

## MINUTES - DRAFT

### City of Orange

#### Park Planning and Community Events Commission

May 20, 2025

---

The Parks Planning & Community Events Commission of the City of Orange, California convened on May 20, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, 300 E. Chapman Avenue, Orange, California.

#### 1. OPENING/CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Freeman called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

##### 1.1 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Commissioner Perez.

##### 1.2 ROLL CALL

**Present** Freeman, Litwin, Perez, Ahlswede, de Vries, and Kushon

**Absent** Fields

#### 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

#### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

##### 3.1. Approval of minutes of the City of Orange Park Planning & Community Events Commission Regular Meeting held on October 15, 2024.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ahlswede, seconded by Commissioner Perez, to approve the minutes as presented.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Freeman, Litwin, Perez, Ahlswede, de Vries, and Kushon

**Noes:** None

**Absent:** Fields

#### 4. COMMISSION BUSINESS

##### 4.1. Commemoration of the United States Semiquincentennial in Collaboration with USA250-OC.

Public Speakers:

JoEllen Chatham gave a review of the USA250-OC's mission and how the City can partner to commemorate the Semiquincentennial.

Reggie Mundekis spoke about using the Semiquincentennial as a public

relations/marketing opportunity for the City.

Ric Olsen spoke as a representative of the Sons of the American Revolution. He provided a brief American history lesson and offered partnership with the City, including the donation of a Liberty Tree, scholarships, and offer of colorguard.

Commissioners discussed ways to commemorate the Semiquincentennial. Vice Chair Freeman suggested that a subcommittee be formed in order to help facilitate ways to work with others groups within the City to commemorate the 250th anniversary.

A motion was made by Commissioner Perez, seconded by Commissioner Kushon, to select Commissioners Litwin, Freeman, and Kushon to serve on a Semiquincentennial Subcommittee.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Freeman, Litwin, Perez, Ahlswede, de Vries, and Kushon

**Noes:** None

**Absent:** Fields

#### **4.2. Selection of Park Planning and Community Events Commission Officers.**

A motion was made by Commissioner Perez, seconded by Commissioner Ahlswede, to appoint Commissioner Kushon as Chair for the remainder of the one-year term.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Freeman, Litwin, Perez, Ahlswede, de Vries, and Kushon

**Noes:** None

**Absent:** Fields

A motion was made by Commissioner Kushon, seconded by Commissioner Litwin, to re-appoint Vice Chair Freeman for the remainder of the one-year term.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Freeman, Litwin, Perez, Ahlswede, de Vries, and Kushon

**Noes:** None

**Absent:** Fields

#### **5. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Assistant Community Services Director, Emily Bustamante provided a comprehensive departmental status update on personnel and operations.

Parks and Facility Services Manager, Robert Ambriz Jr. provided updates on current CIP projects.

## 6. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

The next Regular Park Planning & Community Events Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 15, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

---

Emily Bustamante  
Assistant Community Services Director