

**RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION OF MONTEREY PARK
AGENDA**

**SPECIAL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL
320 W. NEWMARK AVE. MONTEREY PARK, CA 91754
6:00 PM
Wednesday, November 13, 2019**

MISSION STATEMENT

**The mission of the City of Monterey Park is to provide excellent services
to enhance the quality of life for our entire community.**

Documents related to an Agenda item are available to the public in the **Recreation and Community Services Department** located at 320 W. Newmark Ave, Monterey Park, CA 91754, during normal business hours and the City's website at www.montereypark.ca.gov.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

You may speak up to 5 minutes on Agenda item. You may combine up to 2 minutes of time with another person's speaking. No person may speak more than a total of 7 minutes. The Commission Chair and Commissioners may change the amount of time allowed for speakers.

Per the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting please call City Hall at (626) 307-1359 for reasonable accommodation at least 24 hours before a meeting. Council Chambers are wheelchair accessible.

CALL TO ORDER

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL – PAUL LEE, PHILIP CHANG, DAVID KWOK, AND GARY LAU

AGENDA ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, CHANGES AND ADOPTIONS

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS (Related to Items NOT on the Agenda). While all comments are welcome, the Brown Act does not allow the Commission to take action on any item not on the agenda. The Commission may briefly respond to comments after Public Communications is closed. Persons may, in addition to any other matter within the Commission's subject-matter jurisdiction, comment on Agenda Items at this time. If you provide public comment on a specific Agenda item at this time, however, you cannot later provide comments at the time the Agenda Item is considered.

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

[1.] PRESENTATIONS

[2.] OLD BUSINESS

2-A. Pickleball Report

It is recommended that the Recreation and Parks Commission

- (1) Consider proposal from Commissioner Lau; and
- (2) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

2-B. Exercise Equipment for Parks – Discussion

[3.] NEW BUSINESS

3-A. Recreation and Parks Commission Minutes

It is recommended that the Recreation and Parks Commission

- (1) Approve the minutes for the special meetings of September 9 and October 15, 2019;
and
- (2) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

3-B. Alhambra Unified School District – Representative Report

3-C. Staff's Status Report

**[4.] COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMISSIONER AND AGENCY MATTER –
PARK CONDITIONS / STATUS**

ADJOURN



RECREATION AND PARKS Commission Staff Report

DATE: November 13, 2019

AGENDA ITEM NO: 2-A

TO: Recreation and Parks Commission
FROM: Inez Alvarez, Director of Recreation and Community Services
SUBJECT: Pickleball Courts

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Recreation and Parks Commission

- (1) Consider proposal from Commissioner Lau; and
- (2) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Commission discussed proposal and considered public comments at the special meeting held on Tuesday, October 15, 2019 and made a recommendation to revise the proposed time and allow sole pickleball play at Barnes Park tennis courts due to the concern of shared time for both pickleball and tennis players. Please see attached revised proposal from Commissioner Lau for additional information.

BACKGROUND:

The Recreation and Community Services Department has introduced the sport of Pickleball to the community at Sierra Vista Park. There was an underutilized badminton court at the park site, which staff used as a Pickleball court. The overall goal was to introduce a new sport to the community and promote a fun, new physical fitness opportunity for all to enjoy. There was a community input meeting held on Saturday, September 21 at 9:00am in the Community Room at City Hall. There were approximately 30 people in attendance at the meeting.

The Recreation and Community Services Department strives to provide no cost exercise and wellness activities at park sites for all to access during open park hours. There are six park sites that have tennis courts for a total of fifteen tennis courts. Park sites with tennis courts are listed below for reference.

Park Site	Number of Tennis Courts
Barnes Park	3
George Elder Park	4 (plus a warm up court)
Garvey Ranch Park	2
Highlands Park	2
Sequoia Park	2
Sunnyslopes Park	2

FISCAL IMPACT:

If pickleball courts are added to existing tennis courts, City staff will work to obtain cost estimates for adding pickleball courts.

