



County of Santa Cruz

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, OPEN SPACE & CULTURAL SERVICES

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JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION Minutes of Feb 8, 2021, 7:00 p.m. Special Meeting Virtual via Microsoft Teams

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Jim Rapoza, Mariah Roberts, Maggie Duncan-Merrell, Kate Minott, Steven Bennett
Staff: Jeff Gaffney, Jennifer Mead, Will Fourt, Kim Namba
of public members present: three

II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS (none)

III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

1. Jean Brocklebank Subject: Concern over Parks video with footage of unleashed dog; concern over no response from Director about press release suggestion.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: Minutes & reports approved (Rapoza/Roberts 5/0)

V. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Rapoza 5th District: Nothing to report.

Roberts 1st District: A lot going on – the new walkways are in at Heart Of Soquel. Brenda Guitierrez-Baeza who is a County Park Friends Advisor was invited to be part of the grand opening video.

Minott 2nd District: We talked about including an agenda item to allow for input on future agenda items. I wanted to check back in to see if that can be incorporated for next time and if Commissioners feel this item is helpful.

Bennett 4th District: Not much going on in South County, I haven't had a chance to meet with Supervisor Caput lately. To comment on what Kate said, we did have a spot on the agenda for Commissioners to give input on future items and it worked well.

Duncan-Merrell 3rd District: Santa Cruz City Parks is doing their Clam Chowder cook off but it will be reimaged to meet COVID guidelines, more info is online. The city parks will also be running their junior lifeguard programs this summer. I want to express concern about the homeless encampment at San Lorenzo Park and the amount of garbage and harm it is doing to the park and the community. I feel it is a misuse of public parks and is a violation of public code.

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- We hired Jaime Jimenez as Recreation Supervisor, we are thrilled to have him.

- We have been making it through the storms and have a rotating schedule for Debris Flow response. We had 1 big tree go down across Soquel Ave, we are lucky no one got hurt.
- We are partnering with Human Services Dept on National Dislocated Worker Program and also partnering to get CalWorks participants into our programs.
- I want to address comments about rules being broken in the parks. There's been a significant increase in park visitation. The biggest complaint right now is about people not complying with COVID guidelines.
- The Heart Of Soquel pathway has been completed and it is very exciting.
- We are applying for a number of grants this year, one for Chanticleer, and one for The Farm park.
- The County has authorized use of Zoom, so we'll be moving to that format for next meeting.

VII. REGULAR AGENDA – Info Items

- a. Presentation from Aniko Millan of County Park Friends – presentation was giving later in the meeting after action items.

VIII. REGULAR AGENDA – Information Items

- a. The Commission approved Chanticleer Park Phase 2 Conceptual Site Plan (Page 14-17)
Motion: (Roberts, Rapoza 5/0)
- b. The Commission reviewed Park Dedication Fees and Ordinance Updates (Page 18-27), and recommended the Board of Supervisors take the following actions:
 - i. Consider and approve in concept the attached ordinance including Park Land Dedication or Fees In Lieu Therof; Parks and Recreation Development Impact Fees; and Trails and Beach Access Dedication, Standards and Review; amending Santa Cruz County Code Chapter 15.01 and adding Chapters 15.03 and 15.05
 - ii. Schedule Second reading and final adoption of the ordinances
 - iii. Hold a public hearing on proposed amendments to the Unified Fee Schedule
 - iv. Adopt Unified Fee Schedule updates

Motion: (Minott, Roberts 4/0, Commissioner Bennett abstained)

IX. WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE LISTING (Page 28)

X. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m. (Rapoza/ Bennett 5/0)