



County of Santa Cruz

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, OPEN SPACE & CULTURAL SERVICES

979 17TH AVENUE, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95062

(831) 454-7901 FAX: (831) 454-7940

JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA

Monday, October 7, 2019
7:00pm – 9:00pm
Special Meeting

Simpkins Swim Center
979 17th Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS OR LATE ADDITIONS

III. CONSENT AGENDA (Action)

- a. Approve minutes from August 5, 2019.....Page 2-3
- b. Consider Reports:
 - 1. Aquatics Section Report.....Page 4-7
 - 2. Maintenance Section Report.....Page 8-9
 - 3. Planning Section Report.....Page 10-11
 - 4. Recreation Section Report.....Page 12-15
 - 5. Reservations Section ReportPage 16-17
 - 6. Volunteer Section Report.....Page 18-19

IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Opportunity for persons to address the Commission on matters which are within the scope of responsibility of the Commission or on today's Agenda. Presentations must not exceed three (3) minutes in length, and individuals may speak only once during Oral Communications. Commissioners will not take actions or respond immediately to any public communications presented regarding topics not on the Agenda but may choose to follow up later, either later, or on a subsequent Commission Agenda.

V. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

VII. REGULAR AGENDA – Action Items

- a. New park in Felton naming selection (Page 20-21)
- b. Scott Creek beach habitat management discussion

VIII. REGULAR AGENDA – Information Items

- a. Anna Jean Cummings park update
- b. Parks & Recreation funding challenges in other jurisdictions

IX. WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE LISTING (Page 22)

X. ADJOURNMENT



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JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION Minutes of August 5, 2019, 6:30 p.m. meeting 275 Main Street 4th Floor, Community Rm Watsonville, CA 95076

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Jim Rapoza, Mariah Roberts, Maggie Duncan-Merrell, Kate Minott
Staff: Jeff Gaffney, Jennifer Mead

II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

Accept agenda as presented (Duncan-Merrell/Rapoza 4/0)

III. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes were approved (Duncan-Merrell/Rapoza 4/0)
- B. Accept and file reports as presented (Minott/Duncan-Merrell 4/0)

IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

- 1. Jean Brocklebank Subject: Scott Creek Beach
- 2. Vivian Evan Subject: Anna Jean Cummings Park
- 3. Michael Lewis Subject: Scott Creek Beach and Anna Jean Cummings Park
- 4. Lisa Sheridan Subject: Anna Jean Cummings Park
- 5. Katherine Sweet Subject: Anna Jean Cummings Park

V. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Duncan-Merrell 3rd District: July was "Parks Make Life Better" month which was very successful especially with the final event at Harvey West. SC Parks and Rec is taking applications for the annual Outrigger Race taking place in August. Fall registration opens today for SC Parks and Rec. It has been a great summer for the city Junior Guards.

Minott 2nd District: I want to thank the kids who volunteered at Seacliff Village Park and Aptos Village Park. I look forward to hearing the update from Friends of Santa Cruz County Parks. There are exciting things happening with Phase 2 of Seacliff Village Park!

Rapoza 5th District: Ben Lomond Park is looking good, the Valley Women's Club has donated native plants to beautify the park. Felton deck is also looking good since staff has been staying on top of the garbage that accumulates from loitering. Taco Tuesday at Felton Covered Bridge was a big hit. The collaboration with Boulder Creek Rec at the Bear Creek Country Club is well received from the community. The recreation district is doing well with managing the facility & pool.

Roberts 1st District: The playground is actually in at Chanticleer Park. There is a restroom and the playground equipment is in the ground. July was a big month and it is so neat that County Parks

hosted a free event every day somewhere in the county. One event I wanted to highlight was at Pleasure Point where members of the public got to draw on the sidewalk with chalk. This was a simple & wonderful event for the community with 150 people in attendance.

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- We made it through July! Staff did an amazing job. Especially awesome to partner with other Park agencies on so many great events.
- We submitted the Statewide Park Program Grant today for the Farm Park, we are asking for \$7M.
- We have Fellow working at the Park Office, Haven Parker. She was valedictorian of her class and is bringing a lot of skills to the office. She will be with us for two years and will be working with staff on all sorts of projects.
- I attended a CPRS roundtable with Parks Directors, it was good to connect with other directors on issues facing parks and open spaces.
- The Food Truck pilot program at 701 is doing well, staff is working out the kinks with vendors.
- We did a site visit with the skateboarding company NHS, Supervisor Zach Friend, Friends of County Parks and DreamWorks skate design to discuss installation of skate feature at Seacliff Village Park.
- We recently signed an agreement with DPW regarding Coastal Encroachment and the responsibilities of Parks now that we have our own Coastal Encroachment policy.

