



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 TDD: (831) 454-7978

ARTS COMMISSION AGENDA

Monday, March 7, 2016
4:30 p.m.
Regular Meeting

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

- I. **CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL**
- II. **AGENDA MODIFICATIONS OR APPROVAL**
- III. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. Minutes from Dec. 7, 2016.....Page 2
 - B. Information and Reports (Accept and File)
 1. Maintenance Section – Status Report.....Page 3-4
 2. Facilities Section – Status Report.....Page 5
 3. Recreation Section – Status Report.....Pages 6-9
 4. Aquatics Section – Status Report.....Pages 10-11
 5. Planning Section – Status Report.....Pages 12-13
- IV. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:** Opportunity for persons to address the Commission on matters which are within the scope of responsibility of the Commission but not on today's agenda.
- V. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**
- VI. **STAFF REPORT**
- VII. **REGULAR AGENDA**
 - A. **Action Items**
 1. Officer elections
 - B. **Information Items**
 1. Leaving an Arts Legacy
- VIII. **AGENDA /MEETING FOR:** **Date TBD**
- IX. **ADJOURNMENT**



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JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR OF PARKS

ARTS COMMISSION

December 7, 2015, 4:30 PM

979 17th Avenue, 2nd Floor - Santa Cruz, California

- I. Present: Adele Gardner, James Nee, Cynthia Kilian, Paul DeWorken, Judy Stabile, Linda Levy, Joanna Phillips, Lynda Phillips

Excused Absence: none

Unexcused Absence: none

Staff: Jeff Gaffney, Kathy DeWild

- II. Approved Agenda

Motion/Second: Stabile/J. Phillips

AYES: 8

NOES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

- III. Approved Consent Agenda

Motion/Second: Levy/J. Phillips

AYES: 8

NOES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

- IV. Approved – Selection 2016 Public Art Plan

Motion/Second: Stabile/Levy

AYES: 8

NOES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

- V. Approved – Selection of Commission representative for County Government Exhibits screening panel – Adele Gardner

Motion/Second: Levy/J. Phillips

AYES: 8

NOES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

- VI. Next meeting date: March 7, 4:30 p.m. Parks Conference Room.

- VII. The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.



County of Santa Cruz

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS PARKS, OPEN SPACE, AND CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION

979 17TH AVENUE, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95062

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

JOHN J. PRESLEIGH
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

DATE: January 27, 2016
TO: PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
ARTS COMMISSION
FROM: GRETCHEN ILIFF, MAINTENANCE DIVISION
RE: STATUS REPORTS ON CURRENT PROJECTS

PARKS, BUILDING, AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

NORTH COUNTY PARKS (Highlands, Ben Lomond, Felton Covered Bridge, Probation, Michael Gray Field, Quail Hollow Ranch and the North Coast)

The Americorps crew stationed at Highlands Park have settled in and are doing many things. So far they have built a small foot bridge, done some painting inside the house and removed iceplant from the Snowy Plover habitat on the North Coast.

A few large trees fell; one at Quail Hollow and one at Felton Covered bridge Park. There was no damage and staff was assisted by a tree contractor to clean up the site.

Staff worked at Michael Grey/Probation center removing brush and downed trees and limbs. We are getting prepared for the upcoming fire season.

MID-COUNTY PARKS (AJC, Government Center, Emeline Complex, Twin Lakes, Brommer, Felt, Floral, Coffee Lane, Soquel Lyons, Jose Avenue, Winkle Farm, Willowbrook Lane, Moran Lake, Maplethorpe, Santa Cruz Gardens, Heart of Soquel Plaza, The Farm, Mid-County beach access areas)

New plants and planters were added to the atrium and at a few of the entrances at the Government Center. Special 'water holding' soil was added to reduce needed watering.

Staff built a new gate for the Tee St. side of the Farm Park. The old chain link fence gate is gone and a nice rustic wooded one has been installed.

We have, and will continue to remove copious amounts of sand from the sidewalks and parking lot at Moran Lake.

SOUTH COUNTY PARKS (Polo Grounds, Valencia Hall, Hidden Beach, Seascape, Aptos Village, South County Beach access areas, Scott Park, Scott Estate, Aldridge Lane, Mesa Village, Pinto Lake, Freedom Government Annex, Seacliff Village Park)

A few diseased trees were removed from Polo Grounds Parks.

Staff attended training related to storm drain maintenance this month.

