PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
TEMPLE CITY, CALIFORNIA

REGULAR MEETING

JANUARY 21, 2026 – 7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 5938 KAUFFMAN AVENUE

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Rosso

2. **ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Commissioner - Baroldi, Burroughs, Haddad, Tarin, Rosso

ABSENT: Commissioner – None

ALSO PRESENT: Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto and Parks and Recreation Secretary Venters

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Chair Rosso led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. **PRESENTATIONS** - None

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA** - None

6. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Commissioner Haddad moved to approve the Consent Calendar, seconded by Commissioner Baroldi and carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Commissioner – Baroldi, Burroughs, Haddad, Tarin, Rosso
NOES: Commissioner – None
ABSENT: Commissioner – None
ABSTAIN: Commissioner – None

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Action: Approved.

B. MONTHLY ATTENDANCE/ACTIVITY REPORTS
Action: Approved.

7. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** - None

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER PROGRAMMING REPORT

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that Stars Club session 1 closed in November and session 2 opened December at all locations with 108 students enrolled collectively. He stated that Winter Camp was held for two weeks at Live Oak Park at maximum capacity. He stated that participants enjoyed a variety of activities and field trips to Camelot Golfland and the movie theatre. He stated that during the months of November and December LEAD program participants focused on personal development and public speaking. During the month of December winter youth basketball began with 267 youth enrolled. He stated that volunteers and staff hosted two Tech Hour sessions for seniors focusing on using voice assistance and cloud storage. He stated that 62 volunteers participated in the Lights on Temple City event. He stated that the Lights on Temple City event was held on December 5, 2025, with traditional components and slight modifications. He stated that the modifications made were extending the parade and including a hired Santa. He noted that unallowed sidewalk vendors were present and that staff have notified the City's Public Safety division for future observance. He thanked those who participated in the Holiday Decorating Contest. He stated that 16 residential properties and 4 businesses won. He stated that all winners received an ornament and lawn sign and were recognized at the first City Council meeting in January. He stated that the Urban Forestry team responded to 29 tree service requests, provided tree maintenance, unwrapped strung lights on the trees along Las Tunas Drive and are tasked with rotating seasonal signage. He stated that the Parks Maintenance team completed a variety of repairs at parks, repaired the lights on basketball courts, decorated Temple City Park and Live Oak Park for the holidays, assisted with the Lights on Temple City event and addressed a flood that had occurred on Christmas Eve. He concluded the report and asked the Commission for comments or questions.

Commissioner Haddad asked Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto for the age range for the volunteer program, if more lights could be placed on the redwood tree, if a large tree could be rented, or if an alternate tree could be used for the tree lighting portion of the Lights on Temple City event.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that the volunteers are accepted at 15 years of age, however a younger volunteer could be accepted with the presence of a parent or legal guardian. He stated that it would be difficult to install additional lights to the redwood tree, as the tree cannot support a large amount of weight towards the top. He deferred to the Commission regarding using an alternate tree for the tree lighting ceremony.

Vice Chair Tarin stated that the redwood tree is a tradition, however, understands fellow Commissioner Haddad's point of view.

Commissioner Burroughs stated that the redwood tree has been a tradition since the 1990's. She stated that alternate options such as renting a tree or purchasing a tree is extremely expensive.

Commissioner Baroldi stated that he likes the tradition of lighting the redwood tree during the Lights on Temple City event.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto suggested that the pavilion lights could be turned on at the same time the redwood tree is turned on to create a more striking effect.

Commissioner Haddad asked Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto if the City could purchase illuminated ornaments.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that the way the holiday lights are strung on the redwood is streamlined as much as possible. He stated that currently the redwood tree is decorated by City staff. He stated that if the City were to hire outside to decorate the redwood tree, a bid process would have to take place.

Chair Rosso noted that she was impressed by the volunteers during the Lights on Temple City event and that she noticed that the band did not play holiday music.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that he agrees that there should be holiday themed music at future Lights on Temple City events. He stated that he will relay her compliments to staff.