VII. REGULAR AGENDA – Information Items

- a. Terry Corwin gave an update about Friends of Santa Cruz County Parks
- b. Cabrillo Host Lions presented a proposal for small area to honor veterans at Aptos Village Park

VIII. REGULAR AGENDA – Action Items (none)

IX. 7:30pm – SCHEDULED ITEM – The Commission discussed topics below with the Watsonville City Parks Commissioners

- a. Discussion topics: Shared interests for South County residents, goals of Watsonville City Parks, goals of Santa Cruz County Parks, areas for partnership, possible physical connections between Pinto Lake City Park & Pinto Lake County Park

X. WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE LISTING (page

XI. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.



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JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

Date: October 1, 2019
To: Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Max Friedmann, Aquatics Supervisor
Subject: Aquatics Section Report

Fall Session August 19th through November 1, 2019

Lap Pool hours:

Mondays and Wednesdays	from 6:00 am to 8:30 pm.
Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays	from 6:00 am to 7:30pm
Saturdays and Sundays	from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Adult lap swimming continues to remain the swim center's most popular program, with lanes available whenever the swim center is open. Our goal is always to have a minimum of 6 lanes available for adult lap swimming.

Warm-Water Pool:

The warm-water pool is open for general public use on:

Mondays and Wednesdays	6:00—9:45am 3:00—5:00pm (Rec Swim) 6:00—8:30pm
Tuesdays and Thursdays	6:00am—3:00pm 3:00—5:00pm (Rec Swim) 5:00—8:30pm
Fridays	6:00—9:45am 3:00—5:00pm (Rec Swim) 6:00—8:30pm
Saturdays and Sundays	9:00 am - 10:30 am (adults only) 10:30 am – 12:30 pm (adults & youth age 6 and younger) 12:30 – 4:00 pm (Rec Swim ~ all ages)

Recreation Swim – During the fall season recreation swim times include the warm water pool, tot spray zone, and 1-2 shallow lanes of the 50M pool. Overall Facility hours were extended on Sundays to add a recreation swim time from 12:30-4pm until the end of daylight savings time. The waterslide remained regularly open during Rec swim times through Labor Day Weekend, and remains opens during the fall season for private pool party rentals and special events.

“Sunset Swim” reduced admission – on Monday and Wednesday evenings after 7pm, reduced drop-in admission fee are offered to all swimmers-- \$5 for adults, and \$3 for Seniors and Youth.

Special Events at the Pool

Parks and Rex— On August 24th the Parks Department held the fifth annual Parks and Rex Event! Dogs were thrilled to be able to swim in the warm water pool again this year and enjoyed doggie ice cream cones, doggie massage and dog pedicures. Human attendees additionally enjoyed good food, beer and wine, music, paddle boarding and kayaking on the pool, floating hamster wheels, a children’s bounce house, several raffle options for prizes, and a beautiful, fun day at the pool!

On **Labor Day** the Parks Department held another **Annual FREE SWIM** from 12:30-4:00pm co-sponsored by the Simpkins Family. Over 500 people attended this free event- nearly twice the attendance of last year. Families enjoyed the pools, slide, and climbing walls, a penny dive in the warm water pool, and innertube race in the lap pool.

On **September 7th**, we co-sponsored the third annual **ROMMP** (Roy Orbison Memorial Water Polo) Tournament. Over 50 players participated! The ROMP tournament was sanctioned by USA Water Polo.

On **September 15th**, The swim center hosted the **23rd annual SuperKid Triathalon**.

On **Saturday, September 21st** Several spaces in the swim center’s parking lot hosted **PARK(ing) Day**. This free event was well attended, with participants enjoying giant blue building blocks, cornhole, Connect-4, and a food truck!

On **Sunday, October 20th** from 1:00 – 4:00pm we will be holding another annual **Floating Pumpkin Patch**. This annual event puts a fun spin on the time-honored tradition of pumpkin picking by creating a floating patch in the pool! In addition to searching for your perfect pumpkin in the pool we’ve got plenty of other fun activities planned for the day, including food, games, and prizes!

Aquatics Programs

Harbor High Water Polo - For the months of September and October Simpkins Family Swim Center staff has worked with Harbor High School Athletics to host **Harbor High’s Varsity Boys & Girls Water Polo** teams as they do not have a pool to practice in on campus.

Fall and Winter Swim lessons – Are held Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10:30am – 12:30pm and Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings from 4:00 – 7:00 pm.

Private Swim lessons -are also available with either our aquatics staff or one of our four private contractors.

Adult Fitness Swimming – Adult Fitness Swimming remains a popular and growing program at the Simpkins Family Swim Center. 90-minute coached swim workouts are offered Monday through Friday at 6:00am and 12:00pm, and weekends at 9:00am. A variety of coaches offer swimmers multiple workout choices.

Water Aerobics – The water exercise classes this year continue to reach their highest capacity to date. Water exercise is an excellent way for people to meet their fitness goals without impact on the joints. Classes are designed to appeal to all levels of ability, including healthy, cross training fitness enthusiasts, pre-natal, seniors, and those rehabilitating. A monthly calendar is available with dates, times, and instructors' names. Previous swimming or water-exercise experience is not required for participation in any of the water exercise classes.

