

Minutes for the Parks, Recreation and Human Services Commission

1 Civic Center Circle

Brea, California 92821

June 24, 2026

Roll Call: *(The following members were in attendance)*

- **Eric Mason**, Chair - Parks, Recreation and Human Services Commission
- **Janet Son**, Vice Chair - Parks, Recreation and Human Services Commission
- **Bill Higgins**, Parks, Recreation and Human Services Commissioner
- **Gill Realon**, Parks, Recreation and Human Services Commissioner
- **Irene Rifilato**, Parks, Recreation and Human Services Commissioner

1. General Session

1.A. Call to Order

Chair Mason called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm.

1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Mason led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.C. Invocation

Chair Mason asked for a moment of silence.

1.D. School Board Representative

Brea Olinda Unified School District Representative Amber Duong Gonzalez reported that summer facility improvement projects are underway, including new gymnasium fans, planned gym floor replacement pending Board approval, ongoing renovations to the Performing Arts Center, and continued planning for the District's bond-funded projects.

1.E. Matters from the Audience

Friends of the Tracks at Brea Representative Bill McMillan reported that the organization was awarded an AARP micro-grant to conduct a bicycle safety audit. He also recognized the volunteers from No Limits for their dedication to trail maintenance and thanked Public Works staff, including Cris Lopez, Mike Rabago, Erik Chavez, and Jordan Carmona for their outstanding ongoing support. He also acknowledged Jeff Weber of No Limits for coordinating the volunteer efforts and recognized Commissioner Realon for volunteering with the group.

1.F. Tracks Volunteer Recognition

Chair Mason recognized the No Limits students for their volunteer service and presented certificates of appreciation to each recipient. He invited the volunteers to come forward as their names were called to receive their certificates and noted that a group photo would be taken in front of the City seal following the presentation. Chair Mason also commended them for their outstanding work in maintaining the Tracks at Brea trail, stating that their efforts are evident and greatly appreciated by the community.

2. Action

2.A. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Realon requested the following sentence be added to Item 4F:

Community Services Manager Jenn Colacion stated that the Committee conducted a walk-through of the event site with Public Works and Community Services staff.

Commissioner Higgins made a motion to approve the minutes as amended with a second by Commissioner Realon.

Motion passed 5-0

Ayes: Mason, Son, Higgins, Realon, Rifilato

Nays: None

2.B. Approval of Brea Golf Course Fees for Fiscal Year 2025/2026

The Commission discussed the proposed golf course fee adjustments, including the increase to weekend senior rates. Commissioners expressed interest in exploring a resident discount program similar to neighboring cities. Interim Director Sean Matlock explained that establishing a resident and non-resident fee structure would require a City Council policy decision and suggested forming a subcommittee to further discuss the concept. The Commission recommended approving the proposed fee adjustments while requesting that staff return in the future with information regarding the feasibility of a resident discount program for further discussion. Commissioner Realon made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Golf Course Fees with a second by Commissioner Higgins.

Motion passed 5-0

Ayes: Mason, Son, Higgins, Realon, Rifilato

Nays: None

3. Discussion

3.A. Parks and Trails Update

Public Works Supervisor Edgar Esparza provided an update on conditions at Country Hills Park. He reviewed the property ownership boundaries between the homeowner's association, the school district, and the City, noting that the areas of concern are under the school district's responsibility. Mr. Esparza reported that he met on-site with school district staff to discuss a plan to restore the affected landscape areas, including irrigation improvements to promote grass regrowth. He noted that conditions have already begun to improve and confirmed he visited the site that day to review the proposed maintenance plan.

Community Services Manager Jenn Colacion shared progress on the Arovista project, highlighting new landscaping, play features, and an accessible pathway.

Interim Director Sean Matlock reported that the agreement with Union Pacific for the purchase of the Tracks easement has been executed for the Western Extension, with grant funding secured and the project moving forward.

