PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA

Thursday, February 13, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING, YOU CAN PARTICIPATE VIA THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:

1. VIEW THE MEETING ONLINE AT: HTTPS://YOUTUBE.COM/@SOUTHGATECA90280
2. PARTICIPATE BEFORE THE MEETING BY EMAILING THE PARKS DIRECTOR AT SCOSTLEY@SOGATE.ORG NO LATER THAN 4:00 P.M. ON THE DAY OF THE MEETING. PLEASE WRITE "PUBLIC COMMENT" ON THE SUBJECT LINE.
3. ATTEND THE MEETING IN PERSON.

Officials

Chair: Alan Flores
Vice Chair: Lizette Ruiz
Secretary: Edgar Pelayo
Commissioner: Cynthia Esquivel
Commissioner: Alejanda Flores
Parks & Recreation Director: Steve Costley

Call to Order

Flag Salute

Roll Call

Meeting Compensation Disclosure

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54952.3: Disclosure of compensation for meeting attendance by the Parks & Recreation Commissioners is $75 per meeting.

Report on Posting

I, Ana Medina, Parks & Recreation Executive Assistant, certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Meeting Agenda was properly posted on February 6, 2025 at 5:30 p.m., as required by law.

Ana Medina, Parks & Recreation Sr. Secretary

Approval of Meeting Minutes

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 12, 2024.
Recommended Motion: Motion to approve the minutes as presented.

Public Comment

During this time, members of the public or staff may address the Parks & Recreation Commission regarding any items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. Comments from the audience will be limited to three minutes per speaker; unless authorized by the Commission Chair, the time limit may not be extended by utilizing another member's time. There will be no debate or action on items not listed on the agenda unless authorized by law. NOTE: Obscene language, comments intended to disrupt or interfere with the progress of the meeting, or slanderous comments will not be tolerated and may result in ejection and/or may constitute a violation of South Gate Municipal Code Section 1.04.110.

Presentation

Open Session Items

1. ELECTION OF OFFICERS/REORGANIZATION
Recommended Motion: Motion for Commission to nominate and approve a Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary for the coming year.

Documents:

02-13-25 ITEM 1 STAFF REPORT.pdf

2. RECREATION PROGRAMING REPORT – 2nd QUARTER REVIEW FY 2024/25

Recommended Motion: Motion to receive and file.

Documents:

02-13-25 ITEM 2 STAFF REPORT.pdf

3. GROUNDS & FACILITY MAINTENANCE REPORT - 2ND QUARTER REVIEW FISCAL YEAR 2024/25
Recommended Motion: Motion to receive and file.

Documents:

02-13-25 ITEM 3 STAFF REPORT.pdf

Director's Report/Calendar of Events

Parks & Recreation Commission Sub-Committee Reports

Request for Items on Future Agendas

Adjournment

Materials related to an item on the Agenda submitted to the Parks & Recreation Commission after distribution of the agenda packet, are available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office, 8650 California Avenue, South Gate, California 90280. Telephone: 323.563.951 0, Fax: 323.563.5411, City website, www .cityofsouthgate.org

In compliance with the American with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in the Parks & Recreation Commission Meetings, please contact the Parks Administration office, 323.357.9645. Notification 48 hours prior to the Meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility.

Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting
February 13, 2024

STAFF REPORT ITEM No. 1

To: **Honorable Parks & Recreation Commission**
From: **Tina Fierro, Interim Parks & Recreation Director**
Date: **January 16, 2025**

Subject: Reorganization

Recommended Motion: The Commission must nominate and approve a Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary for the coming year.

Report Summary: As has been the practice of the Commission, each February, at the regular Commission meeting, nominations and elections are held to appoint a new Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary for the Commission for the coming year, these positions become effective immediately

The Chair should solicit nominations from the members present, beginning with nominations for Chair. Once all commissioners have had the opportunity to make a nomination for each position and create a slate that is then discussed and then a vote taken, confirming the slate.