Child Care – The drop-in child-care program has now been open for over two years. This program is open to children 6 months and up and costs \$5 per child for up to two hours while the parent/guardian is swimming. The program is staffed by both aquatics and recreation staff members.

Current Fall Childcare hours are:
9:00 AM – 1:30 PM Tuesdays and Thursdays
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Saturdays

Drop-in Adult Water Polo – Sundays from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm. Adult participants must sign a waiver and be a member of USAWPA to participate in the program.

Lifeguard Staff Training Exercises – The aquatics staff September in-service training focused on emergency oxygen administration, integrating emergency O2 into CPR care, and customer service skills. During the October in-service lifeguard staff will practice making rescues while wearing winter weather gear. The upcoming November in-service will cover weather-related closures and emergencies.

Pool Rentals

Swim Teams – Currently two swim teams: Aptos Cabrillo Swim Club and Quicksilver Swimming rent lanes in the 50-meter pool. The swim teams offer school-age competitive swimming programs Monday through Friday from 3:30 to 6 or 7:30 p.m.

Private Pool Parties – Pool parties continue to remain popular into the Fall with private parties booked after-hours on nearly every weekend date, except for closures and special events. A variety of aspects of the facility may be rented after hours for Private Parties, from just the warm water pool to the entire facility. The County's Human Services Department – Foster Families party rented the entire aquatics complex again for the third year in a row for their back to school carnival, with over 200 attendees. Private Pool rentals are available March through October on the weekends after the facility closes to the public.

Scheduled Pool Closures

All pools were closed for maintenance on August 25th, to thoroughly clean and renew the water following the Parks and Rex event.

Scheduled Maintenance closures also occurred on September 20th and September 29th. Work included pump seal and filter replacement for all year-round pools, work which cannot be performed with the pools operating.

All pools will have a modified schedule on **Sunday, October 20th** with open public time being from 9am – 12:30pm, closing at 12:30pm for event set-up to occur for the annual October special event, the **Floating Pumpkin Patch** taking place from 1-4pm.

The pool will also be closed on Thanksgiving – Thursday, November 28th.

Live Oak Community Rooms

The Live Oak Community Rooms at the swim center continue to be rented out throughout the year for meetings, small events and classes.

County Parks Friends Swim Lesson Scholarship Program

This fall we have collaborated with County Parks Friends to expand their swim lesson scholarship program. County Parks Friends has set a goal to provide 9x more swim lesson scholarships in 2020.



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Date: October 1, 2019
To: Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Eric Sturm & Rebecca Hurley, Parks Superintendents
Subject: Maintenance Section Report

North

- The Davenport Landing restroom replacement should conclude by mid October
- An all crew workday was conducted at Felton Covered Bridge park. Staff cut back vegetation around the bridge, pathways, and completed edging and tree trimming.
- Staff completed plumbing upgrades at Hestwood Park
- Trail repair, drainage extension, and retaining wall installation occurred at the entrance to Moran Lake park by 30th Ave during an all crew work day
- Tree work is scheduled to occur at Moran Lake park to trim back Eucalyptus trees that were topped after the 2017 winter season
- Repairs to the steep open space trail at Anna Jean Cummings park were completed along with the installation of water bars to try and lessen the amount of trail erosion this coming winter season
- Staff has been meeting with neighbors at Anna Jean Cummings park and working with them towards trail closures on the south knoll. The closures will allow for restoration and to inhibit excessive erosion during the coming winter season. Additionally, we are working with neighbors and a new consultant on creating an official trail map for the open space area.
- Felton Library park construction continues to be underway and we are happy to say that funding became available for all the play elements to be completed by early 2020
- A new gate, arbor and split rail fence was installed at Highlands park
- A hazardous tree was removed at Quail Hollow Ranch

Mini-mid

- Simpkins Maintenance staff contracted Knorr Systems to replace all the lateral lines in one of the four sand filters at the pool. Two sand filters still need to be repaired and Simpkins staff are planning to conduct these repairs themselves.
- Staff repaired the valve in the surge pit at the Swim Center on Sunday 9/29 during that monthly maintenance closure day.
- Plans are in place to repair the drainage in the playground area at Felt Street Park
- Resurfacing the Pickleball court and refinishing pickleball lines at Brommer Street Park is scheduled to occur in mid October

South

- Two “Give and Take Libraries” were installed at Pinto Lake Park and Aldridge Lane Park. The project was a cooperative effort between Parks, Live Like Coco Foundation, and Azteca’s Youth Soccer Academy.
- South County maintenance teamed up to re-stripe all the parking stalls and traffic markings at Polo Grounds Park
- Maintenance improvements at Valencia Hall included painting the exterior railings & front porch, polishing interior hardwood floor, and removal of an old shipping container stored on site
- Staff made repairs to the Pinto pump track surface
- Fall turf fertilizing and aeration of South County sports fields continues

