

**TRI-AGENCY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
December 16, 2020
MINUTES**



Marshawn Etchepare (Hesperia Recreation and Park District) called the Telephonic/Electronic Tri-Agency Committee Meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. at the Hesperia Recreation and Park District, 16292 Lime Street, Hesperia, CA 92345.

CALL TO ORDER

Members Nils Bentsen, City Manager, City of Hesperia
Present: Cameron Gregg, Council Member, City of Hesperia
Brigit Bennington, Council Member, City of Hesperia
Kelly Gregg, Director, Hesperia Recreation and Park District
Roman Aguilar, Director, Hesperia Recreation and Park District
David Olney, Superintendent, Hesperia Unified School District
Maria Gomez, Board Member, Hesperia Unified School District
Eric Swanson, Board Member, Hesperia Unified School District

Members Nicolas Chavez, General Manager, Hesperia Recreation and Park District
Absent:

Also Lori Mente, Executive Assistant, Hesperia Unified School District
Present: Marshawn Etchepare, Administrative Operations Manager, Hesperia Recreation and Park District
Miranda Wyzlic, Business Manager, Hesperia Recreation and Park District

PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

1. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Tri-Agency Committee Meeting

It was moved by David Olney to approve the minutes of November 18, 2020, seconded by Nils Bentsen and carried unanimously, with an abstention from Eric Swanson.

2. Updates from Member Agencies

Hesperia Recreation and Park District Update (HRPD)

- Certified election results from the November 2020 General Election were announced at the Regular Board Meeting. Directors Roman Aguilar and Kelly Gregg were re-elected, and Director James Roberts was newly elected. Director Aguilar was appointed at the Annual Election of Officers as Board President; Director Irish appointed as Vice President. Directors Aguilar and Gregg were appointed to the Tri-Agency committee.
- The District is encouraging everyone to stay healthy and active through physically distanced outdoor recreation. All District parks remain open to the public, including playgrounds. Recreation staff has been working to provide virtual fun at home activities, including newly posted winter activities, a message from Santa Claus, along with other community resource links on the District website.
- The HARD Foundation has started accepting applications for the \$500 Rick Novack High School Scholarship Award 2021 from seniors graduating from the following schools: Hesperia Christian School, Shadow Ridge School, Canyon Ridge High School, Hesperia High School, Mojave High School, Oak Hills High School, and Sultana High School. Applications are available at www.hesperiaparks.com with a submission deadline set for February 17, 2021.
- Hesperia Lake Park remains open for day use. Fishing has resumed after a two week closure as of December 7th, however, camping remains closed. Hesperia Lake Store is open seven days a week from 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with the exception of Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, with closures at 2:00 p.m., including fishing. It will be closed Christmas day. Hesperia Lake is being stocked weekly with 1,000 pounds of trout.
- The District Office will be closed starting December 24th through January 3rd, and will reopen on January 4th.

**Tri-Agency Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 16, 2020
Page 2**

- Wished Happy Holidays to all.

City of Hesperia Update (CITY)

- COVID-19 Update: Positivity rates have increased throughout the county after the Thanksgiving holiday; the county is expecting an additional surge after the Christmas holiday. A record 3,500 new cases on December 7th countywide, but starting to see cases come down. The city of Hesperia has had 6,500 confirmed cases and 44 deaths since the start of the COVID-19 crisis. The county received its first batch of vaccines on December 16th, to be dispersed first to front line health care workers all over the county. Although the county received approximately 15,000 vaccines, there are not enough for all front line health care workers, however, they expect to receive more next week. They expect additional manufacturers to come online with more vaccines over the next few weeks to month.
- City Council agreed on December 15th to waive business license fees to businesses impacted significantly by the COVID crisis. The City will eat the cost of business licenses for the next year, and depending on how long the COVID crisis continues, will reevaluate not only for 2021, but for 2022 as well.
- The Animal Shelter had a number of employees sick with COVID, and did not have enough staff to remain open to the public. Public may be seen by appointment only until full staffing is back.
- City Hall remains open to the public, which is subject to change based on staffing levels.
- Advance Disposal has had several drivers out sick with COVID, which has created delays in trash pick-up. They are requesting to have trash bins out by 6 a.m. on the pick-up day, or even the evening prior to pick up. They are still doing pick up, but it may be quite a bit later than the usual pick up time.
- Kaiser has opened in the City of Hesperia, which is a big deal and a benefit to the City.
- City Single Family Residential Permits issued this fiscal year is at 112. A change in policy from the council along with the passing of Measure N, which is going to allow for unlimited renewals of tract maps for developers, and a storm water solution passed by council for the west side of town, which will alleviate much of the flooding issues over there, there will be a number of builders pulling permits over the next few weeks and starting construction over the next few months. They expect the number of building permits to go up on the west side of town for single family homes.
- Electronic Waste Recycling Event is January 2nd and 3rd, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., behind Eagle Plaza. This service is free to all county residents. Information can be found at www.cityofhesperia.us.
- Christmas tree recycling will be from December 26th through January 22nd. Trees can be placed curbside on regular pick up dates.
- City will be closed from December 24th through January 3rd for its Christmas closure.