:am

Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting
February 13, 2025

STAFF REPORT ITEM No. 2

To: **Honorable Parks & Recreation Commission**
From: **Tina De La Rosa, Interim Director of Parks & Rec.**
Date: **January 22, 2025**
Subject: **Recreation Programing Report – 2nd Quarter Review FY 2024/25**

Recommended Motion: Motion to Receive and File

Aquatics:
Throughout the fall quarter, the Aquatics Division offered a variety of programs, recreational opportunities, fitness classes, and special events to engage the community.

Our swim lesson program, which runs from March through November, continued to experience strong enrollment. We had almost 1,000 participants in the second quarter. We offered group, private, and semi-private swim lessons for ages six months and up. Our group swim lessons remain the strongest program, with almost 700 participants, the majority between ages 6-17.

Pool usage has remained steady, with a slight increase in attendance for evening lap swim sessions. The membership program processed almost 750 new memberships, and over 4,500 active memberships. Our Aqua Blast, Aqua Aerobics, SeniorCise, and Master Swim aquatic fitness classes are offered year-round and have contributed to the increase in the Splash Fitness membership sign-ups.

The swim teams have also continued to see high participation rates. Three teams are currently practicing at the Patricia G. Mitchell Swim Stadium: South Gate Aqua Coalition, Lynwood Marlins Swim Team, and Penguins Aquatic Club. Teams bring in over 100 competitive swimmers per practice, and practice three to five times a week. We also played host to the South Central Swim League, and hosted three of their swim meets for the Fall-Winter season during this quarter. Each swim meet brings in approximately 400 swimmers from six local teams and about 900 spectators. We were also incredibly honored to partner with SGAC and host our first ever WAG Last Ditch Qualifier swim meet on December 7 and 8. This prestigious swim meet is typically held at much larger facilities in more affluent cities, but the recent fencing and other capital expenditure projects made it possible to expand our patio space and bring this meet to South Gate. We hosted approximately 800 swimmers and over 1,500 spectators per day from more than a dozen teams coming from the wider Los Angeles area.

The Aquatics Team got into the holiday spirit once again with our now-annual special holiday events. The 2nd Annual Patti's Pumpkin Plunge was a highlight this quarter, attracting almost

100 attendees. We partnered with HSA, Western Dental, and SGAC and gave away over 100 goodie bags and pumpkins in our floating pumpkin patch. Participants enjoyed arts & crafts, games, and prizes, and trick-or-treating at all our different stations. We also held a successful Surfing with Santa event that brought together almost 75 community members for an afternoon of swimming and holiday fun. We were fortunate to partner with SGAC, Chick-fil-A, and Raising Cane's (who gave us amazing praise for our social media promotion). The event featured arts & crafts, games, activities, and prizes... plus everyone got an opportunity to take pictures with Santa, Mrs. Claus, and surf with Santa's elves.

Fitness:

In the second quarter, we saw a promising surge in membership numbers compared to the previous quarter. A total of 4,814 memberships were sold and renewed, reflecting a 24% increase over the same period last year. Fitness memberships accounted for 60% of total memberships, demonstrating strong demand for our fitness programs, classes, and gym facilities.

In parallel, our daily admissions totaled 3,232 for the quarter. Of these, 65% were sport-related admissions, primarily for basketball gym usage, while fitness and volleyball admissions combined accounted for the remaining 35%.

Personal training services also showed a slight increase in hours logged. A total of 188 hours were recorded. The 12-session private package and the 16-session semi-private option remain the most popular choices. Despite the slower season, personal training sessions continue to grow compared to same quarter of previous year.

We introduced a new yoga event, Sound Bath which combines the power of sound with deep relaxation and meditation. The class was well received, with 50 participants attending both sessions this season. Additionally, we are ramping up our focus on youth fitness with the launch of a revamped class dedicated to youth performance training, titled Game Changers.

Moreover, our Biggest Loser weight loss program is undergoing a transformation. The updated regimen will feature new group exercise classes and more advanced training sessions, aiming to further engage participants and help them achieve their fitness goals.

