

**COMMUNITY SERVICES, PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING  
CITY OF CHINO COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
MARCH 23, 2026, 6:00 P.M.  
MINUTES**

---

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Jerry called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**II. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

Vice Chairperson Arlt led the flag salute.

**III. ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Present: Chairperson Neal Jerry, Vice Chairperson Patricia Pereda Arlt, and Commissioners Jamie Aviles, Carl Cooper, Robert Martinez, Julissa Montenegro-Olivas, and Linda Takeuchi

Commissioners Late: None

Commissioners Absent: None

Council Present: None

Teen Advisory Committee  
Members Present: Kathleen Chang

Staff Present: Ted Bistarkey, Monica Tiznado Jeff Benson, Sal Parra, Dane D'Antuono, Rachel Phelps, and Marsha Ariyasu

**IV. CONSENT CALENDAR – None.**

**V. CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Minutes – February 23, 2026, Community Services, Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting (Vice Chairperson Arlt was absent).

**Moved by Commissioner Takeuchi, seconded by Commissioner Cooper, and carried on a 6-0-0-1 vote to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.**

**AYES: Aviles, Cooper, Jerry, Martinez, Montenegro-Olivas, and Takeuchi**

**NOES: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**ABSTAIN: Arlt**

**VI. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**

Chairperson Jerry opened the Public Communications. As there were no requests to speak, Chairperson Jerry closed the Public Communications.

**VII. TEEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT**

Kathleen Chang, TAC Secretary, gave the report. Ms. Chang reported TAC members volunteered at the Chino Valley Youth Track and Field Meet, enrichment classes, and Pee Wee Sports. TAC members are also volunteering at upcoming events, including Healthy Family Day, CHINO Days, and Teen Glow Night. TAC is currently working to promote the TAC application process. At their last meeting, TAC members discussed upcoming events, final details for Teen Glow Night, and teen excursions, such as

Teens Night Outs at Huntington Beach and Knott's Soak City. Ms. Chang reported TAC members will be attending the Teen Leadership Summit in Ontario at the DeAnza Community and Teen Center. There will be guest speakers, workshops, and opportunities to collaborate with other teens.

The next Teen Advisory Committee meeting will be held on April 2, at 6:00 p.m. The location has not been determined yet.

## VIII. INFORMATION

### 1. Healthy Chino:

Rachel Phelps, Community Services, Parks & Recreation Coordinator, gave the report. Ms. Phelps reported on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Healthier You Challenge Department Showdown, which is an employee challenge that encourages participants to establish healthy habits; Healthy Family Day; Chino Bike Day; Healthy Grilling; Storytime in the Garden; and Chino Community Garden 10-Year Celebration. Healthy Chino hosted several outreach booths at City events, which included the Halloween Spooktacular, Lunar New Year Celebration, as well as partner events such as Heritage Farmers Market, Senior Health Fair, and Great American Smokeout.

Ms. Phelps reported Healthy Chino hosts three coalition meetings annually and sends out a monthly e-newsletter with upcoming events, programs, workshops, and other healthy information highlighting Garden Workshops, Children's Discovery Workshops, and Hike the Valley programs that are offered throughout the year.

### 2. Chino Youth Museum:

Dane D'Antuono, Community Services, Parks & Recreation Coordinator, gave the report. Ms. D'Antuono reported the Chino Youth Museum has been a staple in the community for 26 years. The Museum opened its doors in December 1999 to a diverse public with a mission of bridging the past, present, and future together with fun, educational, and interactive exhibits, special events, and programs. The Museum offers guests a glimpse into Chino's rich history through eight hands-on interactive exhibits set up like a small town; 1,478 guests participated in the new Around the World program. The Museum hosted five special events along with participating in the Inclusion Community Celebration.

Ms. D'Antuono reported that last year, 752 children and educators from 13 schools from Chino Unified School District and as far away as Riverside enjoyed private tours. Birthday party reservations were offered with 403 party guests celebrating their special day at the Museum. There were 70 memberships sold totaling 256 new participants taking advantage of having unlimited visits to the Museum for an entire year by purchasing various membership packages.

Ms. D'Antuono reported with the support of generous sponsors and individual community support, the Museum held six fundraisers. The most recent was the DairyAire 5K and Fairytale Fun Run on March 7; 490 participants ran in this year's run. Two new partnerships were formed and one partnership is on-going. One of those partnerships included Chino's Green Team. Together, funding was secured from the Inland Empire Utilities Agency to renovate the water exhibit, which now includes three cartoon interactive touch screens to teach families about water conservation. A continued collaboration with the Teen Advisory Committee has

resulted in an expanded Santa's Village Polar Express train exhibit during the holidays. The Museum was awarded a \$3,000 grant from the Metropolitan Water District for First Friday CYM Lab, which made it possible to transform the science-based program into a water experiment focused on the value of water in Southern California.