Valencia Hall is getting new landscaping. Due to years of drought the existing landscaping did not thrive. Staff is installing more drought resistant plants with drip irrigation.

SIMPKINS FAMILY SWIM CENTER

Staff and a crew from the California Conservation Corps installed weed fabric and wood chips in the planter islands at the Simpkins Swim Center and at Felt St. park.

Staff installed some new underwater pool lights and rebuilt several chemical feed pumps this month.



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JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

DATE: January 27, 2016
TO: Parks & Recreation Commission, Arts Commission
FROM: Mary Chavez, Program Coordinator
RE: Facilities Division Status Report- January/February 2016

Summary for reservations and Facilities operations in the Parks (excluding SFSC):

Attendance at Reserved Facilities:

January and February have been typical for off season events with parties and a few weddings at park centers and picnic areas. Staff estimates that approximately 5,000 park visitors attended events in reserved facilities at County Parks in these two months.

Center and Meeting Room Rentals in January and February 2016:

January and February hosted 9 weddings, receptions and family events held at various Park Centers with rental revenues totaling \$4,360. December and January also included 54 meeting room rentals totaling \$1,280.

The Facilities office has been very busy with inquiries and bookings for weddings, receptions and special events in the park centers for 2016. The summer schedule is quickly filling up. The typical season of use is weekends (mainly Saturdays and some Sundays) May through October, with approximately 52 available dates (36 for Quail Hollow Ranch). At this time, Aptos Park is reserved 35% of all available dates (with only 11 Saturdays remaining available), Highlands Park is reserved at 35% (with only 10 Saturdays remaining available) and Quail Hollow is reserved at 61% (with only 4 Saturdays remaining available). Park centers continue to be popular wedding and event locations, with customers appreciating the picturesque and affordable venues for their special occasions.

Surf Contests:

We are in the midst of another successful surf season. Non-profit organizations, school surf leagues and for-profit companies continue to hold contests at Pleasure Point Park, the Hook (41st Avenue) overlook and Moran Lake Beach, which are favorite surf and skimboard contest sites. July 2015 through June 2016 have a total of 21 days of contests, with revenues totaling \$6,550, a 25% increase from the previous fiscal year.

Garden Plots:

Garden plot renewals for Jose Avenue, Felt Street and the Farm Parks have been taking place during the past month. Jose Avenue has 14 garden plots. Felt Street Park has 17 plus 2 ADA garden plots, and the Farm has 10 plus 2 ADA plots. All plots have either been renewed or new gardeners will be given an opportunity to access these plots due to a number of recently released plots during the renewal process. The new gardeners are excited about starting their gardening experience in County Parks. Gardeners at the Farm will have their first full season since the garden plots opened in June 2015. A waitlist has been maintained for future park site Chanticleer Park. Garden plot revenues are approximately \$2,750 annually.



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Jeff Gaffney
Director

DATE: January 27, 2016
TO: Arts Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission
FROM: Kathy DeWild, Program Coordinator
RE: Recreation & Cultural Services Division Status Report – January/February 2016

ARTS AND CULTURAL

Public Art Program

Rigel Hunter has installed the public artwork, a stainless steel/bronze fence and small bronze sea life install, at the Hidden Beach Pump Station.

The artwork for the Heart of Soquel has been completed by artist Juan Ramón Gimeno. He plans to install the sculpture when the rains have abated.

Art Exhibitions

Nana Montgomery's art quilts are on exhibition at the Simpkins Family Swim Center / Parks office through March 25.

Artists for the 2016 exhibitions at the County Government Center have been selected and the first show has been installed. Other county facilities, including HSD and HAS, also plan to show local artists' work in their lobbies and other public areas.

Artist of the Year

Shmuel Thaler has been named the 2016 Artist of the Year by the Santa Cruz County Arts Commission. Thaler, a locally beloved and internationally-recognized photographer, is the County's 30th artist to be so honored. The high level of artistic production in Santa Cruz County is acknowledged through the Artist of the Year Award. Recipients must live in Santa Cruz County and have a national and/or international reputation, as well as having contributed to the cultural enrichment of the local community.

Save the date! Shmuel's "Profile Performance" at the Museum of Art and History will be held on Friday, May 27 at 7:00 PM. Details regarding the event will be available in early April on the Parks Department website.

ADULT AND SENIOR PROGRAMS

February features a trip to the Orpheum in San Francisco to watch a performance of *Jersey Boys*. This trip filled quickly and boasts a large waitlist.