Veterans Building

- The elevator is a **BIG PROBLEM**. It’s not consistently working and patrons get stuck between floors. No elevator means no access to programs & services for Vets.
- Fixed HVAC and ventilation in the building
- Replaced damaged tiles in suspended ceiling.
- Vets’ staff re-planted the landscape in the courtyard
- Homeless (and their products) still a problem every morning when staff arrives



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JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

Date: October 1, 2019
To: Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Sheryl Bailey, Project Manager & Will Fourt, Park Planner
Subject: Planning Section Status Report

Felton Library

A construction contract has been awarded to Thompson Builders Corporation for the construction of the Felton Library Discovery Park. Construction has begun and the contractor is working on preparing the site, grading, irrigation, and bridge installation. Parks staff has been working with a graphic design team to develop the content and artwork for the interpretive panels, and with a manufacturer on the design and fabrication of the relief map. The California Conservation Corps have completed some invasive plant removal and have constructed a screen fence at the site.

Chanticleer Park: The construction is underway at Chanticleer Park for the Phase I development to include LEO's Haven. Granite Construction and subcontractors have installed playground equipment, playground entrance and surfacing, the restroom building, new sidewalk and park utilities.

Quail Hollow Brook Restoration Grant

The graphic artist team, Jane Bolling Design and Parks Planning staff have finalized the text and illustrations of the interpretive panels and sent them to the printer. It is anticipated that the sign installation will be completed in November by Parks Maintenance staff.

Quail Hollow Brook Restoration Grant

The graphic artist team, Jane Bolling Design and Parks Planning staff have finalized the text and illustrations of the interpretive panels and sent them to the printer. It is anticipated that the sign installation will be completed in November by Parks Maintenance staff. A final inspection of the grant deliverables is tentatively being scheduled in December of 2019. Please look for the three illustrated interpretive panels which represent some of the unique flora and fauna of Quail Hollow Park on the County Park's website www.scparks.com.

Heart of Soquel Phase 2 & 3

The Soquel Creek Linear Parkway project (a.k.a. Heart of Soquel Phases 2 and 3) was awarded nearly \$1.5 million dollars by the California Natural Resources Agency for our CA River Parkways Grant application. Recently, the grant contract negotiations have been completed. On 11/5/19, the Board of Supervisors will be asked to accept the grant award monies. The design team, SSA, and Parks Project Manager are in the process of completing the preliminary building permit plan set. It is anticipated that the building permit will be applied for in October of 2019. The Parks Department anticipates completing the construction of the Soquel Creek Linear Parkway in the late fall/early winter of 2020 with the use of grant (CA River Parkways and ATP CCC) and Measure G funds. The Parks Department was also awarded the Habitat Conservation Funds for the Riparian Restoration component of this project. However, this grant award was declined as it was duplicative of a portion of the CA River Parkways grant and

provided a lesser benefit to County Parks.

Farm Future Phases

On 8/5/19, Parks Project Manager, with assistance from many other Parks staff and community partners, submitted the Statewide Park Program pre-proposal grant application, including a request for remediation funds, in the amount of \$7,216,000. The State grantors are expected to announce projects that are selected for field visits in October of 2018. If selected, the field visit may result in being invited to submit the final grant application. Prior to the submittal of the grant application, Environmental Health Services Agency was consulted regarding the status of a prior Phase 1 Report and Remediation plan and it was determined, that due to very recently released new standards, the report and plan needed to be updated. Trinity Source Group Inc. (Trinity) was hired to complete this work and this work is currently in process. The further design and completion of grading and drainage plans will be informed by the to be developed revised remediation plan. Also, currently SSA and the staff are developing and reviewing design components that are not contingent on Trinity's work, in consultation with Environmental Health Services, being completed at this time.

Seacliff Village Park Phase 2- On 10/8/19, the Board of Supervisors, will be asked to approve a contract with Public Restroom Company, to construct and deliver a restroom to the park. It is anticipated that this restroom will be placed in approximately the same location as the existing temporary restroom. The Call to Artists has been released and the Phase 2 Conceptual Plan and Call to Artists can be found on the County Parks website www.scparks.com.



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JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

Date: October 1, 2019
To: Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Kathy DeWild, Program Coordinator
Subject: Recreation Section Report

Art Exhibitions

Sandra Cherk's pastel paintings will be on exhibition at the Simpkins Family Swim Center / Parks office through early October, after which Mark Overgaard will show his photographs until January 2020. At the County Government Center on the first floor through Oct. 1 is the annual County Employee Exhibition. New exhibitions will go up on the first and fifth floors October 25, showing through December 20, featuring paintings by Marie Massey and Anne Green on the 1st floor, photography by John Hickok and pastels by Cristie Buckminster on the 5th floor, and jewelry by Lina Pukstaite in the display cases on both the 1st and 5th floor.

La Selva Beach Library Public Art Project

Denise Davidson's public art proposal for the La Selva Beach Library was approved by the Board of Supervisors on September 24. She will now begin work on a 5' x 3' glass mosaic with ocean-inspired imagery in blues and greens. When complete, it will be installed on the exterior wall adjacent to the rear library entrance.