Community Services Manager Jenn Colacion also announced that the Resource Center will relocate back to the Community Center effective July 6, where it will continue providing affordable counseling, veterans services, and other community support programs.

4. Reports

4.A. Park Ambassadors

Vice Chair Son reported on her visit to City Hall Park, noting the extensive preparations for the upcoming July 4 Country Fair. She commended staff for their thoughtful planning and coordination, observed that the park was well maintained, and noted that the pool was being prepared for the upcoming Plunge summer classes. Overall, she commented that everything looked to be in great shape.

Commissioner Higgins reported that private classes were being held at Wildcatters Park and he suggested that City staff monitor the situation.

4.B. Golf Course Ambassadors

Commissioner Rifilato reported that the water fountain at Brea Creek had been removed rather than repaired, with visitors now directed to the clubhouse for water. Interim Director Sean Matlock will check with operator to see what next steps are.

4.C. Art in Public Places Committee

Commissioner Rifilato stated there would be an upcoming meeting later this summer.

4.D. User Groups

No updates.

4.E. Pickleball Ad Hoc Committee

Interim Director Sean Matlock reported that staff is reviewing whether a pickleball-specific noise ordinance is necessary or whether the City's existing noise ordinance would be sufficient. Although the City does not currently have pickleball courts, a recently adopted ordinance by the City of Laguna Beach prompted interest from a Council Member. Staff noted that noise from pickleball is unavoidable to some extent, and while quieter paddles and other noise-reducing equipment are available, they are more expensive and not widely used by all players. Because of the potential cost and controversy, staff will fully evaluate the issue before presenting any recommendations to the City Council.

4.F. Country Fair Steering Committee

Commissioner Realon reported that planning for the event remains on schedule. He shared that nearly \$17,000 has been raised through sponsorships and noted that a recent planning meeting was well attended by participating groups. Commissioner Realon also recognized staff members Kristin Steyerma, Ashley Reid, and Alva Fox for their outstanding work over the past six months in organizing the event.

5. Informational

5.A. Information Memorandum/Staff Updates

Community Services Special Events Supervisor Kristin Steyerma provided updates on upcoming summer events and programs. She reported that the Family Films series is underway at City Hall Park. She noted that the opening event last week included a special appearance by an LA Galaxy player for a community meet-and-greet.

Ms. Steyerma also shared preparations for the upcoming Country Fair, thanking staff for their efforts in coordinating the event. She highlighted the support of community partners and volunteers and noted that the event will feature a full day of activities, including a pancake breakfast, patriotic ceremonies, family activities, live entertainment, contests, the Patriotic Pooch Parade, a trolley tour of the Olinda Oil Museum, a classic car show, and merchandise sales.

5.B. Commissioner Requests

Commissioner Realon requested that staff update the Golf Course fee comparison table by adding available resident and non-resident fee information. He also requested attendance data for Brea Rewards.

Commissioner Realon thanked staff for installing the handicap signs at the Sports Park, as requested at the previous meeting. He encouraged continued promotion of the July 4 Country Fair through the City's graphics and PDFs to highlight the variety of activities available to the community.

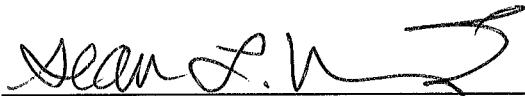
Commissioner Realon stated he had requested the financial results from Go. Serve. Brea. earlier that day and asked that the information, including the amount raised by participating organizations, be presented at a future Commission meeting.

Commissioner Higgins requested that a sub-committee would analyze the golf course's residential and non-residential fee structure, develop a proposal, and bring it back to the Commission for discussion.

6. Adjournment

Chair Mason adjourned the meeting at 6:57 pm.

The foregoing minutes are hereby approved
This 22nd day of July 2026:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean L. Matlock", is written over a horizontal line.

Sean L. Matlock, Interim Director Community Services