

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
NORWALK SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION
June 6, 2019**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Martin Greenidge at 6:31 p.m. at the Social Services Center, 11929 Alondra Boulevard. Responding to roll call were Commission members Norma Amezcua, Jalna Boltz, Mary Stodola, Luella Steele, Esther Ibarra, Antonieta Paez and Dora Sandoval. Commissioners Richard LeGaspi and Alondra Santos were absent. Guest present was Albert Steele. Staff present Social Services Manager Gabriela Regalado, Housing Manager Kristin Maithonis, and Office Assistant II Yvette Kizziar.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Sandoval moved and Commissioner Boltz seconded to approve the May 2, 2019 minutes of the regular Social Services Commission meeting. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Senior Nutrition Program

Manager Regalado updated commissioners with program details. On June 18, City Council approved staff to move forward with contract negotiations with the County of Los Angeles Workforce Development Aging, and Community Services (WDACS). An official ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for July 24 at the Senior Center. Local dignitaries and elected officials will receive an invitation to the event.

School Backpack Distribution

Manager Regalado reported that plans to distribute school supply filled backpacks to local elementary school Norwalk residents has been revised. Deputy City Manager Gano has revised plans to distribute School Uniforms instead, since Norwalk La Mirada School District will issue backpacks at a scheduled community event. Commissioners Sandoval and Ibarra inquired about event qualifications.

NEW BUSINESS

School Site Caseworker Outreach

Manager Regalado reported on the success of the School outreach by department caseworkers. New goals have been established for next school year with caseworkers visiting 3 to 4 schools throughout the school year. Department staff will frequently attend community events outreaching to the community. Commissioner Sandoval stated that she would provide dates of local Vacation Bible School to provide another opportunity for outreach.

STAFF COMMENTS

Housing Manager Maithonis reported that commissioners' assistance is requested for a community wide survey suggested by a consulting firm to consolidate the city's 5 year vision plan. Community outreach will involve commissioners attending local community events and urging residents to complete surveys that will be compiled by the selected

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consulting firm. Survey results will be utilized to prioritize city goals for the next 5 years, data collected will help to develop and enhance current programming. It was also suggested that a special meeting be held in August to obtain final details from the consulting firm on how to surveys are to be conducted. Commissioners Ibarra, Sandoval and Greenidge shared suggestions on how to outreach to residents. Manager Regalado reported that staff is still awaiting results from the county regarding the 2019 Homeless Count. Manager Regalado presented Angel Tree allocation information to commissioners', allocations were decided upon unanimously.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioners Ibarra, Paez, Boltz and Stadola reported on upcoming family events, Commissioner Steele inquired about a commission contact list, Commissioner Amezcua announced that she will be serving as the President of the Norwalk Lions Club, Commissioner Sandoval expressed her gratitude to caseworkers for including Paddison Elementary in community outreach efforts. Commissioner Greenidge reported on his upcoming vacation.

ORAL COMMUNICATION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Martin Greenidge, Chair
Norwalk Social Services Commission