



County of Santa Cruz

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, OPEN SPACE & CULTURAL SERVICES

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JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes of December 11th, 2023, 5:00 p.m. Regular Meeting
Aptos Village Park Clubhouse, 100 Aptos Creek Rd., Aptos CA 95003

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

- a. **Present:** Tricia Wiltshire (District 2), Jeremy Sanford (District 3), Martha Victoria Vega (District 4), Monica Martinez (District 5)
- b. **Absent:** Katherine Lee (District 1)
- c. **Staff:** Alexis Rodriguez-Rocha, Frankie Farr, Rebecca Hurley, Jeff Gaffney

II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

- a. **Item VIII.B** was moved to follow the consent agenda, but before the commissioner reports.

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.

- a. Comments on Felton Covered Bridge Pump Track by two Felton residents.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve minutes from August 14th, 2023.....page 2 - 4
- b. Consider Reports:
 - i. Aquatics Section Report.....page 5
 - ii. Maintenance Section Report.....page 6
 - iii. Planning Section Report.....page 7 - 9
 - iv. Recreation Section Report.....page 10 - 11
 - v. Reservations Section Report.....page 12
 - vi. Volunteer Section Report.....page 13 – 15

Agenda Mod: VIII.B “Results Count” presentation by County Park Friends (CPF)

- Commissioners offered suggestions for networking, biometric measurements, and program additions.

V. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- o **District 1:** Absent.
- o **District 2:** Cabrillo Host Lions Club redid some of the benches in honor of local veterans. Attended the Willowbrook Playground Ribbon Cutting and talked with the public, lovely to see everyone playing and excited to have it open.
- o **District 3:** Received correspondence from residents, expressing concern about North Coast region. Primary concerns related to traffic, garbage, lack of bathroom facilities,

camping, human waste, etc. Strong concern about increased usage and safety. Residents are interested in learning about how County Parks plan to address these concerns.

- **District 4:** Constituents have been loving Pinto Lake County Park for the soccer fields. Noted the successful volunteer event at Pinto Lake County Park where the community gathered to paint the bathrooms. They are looking forward to the next volunteer event to paint the gazebo. Asked about the potential to add stripping for a football field at Mesa Village Park, as youth are using the field for football already. She would also like to see a solution for an equal opportunity for youth to use the half basketball court.
- **District 5:** Acknowledged the small and vocal group that shares concerns and a larger group that is excited for the changes to come with the Felton Covered Bridge Pump Track. Noted another successful Holiday Market hosted by SLV Chamber of Commerce on the bridge at Felton Covered Bridge Park.

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Parks held a successful Splash with Santa and Holiday Market event at the beginning of December.
- Addressed the Felton Covered Bridge Pump Track Item that was being presented to the Board of Supervisors on December 12th, 2023.
- The playground renovations at Willowbrook County Park were completed and a ribbon cutting was held in November. The entire project should be completed by March.
- County Parks Updates: The new pilot program for non-profit surf schools was awarded to Black Surf Santa Cruz. There are two new park hosts at Quail Hollow. The renovation projects at Floral Park are moving forward in the coming year. An artist and project were approved for the new Child Crisis Center (5300 Soquel).
- Discussed two possible new taxes on the March ballot that could positively impact Parks.

VII. REGULAR AGENDA: ACTION ITEMS

- a. Review and approve the Parks and Recreation Commission Biennial Report, page 16 – 20
 - Biennial Report is a culmination of information gathered from commission meetings in the last 2 years.
 - Commissioners shared concerns and discussed solutions.
 - Director Gaffney: Addressed concerns regarding the report and acknowledged that there have been new commissioners and staff within the 2-year reporting period. This will be reflected in the attendance report.
 - Motion to designate Chair to review and approve the final Biennial Report
 - **Ayes:** Vega, Sanford, Martinez, Wiltshire | **Not Present:** Lee
- b. Discuss 2024 meeting schedule, page 21
 - **Motion to approve schedule:** Vega, seconded by Wiltshire, all in favor.
- c. Determine workshop retreat date and time, page 21
 - **Motion to discuss and decide on workshop date:**
 - Commissioners agreed to Feb. 9th with modified hours or February 12th, Parks staff would confirm date with Commissioner Lee.

VIII. REGULAR AGENDA: INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. Capital Projects Update
 - a. Comments from commissioners:
 - The Commission used to be more involved in planning.
 - Commissioner Vega: would like the commission updated on South County Parkland Acquisition
 - b. ~~“Results Count” presentation by County Park Friends~~

IX. **NEXT MEETING:** Date and location to be announced in public notice.

X. **WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE LISTING** No written correspondence.

XI. **ADJOURNMENT** Motion to adjourn at 6:59pm: Vega, all in favor.