

**CLAREMONT PARKS, HILLSIDES, AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, January 31, 2024 - 6:00 PM

Alexander Hughes Community Center, 1700 Danbury Road, Claremont, California

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Silva called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** COMMITTEE MEMBERS: GLASS, SILVA

**ABSENT:** COMMITTEE MEMBER: NONE

**ALSO PRESENT:** Cari Dillman, Community Services Manager  
Dawn Ross, Senior Administrative Assistant  
Jeremy Swan, Community Services Director

**CEREMONIAL MATTERS, PRESENTATIONS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – None**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chair Silva invited public comment.

Dawn Ross, Senior Administrative Assistant, announced that no written public comment had been received.

There were no requests to speak.

Chair Silva closed public comment.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Chair Silva invited public comment.

Dawn Ross, Senior Administrative Assistant announced that no written public comment had been received on the Consent Calendar.

There were no requests to speak.

Chair Silva closed public comment.

***Committee Member Glass moved to approve the Consent Calendar, seconded by Chair Silva, and carried on a roll call vote as follows:***

**AYES:** Committee Member – Glass, Silva  
**NOES:** Committee Member – None

1. Parks, Hillside, and Utilities Committee Special Meeting Minutes of June 6, 2022  
Approved and filed the Parks, Hillside, and Utilities Committee Special Meeting minutes of June 6, 2022.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM**

2. Lewis Park Playground Improvement

Cari Dillman, Community Services Manager, gave a PowerPoint presentation.

City staff and Cindy Grabow from PlayPower Inc. responded to questions from the Committee regarding the breakdown of costs for the different elements of the project budget, funding sources, ADA-compliant vs. inclusive play structures, the different design elements of the two playground equipment options, space requirements, and the feasibility of using City staff or volunteers for demolition to try to defray costs.

Chair Silva invited public comment.

Dawn Ross, Senior Administrative Assistant, announced that one written public comment had been received on this item.

Ainsley Tudor, Claremont resident, expressed a preference for the Birchwood design.

Hal Durian, Claremont resident, asked for clarification regarding the fiberfill to be installed as a replacement for the sand.

Unnamed speaker asked if there are plans to install a gate or fence around the playground.

Audrey, Claremont resident, requested the addition of monkey bars to the Birchwood design.

Unnamed speaker expressed a preference for the Birchwood design.

Unnamed speaker asked about the project timeline.

Brad Stockham, Claremont resident, asked what the base material is composed of, whether other ADA-compliant surface options are available, and what the orientation of the swings will be with the new design. Mr. Stockham stated that his daughter had also requested that monkey bars be included in the new equipment.

Nicole Sorenson asked about the possibility of reallocating the sand to the preschool day care area and expressed a preference for the Birchwood design.

Maxine, Claremont resident, expressed a preference for the Birchwood design.

There were no additional requests to speak.

Chair Silva closed public comment.

City staff and Ms. Grabow responded to questions from the public regarding the merits of fiberfill vs. other ADA-compliant surfacing materials, the possibility of installing a fence in the future, modifying the Birchwood design to include monkey bars, the timeline for project review/approval and completion, regulations regarding the use of sand as playground surfacing, and the location and orientation of the swings and playground structure.

***Committee Member Glass moved to recommend that the Community and Human Services Commission review two versions of the Birchwood design for approval—the original design and a modified version incorporating monkey bars, seconded by Chair Silva, and carried on a roll call vote as follows:***

**AYES:**                      ***Committee Member – Glass, Silva***  
**NOES:**                    ***Committee Member – None***

### **ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

Unknown speaker asked that the fiber surfacing at Cahuilla Park be replenished.

Unknown speaker asked that the water fountain at Lewis Park be repaired to replace a missing handle.

Marsha Tudor, Claremont resident, asked if there are plans for improvement to the ABC for Me Preschool playground.

Unknown speaker reported trash in the shrubs north of the Lewis Park playground.


### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Silva adjourned the special meeting of the Parks, Hillsides, and Utilities Committee at 07:02 PM.



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Dirk Silva  
Committee Chair



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Dawn Bonnell Ross  
Recording Secretary