Hesperia Unified School District Update (HUSD)

- HUSD swore in Cody Gregg, re-elected Board Member and Maria T. Gomez, newly elected Board Member at their last board meeting. They welcomed Maria T. Gomez to the Tri- Agency Committee.
- COVID cases have increased drastically. The latest numbers for district boundaries for the week of November 29th - December 5th were 151.7 new cases per day. The latest numbers for the City of Hesperia were 165 new cases per day.
- They continue to closely monitor COVID cases. They had plans to reopen elementary schools November 30th and December 7th, but were unable to due to spike in cases. They are dealing with the impact of COVID on employees, either from testing positive or having exposure to or symptoms of COVID. They continue to serve small cohorts, and they plan to start these cohorts back up January 19th, at the earliest, after the holiday closure. They hope to reopen their elementary schools in February, depending on the rate of new COVID cases. They want to bring students back as soon as they are effectively and safely able to do that, for both the students and staff.
- The state put out new athletic guidelines. They are unable to conduct practices other than outdoor conditioning with physical distancing.
- They are hoping the vaccine distribution will help the COVID crisis.
- On December 16th the VVC Foundation honored Cindie Schmidt as the recipient of the 2021 Distinguished Service in Education Award.
- The California League of Middle Schools (CLMS) nominated one of their teachers, Jason Calvin from Cedar Middle School, for 2020-2021 Educator of the Year. He was recognized at a drive-through event in Moreno Valley on December 5th.

**Tri-Agency Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 16, 2020
Page 3**

- HUSD String students from Hesperia Junior High School, Cedar Middle School, and Hesperia High School participated with the Victor Valley College Preludium String Ensemble in a virtual performance.
- They have three Oak Hills High School students who will be participating in the Rose Parade Honor Band. The 2021 Rose Parade has been cancelled, but the Rose Parade decided to pick a select group of high school and college students to participate in the Rose Parade Honor Band All Stars. This is a non-audition group of students handpicked by the Rose Parade Committee to participate in an honor band that will have a virtual performance for millions of people on New Year's Day 2021. It's a big accomplishment for their students and school. The students who were picked all participated last year in the Rose Parade Honor Band, and they did such a great job they were called back for this performance.
- Nutrition Services continues serving meals Monday - Thursday from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon at 10 school sites as well as at 24 bus stops. You can get more information - including the bus stop locations and times at lunches.hesperiausd.org.
- This is their final week before Winter Break. School will be out until January 4th. They wished everyone a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.
- Christmas Break is from December 21st to January 1st.
- HUSD Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for January 11th.
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day holiday is January 18th.

3. Other Items of Mutual Concern

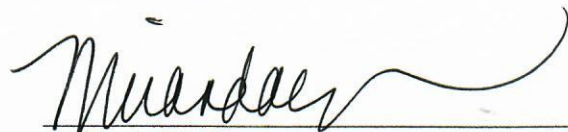
- None

4. Reports from Chamber and Legislative Representatives

Hesperia Chamber (Update from Mark Creffield Read by Marshawn Etchepare)

- The last coffee break update of the year is Friday, December 18th via Zoom with usual updates from all four local municipalities. They will have an update on the Inland Empire Chamber Alliance that the Hesperia and Victor Valley Chambers are a part of, and an update from the December 8th Greater High Desert Chamber of Commerce board of directors meeting. Their first Coffee Break Update in 2021 will be on Friday, January 15th.
- Hesperia Chamber had their 2020 Annual Chamber Awards event on Monday, December 14th via Zoom. The award winners were: Kona Ice of the Victor Valley, LLC - Business of the Year; Clinton Alford - Clinton Alford Insurance Agency, Inc. - Business Person of the Year; The Staff of the Victor Valley Chamber - President's Award; Neil Harris - Victor Valley Christian Church - Lillian King Volunteer of the Year; Martial Haprov - Mojave Desert AQMD - Hesperian of the Year.
- They continue to send free e-blast fliers every Friday. The last blast of 2020 will be December 18th, the first blast of 2021 will be January 8th.
- Chamber members out of Hesperia, Adelanto, and Victor Valley had already voted to merge to the Greater High Desert Chamber of Commerce. On December 4th, Apple Valley Chamber members also voted to merge. The effective date of the Greater High Desert Chamber of Commerce is January 1st.
- The first Greater High Desert Chamber of Commerce event of 2021 will be at their Valley Morning Insight on January 6th via Zoom, with guest speaker, former NFL player and now motivational speaker, Vince Papale.
- They wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a Happy New Year.

Marshawn Etchepare adjourned the meeting by declaration at 4:06 p.m.



Miranda Wyzlic

Hesperia Recreation and Park District