



County of Santa Cruz

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, OPEN SPACE & CULTURAL SERVICES

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JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION Minutes of June 12, 2023, 5:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Monica Martinez, Tricia Wiltshire, Katherine Lee, Jeremy Sanford
Staff: Jeff Gaffney, Noah Ross, Anissa Childers, Rebecca Hurley

II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Becky Steinbruner: Spoke on Aptos Village Park and possible improvements with Measure G funds. Also concerned about proposed drainage easement across the park. Also concerned with segment 12 of rail trail park and required tree removals. Spoke on Bert Scott Estate, hopeful for improvements.

Yadira Flores: Spoke on Outdoor Leaders Program. Introduced group and spoke on their program goals within the community and county parks.

Mariah Roberts: Further spoke on Outdoor Leaders Program and its mission.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: Approve consent agenda (Lee/Wiltshire 4/0)

V. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Lee: AJC Park has improved because of oak tree plantings. Met with Park Superintendent Jesse Williams to discuss sustainable Park Maintenance techniques. Attended downtown Parks Strategic Plan Community Meeting.

Commissioner Wiltshire: Thanked young leaders in attendance and encouraged public participation. Was involved with fun run and community festival at Pinto Lake. Spoke on upcoming wheelchair basketball event on June 17th.

Commissioner Sanford: First Commission meeting. Getting to know commission and process. Thanked commission and community.

Commissioner Martinez: Wet and challenging season in 5th district. Thanked Parks Department for recovery efforts. Spoke on Felton Deck accident and thanked Parks and Jesse Williams for prompt repair in time for Felton Remembers Parade.

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Now having FEMA tours in response to storm damage
- Heart of Soquel Park reopened, still needs some work.
- Parks added two maintenance workers and Recreation Coordinator as a part of 2023-24t budget

Parks and Recreation Commission
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- Spoke on restructuring of Park Impact Fees
- Making progress on South County Park acquisition and floral improvements as a result of the fee restructuring
- Environmental tax not bringing in the income that was expected. Will be reviewed again in the fall.
- July is Parks & Rec month. July 29th is Family Fun Day at Simpkins Family Swim Center.
- August 19th is Parks and Rex at Simpkins Family Swim Center.

VII. REGULAR AGENDA – Action Items

VIII. REGULAR AGENDA – Info Items

- a. Deputy Director Rebecca Hurley gave report on the 5-year update of the Parks Strategic Plan
- b. Commission discussed possible workshop for Parks Commissioners. Could be in the form of an offsite special meeting, possibly in September 2023. Possible opportunity for consultant to assist.

IX. NEXT MEETING: Monday August 14th 5:00-7:00 p.m.

X. WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE LISTING

XI. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m. (Sanford/Lee 4/0)