Seacliff Village Park – phase 2 Public Art Project

A call to artists went out on September 23 for phase 2 public art proposals, which are due by October 11. Artists are invited to submit proposals for a mural, mosaic, or low-relief sculpture to be installed on one to three exterior walls of the new restroom building. The selection panel will meet on October 16 to review proposals and choose a finalist(s) to continue in the selection process.



Cell Tower Equipment Cabinet Art

Sophie Webb has completed painting of two cell tower cabinets in Davenport. She will now begin work on vault-type cabinet, also located in Davenport. Similar in nature to the County's "Outside the Box" program where drab traffic controller boxes are colorfully transformed by local artists, this project seeks to beautify utility cabinets which house cell tower equipment. Similar future projects of this nature are planned for Portola Drive in Live Oak.



Behavioral Health Office Building (BHOB) Public Art Project

Bruce Harman, the public artist for the BHOB Public Art Project, has completed the second element of his project, indoor mural approximately 20' L x 8' H, which will serve as a background for client artwork created in staff- and therapist-led workshops. The third project element, a trompe l'oeil featuring a butterfly image, is well underway.

Artist of the Year

The Arts Commission selected the 2020 Artist of the Year; an announcement will be made to the public after the new year.

Adult and Senior Programs

In August, trip-goers enjoyed a lavish Champagne Brunch at the famous Cliff House in San Francisco, followed by time to explore Golden Gate Park.

In early September, lucky lottery winners were treated to a free cruise aboard the Chardonnay II. Staff received lovely notes of gratitude from several people who attended.

October offers a trip featuring: an adventure trek at Safari West, a tour of the Charles Schulz Museum, and time for exploring the quaint downtown area of Petaluma. Also, later in the month, we will take the ever-festive excursion to Golden Gate Fields to enjoy action-packed horse racing and a mouth-watering buffet in the Turf Club.

Girls Paving the Way

Wednesday workshops: Participants in Girls Paving the Way have had a variety of fun programs. Staff attended a GIRLS (Gaining Information to Reach a Life of Success) Paving the Way program partner summit on Tuesday, July 23. We were excited to introduce our new hire to the partners and to hear positive feedback from participant and parent focus groups. We also pinpointed areas of collective focus in order to best support the GIRLS in their final year of middle school and the 3-yr. pilot program.

Mar Vista TK and Kinder Program

Kinder Enrichment and T.K. programs are now serving 22 families. The biggest group is in the mid-day program with a combo TK/Kinder group of 16 little ones. September started out with the theme of shapes. Tabletop time was focused on tangram puzzles and blocks. The children also traced shapes to use in designing gingerbread houses. One of the more enjoyable activities was drawing different shapes with chalk on the playground pavement. The following week was all about apples. A framed "stained glass" apple still decorates the room window, sunshine streaming through tissue paper layers of greens, reds, and yellows. The children also colored, cut and pasted the cycle of an apple, including an apple tree in bloom. As we head into a season change, we'll focus on squirrels and their friends for the third week of the month, with paper-bag squirrel puppets. We reused champagne corks to make crows with big goggle eyes. Toward the end of the month, the children "traveled" into fall with leaf rubbings, torn-paper trees, and a talking about fall colors. October will bring themes such as Mysteries, Monsters, and Pumpkins.

Quail Hollow Ranch

As summer faded into fall, we saw our first field trip of the year. Janet Stahl and her class from SLV elementary came to QHR for the first of four field trips which are scheduled throughout the year. School field trips are designed to connect directly to students' school curriculum. They also create a rich experience for the students as they return to QHR several times over the course of the school year - giving them the opportunity to truly connect with a wild space. Fall is now in full swing, and that means more field trips! Main Street Elementary will be bringing three groups of 4th graders to QHR, three weeks in a row. Every 4th grader at Main Street will have the opportunity to explore our beautiful park

The Master Gardeners hosted their first ever Native Plant class and over 50 people showed up. The class went great and the participants learned a great deal about natives and how to cultivate them. The Master Gardeners will be at QHR again on October 6 for a class on cover cropping. QHR Star Parties, in partnership with the Santa Cruz Astronomy Club, continue on a monthly basis, bringing folks up to QHR to learn about the night sky and see it through truly amazing telescopes. At the end of the month, Park Docent Richard James will give his monthly talk about the fascinating history of Quail Hollow Ranch.