Ms. D'Antuono reported on upcoming events that included the Easter Bunny Extravaganza and the first water edition Arbor Day Celebration.

## IX. ACTION ITEM

### 1. Selection of the California Park & Recreation Society (CPRS) Community Champions for 2025:

Ted Bistarkey, Deputy Director of Community Services, Parks & Recreation, gave the report. Mr. Bistarkey reported it's that time of year when the Commission selects Community Champion Award winners to be honored at the California Park & Recreation Society (CPRS) District 11 Annual Awards and Installation Banquet. The event highlights individuals or groups from numerous cities within the district and recognizes them for their contribution to the park and recreation field. This year's event will be held on April 23, at the Jessie Turner Health and Community Center in Fontana. Staff is recommending nominees from the list included in the staff report for this year's award considerations. Any additional nominations for the 2025 Community Champions will be accepted before the final vote.

Chairperson Jerry asked each Commissioner to complete their votes for two recipients and return the vote sheets to staff, who will tabulate and announce the votes of each Commissioner.

After the votes were tabulated, the results were as follows:

- Carol Isaia-Montoya – 2 votes (Commissioners Arlt and Montenegro-Olivas).
- Mary Harshfield – 2 votes (Commissioners Arlt and Takeuchi).
- Courtney Garcia – 3 votes (Commissioners Aviles, Martinez, and Cooper).
- Flor Hernandez – 4 votes (Commissioners Aviles, Jerry, Cooper, and Montenegro-Olivas).
- Kiwanis Club of Chino – 3 votes (Commissioners Jerry, Martinez, and Takeuchi).

In response to a tie breaker between Courtney Garcia and the Kiwanis Club of Chino, Commissioner Martinez stated the Kiwanis Club has done so much and when the City needs anything, they are always there in service or donations.

Commissioner Takeuchi stated both Courtney Garcia and the Kiwanis Club are very deserving, but the Kiwanis Club has supported the community for many, many years and should finally receive the recognition.

After discussion, the Commissioners selected the Kiwanis Club of Chino as their second recipient.

**Moved by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Cooper, and carried on a 7-0-0-0 vote to approve the selection of Flor Hernandez (Teen Advisory Committee) and the Kiwanis Club of Chino as the CPRS Community Champion Award recipients for 2025.**

**AYES:** Arlt, Aviles, Cooper, Jerry, Martinez, Montenegro-Olivas, and Takeuchi  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSENT:** None  
**ABSTAIN:** None

#### **X. ACTIVITY REPORTS – FEBRUARY 2026**

1. Administration Activity Reports – No comments.
2. Programs Activity Reports – No comments.
3. Parks & Facilities Planning and Development Activity Reports – No comments.

#### **XI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Monica Tiznado, Clinical Program Manager, gave the report. Ms. Tiznado noted upcoming events on the calendar, which included the grand re-opening of the Batting Cages on March 25, Legends-The Senior Challenge Opening Ceremony on April 6, CHINO Days on April 11 and 12, and Kiwanis Corn Feed Car Show and Cruise on April 26.

#### **XII. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

Commissioner Aviles reported on events attended and parks visited since the last meeting, which included the last championship game for Winter Basketball, Ball 'N Brunch, Chino Valley Youth Track and Field Meet, and Discovery, Nature Retreat, Meridian, and Forest Parks.

Commissioner Cooper reported on meetings and events attended, and parks visited since the last meeting, which included Focus on Youth, Chino Youth Museum Board meeting, DairyAire 5K and Fairytale Fun Run, and CPRS Annual Conference. Commissioner Cooper reported parks look good, but had some minor issues.

Commissioner Martinez reported parks look good.

Commissioner Montenegro-Olivas reported on meetings attended and parks visited since the last meeting, which included a Council meeting, Chino Valley Unified School District Board of Education meeting on-line, and Mountain View, McLeod, and Chino Rancho Parks.

Commissioner Takeuchi reported on meetings attended and parks visited since the last meeting, which included a Council meeting, and Walnut and Villa Parks. Commissioner Takeuchi stated she is looking forward to all the upcoming activities.

Vice Chairperson Arlt reported on parks visited since the last meeting, which included Liberty, Sebring, and Ayala Parks. Vice Chairperson Arlt acknowledged the positive things happening at her parks.

Chairperson Jerry reported on meetings and events attended since the last meeting, which included a Council meeting, Teen Advisory Committee meeting, Chino National Little League Opening Ceremony, and Chino Valley Youth Track and Field Meet.

#### **XIII. MISCELLANEOUS**

1. Calendar. April 2026: No comments.

2. Commission Assignments/Parks. Listing of Current Commission Assignments and Parks: No comments.

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

Chairperson Jerry adjourned the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

APPROVED THIS 27<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF APRIL 2026.

---

Marsha Ariyasu  
Management Assistant  
(Minutes – March 2026)