Respectfully submitted by:



Inez Alvarez
Director of Recreation & Community Services

Attachment:

1. Revised Memorandum from Commissioner Lau

Memorandum

To: Monterey Park Recreation and Parks Commissioners and Staff
From: Gary Lau
Date: October 27, 2019
Re: Going Mainstream With Pickleball In Monterey Park

Pickleball was introduced in to the city about two years ago at Sierra Vista Park. Player participation was slow for the first year and half but has since more than doubled and growing due to word of mouth and pickleball clinics held by the city. The initial slow rate of growth can be attributed to:

- park's relatively hidden location in a residential neighborhood
- court was used for purposes other than pickleball (until recently when rules were posted)
- official pickleball play time was limited to staffing hours (M – F, 8am – 12pm)
- exposure to minimal vehicular traffic, almost no pedestrian traffic or park visitors during staffing hours
- court is in poor condition

The city hosted two pickleball clinics during the month of September. One was held on a Saturday morning and the second was on a Tuesday evening. Both clinics were well attended with over 30 participants at each of the sessions by my count. A number of participants (tennis players as well) have started to play pickleball on a regular basis now at Sierra Vista Park or Barnes Park gym (gym pickleball will terminate at end of Oct 2019). Subsequently, a community input meeting was held the following Saturday. There were close to 30 attendees consisting of tennis players and pickleball players with a slight edge going to the pickleball group. Opposition to having pickleball at Barnes Park tennis courts was voiced by the tennis group. However, it must be said that most of the members of the tennis group are not Monterey Park residents; whereas, the pickleball group consisted mostly of Monterey Park residents.

Background

Pickleball was originated back in the 1960's and has become the fastest growing sport in the U.S., with more than 2.8 million players and a 12% increase in the past year according to the Sports & Fitness Industry Association¹. Pickleball is a mashup of tennis, badminton, ping pong, and racketball. People of all ages can play the sport contributing to its popularity. The badminton size court can lend itself to intense games for young adults and teens by requiring quick hand eye coordination. On the other hand, seniors or people with degraded mobility can cover the court more easily due to the court's small footprint.

Proposal

Offer Pickleball to the community at large at Barnes Park tennis courts. In order for this offering to have the greatest chance of success in the shortest amount of time, Barnes Park would be the ideal location for the following reasons:

- 1) exposure to numerous park visitors to the most popular park in Monterey Park
- 2) exposure to pedestrian and vehicular traffic on Mc Pharrin Ave
- 3) exposure to active members of other sports
- 4) vicinity to heavily frequented recreational facilities (tennis courts, aquatic center, basketball gym, baseball field, walking track,...)

- 5) vicinity to major governmental resources (city hall, police department, fire station, other governmental offices) that is visited by residents as well as non-residents for governmental services
- 6) regular onsite staffing hours that can support pickleball play schedule
- 7) other park locations have little to no onsite staffing that may require volunteers which would be hard to come by
- 8) the court facility is in good condition which is conducive to attracting more would be players and pickleball enthusiasts
- 9) court has lights for night time play
- 10) safe and secure location for night time play

Implementation

- 1) Tennis court nearest Mc Pherrin Ave (hereby identified as court #1) would be converted to a dual use court between tennis and pickleball.
- 2) A single pickleball court would be established on each side of the tennis net.
- 3) The pickleball lines would be painted with a single color but not of the same color as the tennis lines or court colors.
- 4) The following pickleball play schedule (allowing for staffing considerations and court closures deemed necessary by the city) is as follows:
 - Tuesday evenings from 5pm to 10pm
 - Wednesday evenings from 5pm to 10pm
 - Friday mornings from 8am to 12pm
 - Saturday mornings from 8am to 12pm
- 5) Establish priority play for court use during pickleball play schedule as follows:
 - Pickleball play has priority when 2 or more players are present to play pickleball
 - If less than 2 players are present to play pickleball then ball play will default to tennis
- 6) Signs of pickleball play schedule and rules on usage of dual use court would be posted inside fencing at court #1 and other locations deemed necessary by the city.
- 7) Pickleball nets to be setup and collected by staff according to pickleball play schedule.
- 8) Dividers to be setup and collected by staff according to pickleball play schedule between court #1 and adjacent tennis court.

