

**MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE LA MIRADA SENIOR COUNCIL
OCTOBER 25, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the La Mirada Senior Council was called to order at 10 a.m. at the La Mirada Activity Center, Community Room 1, 13810 La Mirada Boulevard, La Mirada, California 90638.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairperson Martha Viayra.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson Martha Viayra
Vice Chairperson Mary Hall
Member Diane Albert
Member Mariann Hampton
Member Peggy Roman
Member Eugena Thomas
Member Larry Torres

Absent: Member Tom Rosholt

Staff: Lisa Montoya, Community Services Supervisor
Micaela Diores, Community Services Secretary

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Marlene Olsen reported on activities held at the La Mirada Vistas. She provided information regarding the La Mirada Historical Preservation Advisory Council's archive project and tours of the Neff Estate.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2023

Vice Chairperson Hall moved and Chairperson Viayra seconded to approve the minutes of the September 27, 2023 Senior Council meeting.

MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Chairperson Viayra, Vice Chairperson Hall, Members Hampton, Roman, Torres

NOES: None

ABSENT: Member Rosholt

ABSTAIN: Members Albert, Thomas

DISCUSSION ITEM

2. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE SPECIAL PROJECT TO OFFER FREE FINANCIAL CLASSES

Community Services Supervisor Lisa Montoya introduced La Mirada Community Foundation President Russell Hall.

La Mirada Community Foundation President Hall provided a brief overview of the La Mirada Community Foundation and its proposed special project to provide free educational financial literacy courses for seniors. He said the proposed four-week course will provide a basic overview of finances and information regarding retirement and estate planning. Mr. Hall indicated that the course will be provided by certified financial planners and sponsored by the La Mirada Community Foundation.

Member Torres provided positive feedback regarding the proposed financial classes and said many seniors will benefit from the valuable information.

Member Thomas said these classes will help raise awareness among seniors on how to avoid scams and financial fraud.

Vice Chairperson Hall said these classes will benefit residents of all ages.

Members thanked Mr. Hall for providing the information and for the La Mirada Community Foundation's attention to the community's senior population.

Mr. Hall thanked the Senior Council and encouraged Members to provide input regarding the promotion of the financial classes in Spring 2024.

Member Torres inquired about available funds through the La Mirada Community Foundation to support senior programming and events.

Community Services Supervisor Montoya responded and said additional information regarding the La Mirada Community Foundation and the process of using its funds will be discussed at a future meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2. SENIOR COMMUNITY SERVICES UPDATE

Chairperson Viyra reported on activities at Breezewood Village, including a Halloween event on October 31 and a Thanksgiving Dinner on November 21.

Vice Chairperson Hall reported on activities at Lake Park La Mirada, including a Halloween event on October 28.

Member Roman reported on activities at La Mirada Landmark, including its annual Fall Festival.

Member Thomas reported on fall activities at Somerset Glen. She said the Somerset Glen participated in the Great California ShakeOut earthquake drill on October 19.

Member Torres provided positive feedback regarding the inclusion of the cornhole game to the City's Fall Festival on October 12. He said Knotts Berry Farm is offering discounted tickets for veterans beginning November 1 through 16 and December 7 through 14.

Member Hampton said that she is resigning from the Senior Council. Mrs. Hampton said that she and her husband are moving to an assisted living facility in the City of Brea. She said she will continue to frequent the Activity Center.

Community Services Supervisor Montoya and Members responded and thanked Member Hampton for her many years of volunteer service.

NEW BUSINESS

3. 2023 SALUTE TO VETERANS EVENT AND VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

Community Services Supervisor Lisa Montoya reported on the Veterans Day Ceremony, hosted by the La Mirada VFW Post 9148 on November 11 in the Civic Center Plaza, and the Salute to Veterans event on November 13 at the La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts.

Member Torres said he is looking forward to the musical performance by the Mark Wood Band at the Salute to Veterans event.

Member Viayra provided positive feedback regarding past Salute to Veterans events. She commended the City for its celebration of veterans in the community.

4. 2023 HOLIDAY TOY AND FOOD DRIVE

Community Services Supervisor Montoya reported on the annual Holiday Toy and Food Drive beginning November 1 through December 11. She said donation bins will be placed at designated City facilities, the La Mirada Public Library, and Biola University. Mrs. Montoya said donations will also be accepted during the Chili Holiday Celebration on December 2.

5. OLDER AMERICANS RECOGNITION DAY AWARD

Community Services Supervisor Montoya provided a brief overview of Older Americans Month and the Older Americans Recognition Day (OARD) Awards Program hosted by the Los Angeles County Commission on Aging. She said one senior volunteer from La Mirada will be selected and honored at the OARD awards ceremony in May 2024.

Members discussed the proposed timeline and nomination form, and the selection process for the 2024 OARD award.

Community Services Supervisor Montoya recommended that Members provide input regarding the nomination form and selection process at the next meeting.

Member Torres recommended that all nominees and nominators be invited to a Senior Council meeting to be recognized prior to the selection of the honoree.

Community Services Supervisor Montoya responded and said most nominees are unaware of being nominated. She recommended that instead, the selected honoree be invited to a Senior Council meeting in May 2024 for recognition.

Community Services Secretary Micaela Diores recommended that all nominees and nominators be invited to attend the Older Americans Month dance to be held at the Activity Center in May 2024.

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION REPORT

There was no Community Services Commission report.

MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Member Thomas said the Fall Festival was well executed. She provided positive feedback regarding the fall craft provided by Volunteers in Action participant Leslie Belcher.

Member Roman said she visited The Palms and that a facility manager expressed interest in joining the Senior Council.

Community Services Supervisor Montoya responded and said representatives must reside in the senior community they are representing. She said staff will contact the manager at The Palms to provide additional information.

Chairperson Viayra reported that she and Vice Chairperson Hall visited Vista Alicante to provide information regarding the Senior Council and City events. Chairperson Viayra said the manager was welcoming and that flyers must first be approved by their main office prior to posting.

Vice Chairperson Hall said several social activities are being offered at Vista Alicante.

STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Services Supervisor Montoya said the Fall Festival was attended by 108 participants. She provided an update on La Mirada Transit, stating six new vehicles will soon be in service. Mrs. Montoya requested feedback regarding a proposed shopping day for seniors during the holiday season. She said shoppers can use La Mirada Transit to visit local stores, Westridge Mall, and the Trader Joe's location in La Habra.

Chairperson Viayra said a designated shopping day would benefit many seniors with limited access to transportation.

Members of the Senior Council supported the proposed shopping day for seniors.

Community Services Supervisor Montoya said the next regular meeting of the Senior Council is scheduled for November 22.

Members expressed support for the cancellation of the regular meeting on November 22 and scheduling a special meeting on November 15.


Community Services Supervisor Montoya reported on the regular meeting of the Senior Council scheduled for December 28.

Members expressed support for the cancellation of the regular meeting on December 28.

ADJOURNMENT

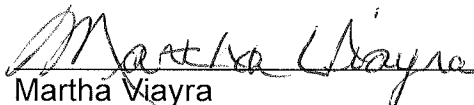
The meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

Submitted:



Micaela Diores
Community Services Secretary

Attest:



Martha Viayra
Chairperson