



County of Santa Cruz

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, OPEN SPACE & CULTURAL SERVICES

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JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes of November 18th, 2024, 5:00 p.m. Regular Meeting
Simpkins Family Swim Center Community Rooms, 979 17th Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95060

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL Meeting called to order by Chair Wiltshire at 5:04 p.m.

Present: Alexis Konevich (District 1), Tricia Wiltshire (District 2), Jeremy Sanford (District 3)

Absent: Monica Martinez (District 5)

Vacant: (District 4)

Staff: Jeff Gaffney, Rebecca Hurley, Juan Perez Alvarez

II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS No modifications.

III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Any person may address the Commission during its Oral Communication period. Speakers must not exceed three (3) minutes in length, or the time limit established by the Chair, and individuals may speak only once during Oral Communications. All Oral Communication must be directed to an item listed on today's Consent Agenda, Closed Session Agenda, yet to be heard on Regular Agenda, or a topic not on the agenda that is within the jurisdiction of the Commission. Commission members will not take actions or respond immediately to any Oral communication presented regarding topics not on the agenda but may choose to follow up later, either individually, or on a subsequent Commission Agenda. Oral communications will normally be received by the Commission for a period not to exceed thirty (30) minutes. If, at the end of this period, additional persons wish to address the Commission, the Oral Communication period may be continued to the last item on the agenda.

No Oral Communication.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA Motion to approve: Konevich/2nd: Sanford/All in favor.

- a. Approve minutes from August 12th, 2024.....page 2-3
- b. Consider Reports:
 - i. Aquatics Section Report.....page 4-5
 - ii. Maintenance Section Report.....page 6
 - iii. Planning Section Report..... page 7-12
 - iv. Recreation Section Report.....page 13-14
 - v. Reservations Section Report.....page 15-16
 - vi. Volunteer Section Report..... page 17-25

V. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

District 1: Spoke about the emails she received from constituents in her district regarding Anna Jean Cummings, specifically the sports field conditions. She is excited to see the continued maintenance of the fields and looks forward to hearing more about fields and turf at AJC in the February meeting. Additionally, Commissioner Konevich brought up the condition of the volleyball court at Jose Ave Park, as she received an email about it. Finally, she thanked all the commissioners for their efforts in the "All Kids Play" campaign. The housing authority reached out to County Park Friends in hopes of partnering to serve more families, the goal is to raise \$30,000.

District 2: Officially congratulated Commissioner Monica Martinez for her win as the District 5 Supervisor. Thanked Ryan Hoffman for organizing the Wheelie Good time at Felt Street County Park, the event took place on October 18th and raised \$1,600 for Park improvements. Additionally,

Commissioner Wiltshire praised the Capitola and Aptos Rotary club for raising three quarters of a Million dollars towards the City of Capitola "Treasure Cove" at Jade Street Park, as well as the Sunrise Rotary raised \$75,000 with a charity ride. Commissioner Wiltshire also thanked Director Gaffney for championing LEO's Haven, which started the projects for inclusiveness at playgrounds. She also visited Mesa Village Park, where she spoke to a constituent that said she always felt safe there, thanks to the Sherrif station that is there. Commissioner Wiltshire also wanted to thank Richard Novak and Park Planner Marianan for working with the community. Finally, she thanked Derek and Lina Draper for their work on Floral, her theme for this report was community members.

District 3: Received little correspondence. Did bring up the possibility of all weather fields. (Which will be a future agenda item). Constituents feel it is unsatisfactory to not have fields in the winter.

District 4: Vacant

District 5: Absent

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Gaffney spoke about the Artificial turf comments by the Commissioners, and the need for a greater discussion. Speaking about the meeting dates and frequency of meetings, the idea that 6 meetings might be more effective rather than 4. Director Gaffney gave an update on the South County Park, phase 1 would bring pedestrian and bicycle access to the park, as well as trails and possible community garden with District 4 funds sometime in mid-2025. Additionally, Director Gaffney gave an update on the naming of the new South County Park, County Park Friends created a survey and began surveying. It is anticipated that in Spring County Staff will expand that survey and bring the results to the Parks Commission for a vote. Director Gaffney gave an update on Measure Q, when money might be available, what the advisory board consists of and how being involved in the County budget would be beneficial.

VII. REGULAR AGENDA: ACTION ITEMS

- a. Determine Commission Meeting Dates for 2025
 - i. February 10th, 2025 was the proposed date for the next Parks Commission meeting. Motion to approve by Commissioner: Sanford/2nd Wiltshire/All in favor.

VIII. REGULAR AGENDA: INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. Freedom Lake: Park Planner Mariana gave a brief on the great work that Watsonville Wetlands Watch is doing in cleaning up the area and removing non-natives.
- b. Floral County Park: Park Planner Mariana gave an update on the park, the timeline of the new playground installation, pour in play and now the landscaping.
- c. Natural Resources Management at Anna Jean Cummings: Park Planner Mariana gave an update on the NRM or Desktop analysis from RCD at Anna Jean Cummings.

IX. NEXT MEETING: February 10th, 2024. Meeting will be held at Simpkins Family Swim Center Community Rooms.

X. WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE LISTING No written correspondence.

XI. ADJOURNMENT Motion to adjourn meeting at 6:28 p.m.: Konevich/2nd: Sanford/All in favor.