Summary

Pickleball provides another sports activity that combines fun, excitement, and physical fitness for all to enjoy. The city staff and Rec & Parks Commission will revisit the play schedule in the near future to determine if expansion of the pickleball schedule is desirable.

ⁱ What is Pickleball & Why Is The Sport Getting So Popular?

<https://www.pickleballportal.com/blog/pickleball-what-is-why-popular/>



RECREATION AND PARKS Commission Staff Report

DATE: November 13, 2019

AGENDA ITEM NO: 3-A

TO: Recreation and Parks Commission
FROM: Inez Alvarez, Director of Recreation and Community Services
SUBJECT: RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Recreation and Parks Commission:

- (1) Approve the minutes for the special meetings of September 9 and October 15, 2019; and
- (2) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

None.

BACKGROUND:

None.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

Respectfully submitted by:



Inez Alvarez
Director of Recreation & Community Services

Attachment:

1. Recreation and Parks Commission Minutes

MINUTES
MONTEREY PARK RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION
Special Meeting
Monday, September 9, 2019

The Recreation and Parks Commission of the City of Monterey Park held a Meeting of the Commission in the City Council Chambers, located at 320 West Newmark Avenue in the City of Monterey Park on Monday, September 9 at 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Lee called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE:

ROLL CALL: Paul Lee, Gary Lau, Philip Chang, and David Kwok

ABSENT:

AGENDA ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, CHANGES AND ADOPTIONS

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Oral Communications –

1. **PRESENTATIONS** - None

2. **OLD BUSINESS** - All items for Discussion only

2-A. Dog Park

Director Alvarez informed the Commission that Mayor Liang had proposed a mobile dog park. Commissioner Lee inquired about which City Department would be in charge of the planning and park logistics. Director Alvarez explained that the Recreation, Public Works, and Police Departments are working together to determine an appropriate location and logistics for the mobile dog park.

2-B. Pickleball

Director Alvarez reminded the Commission that there will be free pickleball workshops held on Saturday, September 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and on Tuesday, September 17 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Director Alvarez also informed the Commission that on Saturday, September 21 a community input meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. at City Hall to discuss the potential of adding pickleball courts to a tennis court site.

2-C. Exercise Equipment at Parks

Commissioner Lau explained that residents had approached him to request exercise equipment to be added at park sites. Director Alvarez informed the Commission that funding is available in this fiscal year's budget to put a fitness

court at Barnes Park. Staff anticipates installing the fitness court by the end of the year and Director Alvarez will provide photos of the fitness court to the Commission.

3. New Business – All Items for Discussion Only

3-A. RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION MINUTES

Approve the Recreation and Parks Commission minutes from the regular meeting of July 1, 2019.

Action Taken: The Recreation and Parks Commission approved the Recreation and Parks Commission minutes from the meeting of July 1, 2019.

Motion: Motion by Commissioner Lau and seconded by Commissioner Chang.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes:	Commissioner: Kwok, Lee, Philip, and Lau
Noes:	Commissioner: None
Absent:	Commissioner: None
Abstain:	Commissioner: None

3-B. Alhambra Unified School District

Representative Gin provided an update and explained that a newsletter is being introduced in the Alhambra Unified School District to share updates and school news. Representative Gin informed the Commission that AUSD partnered with the City's Recreation Department for potential grant funds from Prop 68 for the renovation of the Barnes Park Pool. Director Alvarez informed the Commission that the City has applied for a grant to renovate the Barnes Park pool and locker room facility and results should be available by the end of 2019.

