

City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks
Mar Vista Recreation Center (MVRC)
Park Advisory Board Meeting (PAB)

7:00 pm Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at MVRC Auditorium

Draft Minutes

1. Introductions
2. The meeting was called to order by Jerry Hornof at 7:07pm. In attendance were Jerry Hornof, Pammela Jackson, Tom Ponton, Bruce Dembo, Albert Olson, Jerome Jontry, and Keith Rice (MVRC). Cliff Chi (guest) was also in attendance.
3. Minutes
 - Minutes for the January 20, 2026 meeting were approved. (Jerome 1st, Albert 2nd, Approved unanimously).
4. Business Addressed
 - Facilities
 - Fields are in good shape.
 - We are still in process on getting the portable lighting through the Parks Foundation. The money has been provided (Windward School) and the order is in process. The PAB emphasized the importance of getting lights to support the programs.
 - Keith reports that the sand for the playground area was delivered on February 22nd. They added sand to both the play area and the swing set area. The new sand is of high quality and appreciated. More sand is needed.
 - Previously Keith reported that he was not consulted on the sign location and will talk with the LARAP sign staff. Sonya Young Jimenez - Superintendent of Venice Beach and West Region who joined the January meeting indicated that the park would need to pay for new quality signage at the corners of Palms and McLaughlin and Palms and Sawtelle. There was the request to determine what was required on the signs and what the cost would be to make and install the signs. The hockey rink sign also needs to be replaced.
 - There are issues at the tennis court regarding private instructors attempting to control access to the courts. Keith also noted that getting and retaining instructors is very difficult.
 - Pammela reached out Leon Boroditsky (LA Recreation and Parks Principal Forester). His response on February 5, 2026 was "I spoke with the Maintenance Superintendent for the area and we currently do not have funding for the project. The labor and parts for the irrigation total \$23,726.36 with a 10% contingency \$26,099.00 total. The trees are \$6,550.86 for a total of \$32,649.86. Does the PAB have funding for the project?". The PAB questions included (these were summarized by Pammela and forwarded to Leon on March 4th):
 - how elaborate or long term the irrigation system you mentioned

would be. Can you give us some details of what that \$26,000 system would be like?

- is the reason for that irrigation system mostly to get the trees started or is it necessary for the lives of the trees?
 - Is there any sort of irrigation alternative (hoses like one oftensees in people's yards, for example) that would be effective but cost less?
 - What are the sizes of the trees proposed in the plan you sent?
 - If we're able to raise the \$6,500 for the trees, we'd like to go ahead with the plantings on the section of the park that doesn't need the new irrigation. What is the timeline for planting so the trees will have the best chance of survival before it gets hot?
 - what would the cost be for the trees on the west side of the park that needs the irrigation?
 - The PAB is looking at funding options to include the Park Foundations and Quimby funds.
- There has been a significant return of camping at the park. MVRC staff are coordinating with city resources to address the issue. Notification to 11th District Council Office, LAPD, and Park Rangers to address the increased issue was recommended. The challenge is the campers are just moving from location to location in the park.
 - Tom noted missing trash cans at the hockey rink. Cans are helpful in encouraging cleanup.
- Programming
 - As discussed at the November meeting, Los Angeles Recreation and Parks has begun a single sport programming model. This session the sport is basketball. To augment this model MVRC is also doing clinics in soccer, volleyball, and hockey. The previous session finished with very successful regional and citywide accomplishments by MVRC participants. In volleyball, the women's minor (ages 9-10), major (11-12), and junior (13-16) categories were Regional champions. The women's junior category went on to be the city-wide champions. In soccer, MVRC minor and major teams won regional championships. The spring sports programs will be soccer and volleyball. Kith also indicated that a program presentation will be held on March 28, 2026.
- Finances
 - The MRP budget is uncertain. One report has it at \$280,000 and another report has it at \$35,000. Keith is working to get this resolved. had drawn down to \$70,000.
- Staffing
 - There is a citywide hiring freeze still affecting the park staffing.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:00pm (Tom 1st, Bruce 2nd, Approved unanimously).

Prepared by: Jerry Hornof