Quail Hollow Ranch's annual volunteer recognition luncheon will be held on October 9 to recognize the many amazing volunteers

Mar Vista ACE

Mar Vista ACE had a roaring start on Aug. 14, with many new and several returning participants. For our first field trip, we walked to Marianne's Ice Cream and played at Seacliff Village Park. August themes included Welcome Back, Friendship, and Santa Cruz Life. During Welcome Back Week, participants decorated and prepared materials for the mula buck reward system which staff uses to encourage positive behavior and community-building. One activity in particular ACE participants enjoyed during Friendship Week was making beaded bracelets for their friends. During Santa Cruz Life Week, participants made paper bag puppets representing Santa Cruz life and styles. September themes included Science, Superstitions, Space, and Fall. During Science Week, participants had a great deal of fun making ice cream in a bag. It was a great teaching moment for them to learn about how a liquid can become a solid, and how that can require patience! Space Week brought lessons about asteroids and planets. Participants also made faux spacesuits from silver-insulated bubble wrap. The kids were very creative, and the spacesuits soon became Minecraft costumes. September field trips included swimming at The Simpkins Family Swim Center, and bowling and miniature golf at the Boardwalk. In October, we look forward to activities revolving around the following themes: Natural Disasters, Harvest, Heroes and Villains, The Great Pumpkin, and Halloween. Also in October, ACE and Wednesday Kinder/TK Enrichment participants will take trips to: the Santa Cruz Natural History Museum and Ocean View Park, the Sanctuary Exploration Center, and a pumpkin patch.

One significant highlight to note is a dad who pulled a staff member aside to thank her for getting his son outside and playing. He said, "before he started coming to ACE he would not play outside or do things outside. I have tried for years to try to get him outside and play. Now that he is at ACE he enjoys being outside and playing!"

GIRLS Paving the Way

At the end of August, Parks staff joined UCSC Educational Partnership Center staff in welcoming GIRLS Paving the Way participants back to their final year of programming with a lunchtime orientation. Staff also participated in a parent orientation meeting that evening. Parks program workshops began in September. Gina, from Santa Cruz County Bike, gave a presentation on bicycle safety and fun. The girls made ice cream in a bag and, much like the

ACE participants, they were curious about how a liquid becomes a solid. The last few workshops have been about taking ownership of the room that will be a dedicated space for the program this year. The girls assisted in cleaning the outside patio and we planted dahlias, daisies and succulents in planters to beautify the space. This patio will be a great place for implementing messy cooking, science and art projects. The final workshop in September will consist of a presentation by David Schwartz, who will speak to the girls about coastal ecology and prepare them for the next day's Explore the Coast trip to the Resource Reserve in Moss Landing. Marina Ramon will also join him and present regarding marine science careers. She is a STEM Project Specialist and adjunct instructor in Marine Biology at Cabrillo. She has a PhD from UCSC in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. We hope that she will inspire the GIRLS to consider a STEM career path! October will feature activities such as self-portraits, leadership activities and games and a celebration of the Day of the Dead with sugar skull art.



GIRLS Explore the Coast

The GIRLS Explore the Coast program is providing many great experiences for South County participants. Our first adventure was to Palm Beach State Park. Along with having a great time on the beach and in the ocean, participants made observations of the Pajaro River/Watsonville Slough that parallels the beach and learned what a watershed is, how the river flows, and what it collects on its way to the ocean. After lunch, the girls participated in a beach cleanup and collected data for Save Our Shores. It was encouraging and inspiring for staff to see their excitement as the girls encountered jellyfish, sand crabs, sand dollars, and even seaweed.

Our next adventure took us to Natural Bridges State Beach for tidepool exploration and a bike ride along the coast to Wilder Ranch. As mentioned above, David Schwartz and Marina Ramona will present on coastal ecology and marine science careers at a GIRLS Paving the Way workshop. On the next day, we will take a

trip to the Research Reserve, where Mr. Schwartz will present on Elkhorn Slough's ecosystem, history and its environmental challenges. A nature journaling activity will also take place, followed by lunch and Hydro bike rides on the slough.

Participants also began swim lesson instruction. Nine of the eighteen girls who attended the first swim lesson class were non-swimmers. Parks is excited to have the opportunity to help teach local adolescents to swim and become more comfortable in the water.

In October, the program participants are looking forward to more swim lessons, a tour of Año Nuevo, kayaking, and a sleepover experience at the Monterey Bay Aquarium.



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Date: October 1, 2019
To: Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Mary Chavez, Program Coordinator
Subject: Reservations Section Report

Summary for Reservations in the Parks:

Overall Facility Reservations Summary:

The months of August and September have been very busy in the office and at the park sites. The public continues to enjoy the resources and recreational opportunities available within the County Parks system. There were approximately 4,470 bookings of the various Park sites, including reservations of picnic areas, meeting rooms, wedding and event locations, special events, and athletic field rentals. Staff estimates that over 75,000 park visitors attended events in reserved facilities during these months.

Park Centers host a variety of events, including wedding receptions, family events and various non-profit events. There were 55 private events hosted at the centers and 75 meeting room rentals in August and September.

Picnic area rentals have been very busy with 115 picnic rentals taking place during these two months, including 30 parties that were held at the newly installed group picnic areas at Jose Avenue Park and Highlands Park.

The fall sports season has begun and baseball, soccer and volleyball programs have continued to grow, filling the 18 athletic fields with these sports activities. There have been 590 individual bookings with over 26,000 in attendance. Another successful Santa Cruz Breakers Cup Tournament in August and Santa Cruz Classic Tournament in September took place at the Polo Grounds and Anna Jean Cummings Park, both hosting these annual countywide tournaments which boasts over 5,000 players between the ages of 6 and 18, who also play their fall seasons in all four parks with soccer fields.

