meals and 7 entrée meals. Gleaners Drive-Thru Program are items donated by SaveMart, and local packing houses. Sun-Maid also donated raisins. Each senior gets a bag full of the donated items. This program is every Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Botello is working with churches to put together care packages for seniors and do home visits to deliver these packages. On April 15<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m., Botello is doing a Facebook Live class on Salsa Making. The first 25 seniors that contact Botello will receive items needed to make the salsa. Botello will also be doing a class on Pasta Salad on April 29<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner A. Rodriguez asked what we are doing for seniors that are unable to drive to receive Gleaners items. Botello let the commission know that the if seniors are unable to drive, to call the Senior Help Line to have herself or volunteers deliver. Reid mentions that the help line has also turned into a socialization line. Seniors often check up on staff.

Minutes  
**COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION**  
**Tuesday, March 31, 2020**

D. Jesus Rodriguez, Recreation Coordinator – Rodriguez gave the commission an update on Youth Baseball and Adult Basketball. Youth Baseball had a turnout of 242 participants, and 35-40 coaches. This made approximately 22 teams. Sign-ups for Adult Basketball resulted in 4-6 men’s teams and 3 women’s teams. Both programs have been pushed back to a later start date. JR. Giants has also been pushed back. Jr. Giants is free program offered in the city. Normally sign-ups begin on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Rodriguez is in charge of the Instagram page and encourages everyone to follow.

9. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

- A. Commissioner Ito – Suggests that for the next meeting we utilize the Zoom app to be able to see everyone.
- B. Commissioner A. Rodriguez – Commented that the Toys for Tots event put on in December was run well, organized, and well received in the community. It was a joyous moment to see. Really appreciative of all the hard work that was put in. Commissioner A. Rodriguez also mentioned that she follows the Facebook page and appreciates everything that staff is doing to help out the community. Mentions that staff putting together care packages for seniors is a great thing.
- C. Commissioner Penner – Saw that there was a Blood Drive at the Community Center, and it was still put on. Reid responded that it was cancelled.

10. ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Elizabeth Amaya, Office Assistant

---

Stephen Penner, Chairperson

---

Sarah Reid, Community Services Director