The Commission had no further comments or questions therefore received and filed the report.

9. ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

- None

10. UPDATE FROM PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR

A. PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that the City adopted a mandated .gov domain name. He stated that the Live Oak Park playground monument sign has been received, however the City is in the process of securing an electrician for installation. He stated that the City should have feedback in February for an award that the City filed for with CPRS. He stated that outreach for the Sereno Open Space Project is complete. He stated that a review of concept design will be presented to the Commission

for recommendation to the City Council. He stated that the City is pending results for a grant application for design services for the Sultana Park Project. He stated that if the City is awarded grant funding it would cover the cost of a landscape architect. He stated that the City will seek input from surrounding residents prior to design. He stated that nominations for Older American of the Year will soon conclude. He stated that the recipient of the Older American of the Year award will be recognized at a banquet provided by the County of Los Angeles and by the City. He stated that the Lunar New Year event will be held on February 7, 2026 at Temple City Park. He stated that the event will consist of an opening ceremony, free tasting of cultural food, arts and crafts for the kids, and vendor booths. He stated that the City will hold a pickleball tournament in March. He stated that the City has started the process of interviewing for two vacant Parks and Recreation Coordinator positions. He stated that currently there is one Parks and Recreation Coordinator in the Parks and Recreation Department.

Commissioner Burroughs asked Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto if there is staff who are taking on the work.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that Parks and Recreation Coordinator Ramos-Ruiz has taken on much of the work of the vacant positions.

Commissioner Burroughs asked Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto if it would be possible to recognize Ms. Ramos-Ruiz and bring all three Parks and Recreation Coordinators to the Commission for recognition once they are hired.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto will introduce the new Parks and Recreation Coordinators and Ms. Ramos-Ruiz to the Commission. He then updated the Commission of the many repairs and renovations provided by the Parks Maintenance division including restroom renovations at Live Oak Park, annual turf renovation, and pickleball walkway project. He stated the Parks Maintenance division is also checking irrigation valves, watering the park manually until the booster pump is replaced at Live Oak Park, and is in the process of finding a vendor to replace the memorial lighting at Temple City Park. He stated that the Blue Star Banner program parameters will be presented to the Commission at their meeting in February. He stated that the City Council does not have conclusive direction regarding the fixed asset inventory, however improvement projects may include resurfacing the playgrounds at Primrose Park, reroofing the pavilion at Temple City Park and purchasing a new Boom Truck for the Urban Forestry Division. He concluded the report and asked the Commission for comments or questions.

The Commission had no further comments or questions therefore received and filed the report.

11. COMMISSION ITEMS SEPARATE FROM THE REGULAR AGENDA

A. COMMISSIONER BAROLDI – Reported broken concrete on the planters along Las Tunas Drive. He stated that he would like to acknowledge the work done by volunteers during the Lights on Temple City event and that he enjoyed participating in the Holiday Decorating Contest.

B. COMMISSIONER BURROUGHS – Stated that she enjoyed the Lights on Temple City event and thanked Parks Maintenance staff for keeping up with needs during the event.

C. COMMISSIONER HADDAD – Expressed appreciation for staff and renovations to the bathrooms at Live Oak Park.

D. VICE CHAIRPERSON TARIN – Stated the Lights on Temple City event was particularly special to him this year. He spoke favorably of having a professional Santa and suggested to budget for a professional Santa in future years. He stated that he enjoyed participating in the Holiday Decorating Contest. He asked Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto if baby changing stations were added to the restrooms and if there have been thoughts on expanding the pickleball area.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that the baby changing were not there before and intends to install them in both men and women restrooms. He stated that staff have not have as many requests for expanded use.

E. CHAIRPERSON ROSSO – Stated that she likes that staff preselects residences and business for the Holiday Decorating Contest and that she enjoyed the Lights on Temple City event.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m. to the Parks and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting Wednesday, February 18, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

Joanne Rosso, Chair

ATTEST:

Jennifer Venters, Secretary