Special Events and ongoing programs

The special event season has included a wide variety of festivals, 5k fun runs, and non-profit community events and fundraisers.

August hosted **Team House Hunter Movie Night** at Aptos Park, **Jim Walters Memorial Tournament** at Highlands Park, **National Night Out** at Mesa Village Park, sponsored by the Sheriff's Office, and **Tequila & Taco Festival** at the County Government Center.

September hosted **SLV Fellowship Picnic** at Felton Covered Bridge Park, **I/You Venture Picnic** (Family Services Association) at Aptos Park, **Santa Cruz Dub'n VW Car Show** at the

County Government Center, and the **annual Coastal Clean Up Day** (CA Coastal Commission/ Save Our Shores) in countywide beaches and rivers. Seascapes Park hosted two annual fundraisers, **Run for Rio** (Rio Del Mar Elementary) and **Walk to End Alzheimer's** (Alzheimer's Association of Santa Cruz County).

Additional events are noted in the Special Events/Administration section.

Cross country season has resumed at Pinto Lake County Park, with middle school and high school practices and meets taking place regularly in August and September. Surf season has also begun. **Waves of Impact** provided a free surf camp for kids with special challenges in August and September hosted 2 surf contests at Pleasure Point and 41st Avenue (the Hook).

Ongoing programs include a variety of fitness and recreational programs. **Fit4Mom Santa Cruz** offers Stroller Strides weekly workouts at Anna Jean Cummings and Seascapes Parks. **Together in the Park** program, sponsored by Mountain Community Resources, provide for weekly parent-child play groups at Felton Covered Bridge. **Good Dog Santa Cruz** is providing twice weekly dog training at Willowbrook Park. **The Lucky Steppers Square Dance** group enjoyed another fun summer of dancing at the Ben Lomond Dam Park. **Santa Cruz Pickleball** continues weekly use of Willowbrook Park courts and has biweekly use of the pickleball courts at Brommer Street Park. The SLV Chamber of Commerce co-hosts **Taco Tuesdays** with Food Trucks A-Go-Go monthly at Felton Covered Bridge Park. Ocean Grove Charter School has resumed weekly **Science Classes** at Anna Jean Cummings Park in September.

Administration, Special Events:

The second summer of outdoor movie nights in the parks has proven successful. The **Family Movie Nights** series, sponsored by Supervisor Leopold and County Parks, took place twice a month from June through August at Heart of Soquel and Felt Street Parks. With sponsorship funding, the Department was able to purchase outdoor theatre movie equipment, a great investment for the community.

The Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter and County Parks sponsored two **Doggie Date Night** movies in August at Brommer Street Park and September at Anna Jean Cummings Park. The events were well-attended by the community and four legged friends.

The 5th annual **Parks & Rex Pool Party** fundraiser was an enormous success. The event raised the most funds to date and boasted 465 people and 125 dogs in attendance.

The **Food Truck Pilot Program** has been providing daily food truck services at the County's 701 and Emeline campuses. Rotating food trucks include Shockwave, Tacos El Chuy, Drunk Monkeys, Ate3One, Good Dogs, and Dos Hermanos Pupuseria. Staff will meet to determine next steps since the pilot program ends by the end of October.

New food concession services at various park and coastal access locations are now open, including: Hiccapping Dragon hot dog cart at Rio Del Mar Esplanade; Mobility4Kids hot dog cart at The Hook; Dos Hermanos Pupuseria food truck, serving during weekends at the Polo Grounds; and, Steve's Shave Ice, who will provide concessions for the Live Oak Beaches Route, which includes Twin Lakes Beachfront, Moran Lake Park, and Pleasure Point Park.

Planning is underway for the upcoming **Día de los Muertos Festival & 5k/3k** on October 27th, cosponsored by the Boys and Girls Clubs of Santa Cruz County and El Rosal Bakery. Register today at www.diasantacruz.com. Staff are also part of a planning committee for the **Water Harvest Festival** on October 20 at Anna Jean Cummings Park, coordinated by the Soquel Creek Water District, in partnership with Santa Cruz County Parks, Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County and Save Our Shores.



County of Santa Cruz

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, OPEN SPACE & CULTURAL SERVICES

979 17TH AVENUE, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95062

(831) 454-7901 FAX: (831) 454-7940

JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

Date: October 1, 2019
To: Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Margaret Ingraham, Volunteer Program Coordinator
Subject: Volunteer Program Report

Quail Hollow Ranch

The season for bird nesting at Quail Hollow Ranch has come to an end and the Nest Box Program volunteers reported a very successful year. A total of 106 birds fledged from the nest boxes, as opposed to 80 last year. The Western Bluebird which had been somewhat of a rarity when the project started in 2002, are now experiencing a resurgence countywide according to a recent survey by the Santa Cruz Bird Club. More than 125 of them have fledged from nest boxes at Quail Hollow! The Bird Nest Box Program volunteers log approximately 200 hours a year.