3-C. Director Status Report

Director Alvarez provided the date for Patriot Day which will be held in front of City Hall on September 11 at 8:30 a.m. with guest speakers sharing stories from first responders who perished on September 11, 2001.

The Geranium Festival will be held at Barnes Park on Saturday, October 12 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The event will feature local artists as well as organizations promoting STEAM interactive activities. The Monster Mash and Movie Bash event is on Friday, October 18 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and will feature a costume parade, carnival games, and the movie *Coco*.

Director Alvarez informed the Commission that the City has begun a Census 2020 outreach campaign to educate the community about the importance of completing the questionnaire to obtain an accurate count of Monterey Park residents.

**4. Commission Communications and Commissioner and
Agency matter – Park conditions / status**

Commissioner Lau requested that a bench be anchored to the ground at Beth Ryan Park.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for consideration, the meeting was adjourned at 6:51p.m.

Inez Alvarez, Staff Liaison

Approved on _____ at the Recreation and Parks Commission Regular Meeting

MINUTES
MONTEREY PARK RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION
Special Meeting
Tuesday, October 15, 2019

The Recreation and Parks Commission of the City of Monterey Park held a Meeting of the Commission in the City Council Chambers, located at 320 West Newmark Avenue in the City of Monterey Park on Tuesday, October 15 at 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Lee called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE:

ROLL CALL: Paul Lee, Gary Lau, Philip Chang, and David Kwok

ABSENT:

AGENDA ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, CHANGES AND ADOPTIONS

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Oral Communications – None

1. **PRESENTATIONS** - None
2. **OLD BUSINESS** - All items for Discussion only

2-A. Pickleball

Director Alvarez provided a brief overview about pickleball and discussed the potential of adding pickleball courts to an existing tennis court location at a park site for consideration of shared use courts. Comments from the community input meeting held on Saturday, September 21 were shared with the Commission.

There were 18 public comments voiced for this item. The majority of comments favored the addition of pickleball courts at the tennis courts located at Barnes Park. Various reasons that patrons provided for favoring this location included that Barnes Park is centrally located; patrons feel safe because the Police Department is nearby; many patrons frequent this park making it an ideal location to expose new participants to pickleball; Recreation staff are onsite and can assist with setting up and removing portable nets; and this park has more parking spaces available than other park sites.

There were several comments that were not in favor of shared use courts at Barnes Park. The reasons provided by patrons included that the addition of pickleball courts would permanently place lines onto the tennis courts which would be confusing for tennis players and there is a large group of tennis players that have been playing at this site for many years and have reoccurring playing times on

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. In addition, a petition was received by the Barnes Park tennis players that opposed the shared use court option discussed at the Community Input meeting.

Commissioner Lau presented his proposal to add pickleball courts to one tennis court at Barnes Park during designated times. Commissioner Lee expressed concern about ball control for new participants and concurrent shared use time for pickleball and tennis may be problematic if balls are disrupting play on other courts. Commissioner Chang expressed concern about safety and monitoring of the courts during posted designated times. There was uncertainty if pickleball and tennis players would respect and obey the posted times or if staff would need to monitor play. Commissioners discussed the matter and requested to look into dedicated times to allow sole use of tennis court area for pickleball/tennis play and if any time could be allotted for continued open picklball play at Barnes Park Gym.

2-C. Exercise Equipment at Parks

Item was carried to the next meeting.

3. New Business – All Items for Discussion Only

3-A. RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION MINUTES

Item was carried to the next meeting.

3-B. Alhambra Unified School District

No update. Representative Gin absent.

3-C. Director Status Report

No update.

4. Commission Communications and Commissioner and Agency matter – Park conditions / status

No discussion or communications.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for consideration, the meeting was adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Inez Alvarez, Staff Liaison

Approved on _____ at the Recreation and Parks Commission Regular Meeting