Youth Sports:

The second quarter began with all youth fundamental sport classes filled to max capacity and they maintained great attendance throughout the fall session. Our core group (basketball, volleyball, baseball, multi-sport, and soccer) of fundamental classes continue to be popular and provide introductory drills and lessons. During Winter registration, we increased the class size to 20 participants and are introducing new drills and practice routines to increase player development.

Adult Sports:

The second quarter of Adult Sports began on a high note with the inaugural Women's softball league and the return of Men's and Co-ed Softball teams. This season brought in 43 total teams across 6 divisions. Champions for the adult softball leagues will be awarded the newly re-designed championship quarter zip long sleeves with an engraved trophy, while 2nd place winners will receive customized insulated South Gate water bottles.

Open volleyball has remained popular on Tuesday evenings and brought in over 800 drop-in participants this quarter with a high demand to incorporate more dates.

Partner Organizations:

South Gate Aztecs football concluded their season in December prior to the holidays. One of their youth football teams battled their way throughout the post season and made it to the Super Bowl. Football practiced at South Gate Park every Friday while Aztecs cheer practiced on the tennis courts Tuesday through Thursday.

SGJAA's fall baseball and softball seasons began and concluded before the holidays. They increased participation with youth occupying the ball fields six days a week. In addition, their popular Winter Basketball League pre-season practices commenced in December with their season beginning in January.

AYSO registered 30 teams this past year. Practices and games were held at Hollydale Regional Park, where the City was able to secure portable lights for evening practices. Their season concluded in December.

We once again partnered with Special Olympics and hosted their Fall games. The event took place November 11. Teams from across L.A. County competed in softball, soccer, and volleyball. The event attracted hundreds of athletes, and over 1,000 spectators throughout the day.

Youth Programs

The Tot Time and Tiny Two programs were filled and hosted a couple notable events during our Fall session. Classes participated in the Great Shakeout on October 19, at 10:17am; participants were instructed to "drop, cover, and hold".

Additionally, staff organized a Trunk or Treat event that was held on October 29 and 30 for all Tiny Two and Tot Time program participants. We had over 50 decorated vehicles and participating families across both days. Families gave maximum effort and displayed their Halloween spirit for the children to enjoy. All participating vehicles were recognized and received a Halloween themed certificate, and our three winners were crowned in the following categories: Spookiest, Funniest, and Most Creative. The event included music, photo areas, a costume parade, and trunk-or-treating, with candy provided by the organizers and donations. Additionally, Shakey's in Huntington Park donated personal pizza vouchers for all children in attendance.

Lil Chefs class this session was once again fully enrolled in for both timeframes. This session participants completed five weeks of varying entrée and dessert dishes. Some noteworthy recipes that were completed were pizza skulls in October and in Cornish Hen's in November.

Special Events:

Fall session is typically a time of increased activity when it comes to special events, this year was no different. New this year for us was the collaboration with Hollydale Elementary School's Trunk or Treat event. The Trunk or Treat event was successful; staff was able to actively engage and interact with the residents of the local neighborhoods. The city provided Halloween bags, candy, snap-on bracelets, and participated in decorating a city vehicle trunk for photo opportunities.

On October 31, at South Gate Park our team hosted our annual Halloween Haunt event. This year had a complete re-vamp and setup that featured our Show Mobile as the main stage. At the main stage we hosted our costume contest, stage games and ended the evening with a

dance contest full of great energy. The event also included Halloween decorations throughout, DIY slime kits, DIY cookie decorating kits, photobooths, game booths, jumpers, trackless trains, and food trucks. The event was heavily promoted through marquees, billboards, our brochure and social media outlets which ensured a great turnout.

Family Night in November featured our sold-out Reptile Show. This event was on November 15 and had 50 attendees. Paramount Pet Entertainment hosted a 2-hour interactive reptile show that allowed participants to end the evening holding a 15-foot python. The event also included arts and crafts, and a family dinner.