On October 9th staff will be honoring Quail Hollow volunteers with a Recognition Luncheon and Pin dedication. Supervisor, Bruce McPherson and Parks staff will be present to honor the Quail Hollow Ranch volunteers.

Volunteers at Quail Hollow Ranch log over 2000 hours a year!

You are invited to attend an annual Fundraising Taco Lunch (\$10 all you can eat tacos) for Friends of Quail Hollow Ranch on October 2nd from 10:00 – 1:00 pm. This fundraiser is sponsored by Granite Rock at the Quail Hollow Quarry, 405 Quail Hollow Road, Felton. Granite Rock representatives will be in attendance to answer questions about the Quarry and provide tours.

Parks Office

Volunteer, David Kwan continues to help in office on Tuesdays and Thursday and has been very helpful lately with a large scanning project.

Junior Recreation Volunteers

In June, July, and August the department engaged over 40 youth volunteers and they logged over 2300 hours!

Volunteers

Volunteer, Jay Todd continues to routinely pick-up trash on the North Coast beach access points, parking lots, and along the highway on the North Coast.

Players with the Harbor High Water Polo Team and some of their parents volunteered for us at the Parks and Rex fundraiser.

Thank you to all the youth volunteers who volunteered in our programs throughout the summer. We had 40 youth volunteering and they logged over 2300 hours in June, July, and August.

News

Staff nominated K & D Landscaping and the volunteer Trail Crew at Quail Hollow Ranch for the Be the Difference Awards, sponsored by the Volunteer Center of Santa Cruz and they both were chosen! The Be the Difference Awards will be held on October 10th.

Our Department has been invited to apply for an AmeriCorps Team for January of 2020. Staff is working on the application and project list.



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(831) 454-7901 FAX: (831) 454-7940 TDD: (831) 454-7978

JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

October 1, 2019

Parks and Recreation Commission
County of Santa Cruz
979 17th Avenue
Santa Cruz CA 95062

SUBJECT: Felton Discovery Park

Library and Discovery Park Background

The Parks Department has been working in collaboration with the Department of Public Works, the Santa Cruz Public Libraries, the San Lorenzo Valley Water District, and the Felton Library Friends Branch of the Friends of the Santa Cruz Public Libraries to plan, design and construct the proposed new discovery park at the Felton Library site. The Felton Library Friends have been actively fundraising for both the Felton Library and the discovery park.

A construction contract was awarded to Thompson Builders Corporation on July 9th, 2019, and construction of the park is currently underway. The park will include an accessible walkway with two pedestrian bridges over Bull Creek, interpretive signage, an outdoor learning area, interactive play elements, a watershed relief map, native and pollinator planting areas, benches and a decorative human sundial.

Parking Naming Proposal

On December 10, 2002, the County Board of Supervisors approved revisions to the County Parks Naming Policy. This policy states three criteria for naming a park:

1. Geographical location or feature - relating to the street or community the park is located in, or a recognized and well-known feature of the area;
2. Historical feature - relating to an event, era or person of historical relevance which will have lasting significance to the public throughout the life of the park.
3. Individual or family - a name which recognizes a person or family who made a distinct, significant contribution to the well-being of the County or made an extraordinary donation of land or funds.

The policy also states that the Parks and Recreation Commission will make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors for each name.

Community members associated with the Felton Library Friends (FLF) have proposed the park be named Felton Discovery Park. Upon a vote of the FLF Steering Committee, Felton Discovery Park received 4 votes and Bull Creek Discovery Park received 3 votes.

Parks staff recommends the name Felton Discovery Park as it fits with the intent of the park design and space, is consistent with the Parks naming policy, is how the park is referred to commonly and is likely to be how the park is referred to in the future regardless of formal name.

It is therefore recommended that your Commission recommend to the Board of Supervisors to name the new park at the Felton Library site the Felton Discovery Park.

Sincerely,



Jeff Gaffney
Director of Parks, Open Space & Cultural Services

WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE LISTING:

The Written Correspondence Listing is established to act as a report of materials received by the Commission as a whole, but may also include items requested for inclusion by individual Commissioners.

The Parks and Recreation Commission has received the following items of correspondence which require no official action by the Commission at this time:

1. Email from Becky Steinbruner, dated August 1, 2019, regarding County-owned lot in the Rio del Mar Beach Esplanade
2. Email from Steven Bennett, dated August 2, 2019, regarding 4th Supervisorial District updates
3. Email from Jean Brocklebank, dated August 5, 2019, regarding Scott Creek beach
4. Email from Katherine Sweet, dated August 6, 2019, regarding Anna Jean Cummings park and public record act request
5. Email from Vivian Fenner-Evans, dated September 24, 2019, regarding the Parks Commission by-law section on public participation
6. Email from Jean Brocklebank, dated September 25, 2019, regarding the Parks Commission by-law section on public participation