Our Veteran's Day event was held on November 9, and we had approximately 50 attendees. This years' guest speaker was FC1 (SW) Felicia Dawn Luna who is also a South Gate resident. Felicia was presented with a proclamation and recognized for her service. Kiwani's Kids were also a part of the program as they prepared and read their Thank You Veteran letters. Light refreshments and beverages were available for all in attendance. After the completion of Veteran's Day, staff headed over to table a booth at
Family Day in the Park. Our information booth promoted upcoming events and a plethora of giveaways.

Our dance recitals were held in November, and served as the culmination of our 9-week Fall session. We had over 900 attendees over the 3-day period.

Santa's Breakfast, held on December 9 had 400 registered attendees. The event included a hot chocolate station, holiday crafts, raffle prizes, and photos with Santa. Volunteers from the Key Club and Miss South Gate assisted in making the event a success.

Seniors:

This fall season at the Senior Center flew by, filled with new and engaging activities designed to enrich the lives of our seniors. We introduced two new offerings: an ESL class tailored specifically for seniors and a program through HSA that provided healthy food and easy recipe options for seniors to try at home. Of course, our beloved bingo continued to draw large crowds on Wednesday afternoons, while lively dance and karaoke sessions on Thursday mornings kept spirits high and participants active.
Additionally, our yoga class gained popularity, with seniors enjoying the instructor and the relaxing atmosphere. The HSA lunch program remained a cornerstone of our offerings, providing healthy meals every day. We also hosted an informal table to keep seniors informed about any upcoming changes in Medicare and Medical.

This fall, we held a variety of exciting events. The Halloween social was a hit with seniors, featuring raffle prizes, goody bags, and a DJ. In November, Alta Med hosted an event filled with games and prizes for the seniors, and in December, a local choir performed for them during lunch. Before our Christmas break, we had our annual Christmas social, which included the 25 Days of Christmas raffle and treat bags for all.
In addition to these events, we scheduled nine trips for our seniors, offering memorable outings and shared experiences. These trips included visits to Fantasy Casino, Getty Villa, Tanaka Farm, Día de los Muertos celebrations in Hollywood and San Diego, Morongo Casino, Winter Fest, Vejas Casino, and a holiday cruise. Each excursion was filled with 50 eager patrons excited for the adventure.

Cultural Arts:

Our cultural arts kicked off fall with hosting their 4th Annual South Gate Art Walk which had five

workshops led by partner organizations, two live DJs, four live performances, two live visual artists, 45 vendors/artisans two art exhibits and the museum permanent collection on display along with SG Sounds and a new section of the museum that displayed historic kitchenette and tools and an Amelia Earhart display.

The team had the opportunity to attend the State of the Arts Summit hosted by the Arts for LA organization. They were able to learn from panels on the Legacy of LA with the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic games, creative work force and future of AI. They were able to spark connections with Arts for Healing and Justice Network, Public Arts Division with the Department of Cultural Affairs, Ryman Arts, About Productions, Arts Council of Long beach and San Diego Art Matters. We strive to build connections and foster relationships that can develop into collaborations.

The community altar had 37 photo submissions of community loved ones who have passed. Our team edited and framed photos and made clay pan de muertos to place onto altar. The community altar was built in the city hall lobby that was on view for a week.

Worked with the community organization, Chicxs Rockerxs SELA to curate and exhibit 10 years' worth of camp rock magic. The opening reception of the museum exhibit was on Saturday, November 16. There was a full exhibit in the lobby and museum, activation areas, photo opportunities, artists/vendors and stencil/band logo workshop. The Los Angeles Times wrote an article about CRSELA's work and exhibition. Our cultural arts staff created a playlist in celebration of the CRSELA exhibition. NBC 4 Los Angeles highlighted exhibition in a segment. Our staff also guided some of the CRSELA leaders in archiving steps for breakdown of the lobby displays.

For our upcoming group art exhibition Playgrounds (¿Jugamos?) our team has been working on open call graphics, text and dates. This group exhibition will focus on Art as Play. Our goal is to remind artists why they fell in love with art in the first place. We announced our open call via social media and have distributed mini posters to parks facilities and some local businesses.

The Museum was invited by Southeast High School to attend and workshop their Fall Friendship Festival where we lead folks through a guitar pick keychain activity in promotion of the CRSELA takeover. The Autry Museum of the American West reached out to our coordinator in the interest of loaning items that are in theme of freeway culture. They are mainly seeking our Firestone Plant or General Motors 3D pieces.

On the social media side our team celebrated Latinx Heritage month by highlighting Latinx identifying artists Breda Ceja, Marbella Hernández Trujillo, and Andy James Garcia. We also curated a playlist of Chicha music which is a type of cumbia from Peru rooted in traditional Andean huayno music. We honored Indigenous Heritage Month by highlighting Indigenous artists Mer Young and Andrea Morales and historical figures Joy Harjo and Murray Sinclair. We've also have shared the save the date for our Vision Board 101 workshop that will be held in January and an open call for teaching artists to become independent contractors with us. The teaching artists post had 6,200 views and 67% of those were non followers.

Social Media:

Our total followers are now up to 6,369. In the last quarter we had 9 posts and 113 stories. We have reached over 238,000 Content Views with over 4,277 interactions. Our Recreation Marketing Coordinator position is currently vacant.

Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting
February 13, 2025

STAFF REPORT ITEM No. 3

To: **Honorable Parks & Recreation Commission**
From: **Glenn Massey, Parks Superintendent**
Date: **January 15, 2025**

Subject: **Grounds & Facility Maintenance Report - 2nd Quarter Review Fiscal Year 2024/25**

Recommended Motion: Motion to receive and file.

Report Summary:

Grounds Maintenance

The horseshoe pits were renovated, and 6 sprinklers were relocated.

Staff has renovated baseball diamonds number 5 and 8 this quarter.

Irrigation repair and maintenance are ongoing, including the raising of irrigation valve boxes to prevent trip and fall hazards.

The smaller trees have been raised at the westside parks to accommodate the mowing around them. Staff have mulched inside the planter beds at State Street Park to prepare for the Christmas parade.

Grounds staff replaced 10 drinking fountains at South Gate Park.

We repaired a four inch water main break, and two broken lateral irrigation lines at Hollydale Regional Park.

We reseeded various bare spots and are encouraging strong turf growth throughout City parks.

We assisted the fence contractor moving irrigation mainlines and lateral pipes ahead of the installation of fence concrete mow strips.

Two new sand bunkers were installed at the Golf Course. Tee number one was relocated, and a new concrete slab was poured. The golf greens were aerified,

reseeded, and top dressed in a sand and mulch mix.

One large French drain was installed near the picnic shelters on the north side of South Gate Park.

Staff have caught over 115 Gophers throughout all City Parks this quarter.

Staff continue servicing and beautifying over 190 acres of park land on a daily basis.

Park Facility Maintenance

Parks Facility Maintenance staff set up and hosted a variety of events this new quarter, Rotary Thanksgiving Dinner, Winter Wonderland City Hall/Civic Center, Pageantry of the Trees, ongoing Red Cross Blood Drives, Breakfast with Santa, Christmas Parade, Food Distribution by City employees, just to mention a few.

Due to the high use of SG Park, Staff continues to do a third daily inspection and cleaning in the late afternoon to our outdoor restrooms. We have continued the use of Electrostatic Disinfecting Equipment for more coverage in our cleaning and disinfecting efforts for both indoor and outdoor restroom facilities, along with a pressure washing program. These disinfecting and cleaning tools will be used consistently. Set-ups for all events require us to disinfect all tables, chairs, door handles, and A/V equipment.

We are in full operation with classes, as well as private rentals, picnics, sports activities, and service clubs' events. We continue to host monthly food giveaways for the community at Hollydale Regional Park; since Circle Park is being renovated the food giveaway there is on hold.

The Community Service Worker program is ongoing; we are still limiting the intake to 15 people maximum per day. We continue addressing the ongoing challenges with restroom cleanliness with a routine restroom disinfecting program. This includes the use of the C3 Machine to apply disinfectants and cleaners. Once the product is sprayed, staff scrubs floors, walls, and fixtures to ensure sanitary conditions.