Staff is busy preparing trips for April 2016 – May 2017. Stay tuned for March's announcement of many new and exciting excursions!

YOUTH RECREATION PROGRAMS

Mar Vista ACE - After returning from winter break, we began January with Fresh Start Week at ACE. Some projects included homemade bouncy balls and hat-making for National Hat Day. We played games such as Kick the Can, Balance Ball, Pac-Man and more. Into the Future Week featured activities such as Alka-Seltzer rockets, future car design, 3D future home projects, paper bag robots and games of Fire in the Future, and Back to the Future Wax Museum. We concluded the month with Creature Week. Projects included squish paint art, candy corn monsters, fizzing rocks and Cartesian divers. Participants also played games such as Fire in the Laboratory, Hot Lava Monster and hockey.

Monday, Feb. 2 is Groundhog Day, during which we will make groundhog-shaped treats and play Shadow Tag & How Many Weeks of Winter, Mr. Groundhog? During Theme Week, each day will feature a different theme such as Popcorn, Backwards, Era, etc. Among other festive activities, we'll have a Valentine's-themed potluck party during Mardi Gras Week. Inspire Your Heart With Art Week will include a field trip to the MAH. Participants will also make projects such as Love Bugs, faux stained-glass hearts and cards. We'll play games such as Breathless, Chaos and conduct team scavenger hunts for puzzle pieces that, once found, need assembling into heart shapes. We'll conclude February with World Week, which will feature a trip to the Roller Palladium.

March will offer activities that correlate with themes such Dr. Seuss, Health & Fitness, Leaping Leprechauns and Spring. Participants are looking forward to presentations from staff at the SPCA and the County Sheriff's office in addition to trips to Ocean View Park and Simpkins Family Swim Center.

Mar Vista Kinder Enrichment - The kinder programs are currently serving 23 different children over the span of the different Kinder and T.K. program offerings. We started the year off with Winter Polar Animals. The children were shown on a globe where to find the arctic region, created polar bears from a variety of shapes, and made a hand-puppet moose. Then we were on to Dream Week, with a focus on Martin Luther King Jr. The children traced their hands and we displayed them around the room to encourage harmony and togetherness. The final week of January is World Week, where the children will be treated to a taste of different foods from different parts of the world. We'll locate different places on a map, and learn a few different ways to say hello from around the world. The first week of February we will cover sports and the famous ground hog, Oscar, one of the other staff at KE/TK, will share his love of coaching basketball by teaching the children some basketball skills. Then we're on to preparations for Valentine's Day.

Of special note, there is a core of older children from the Mar Vista ACE program that enjoy assisting the staff in guiding the Kinders/T.K. program participants with homework, book reading, group games and art projects. These young volunteers are learning valuable leadership skills while helping out the younger children.

La Selva ACE – We're off to a great start to the 2016 New Year! In the last week of December our theme was Winter Wonderland, which included merry activities such as sculpting clay North Pole figures, as well as games of capture the snowball, snowball toss, ice hockey and beckon at Triangle Park. Two brand new activities included in Winter Wonderland week were a gumdrop ornament and cookie cottage craft. One of the highlights for Winter Wonderland week was our Winter Wonderland Potluck Party which included pizza, food, drinks, music, prizes and a dance competition. The first week of January the theme was Welcome 2016, which included a stunning winter tree silhouette craft and a 3-D paper snowflake craft. Our most recent theme was Dream Week in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Activities for Dream Week included a resolution magnet craft, a variety of games, and crafts including polar bear masks and a cottonball snowman craft. A highlight for Dream Week was a Belated New Year's Celebration Potluck Party. Dream Week also included brief discussions about Martin Luther King's I Have A Dream speech. The children continue to go to the La Selva Beach Library each Tuesday for additional homework help and each Thursday for Minecraft sessions. Recently Minecraft sessions at the library have been switched to "Not so Simple" Lego with Motor Sessions. We also continue to have youth volunteers from the local Aptos High School come after school to assist staff a couple of times a week. We look forward to an exciting 2016.

QUAIL HOLLOW RANCH INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS

Recent Interpretive Programs and Activities:

- *The Fungus Foray*, scheduled for Saturday, December 5 with the Santa Cruz Fungus Federation, was cancelled due to only a few mushrooms coming up.
- *Life as a Pioneer* was offered by Lee Summers on Sunday, December 6 from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
- Paul Haskins returned for the first of his *In Search of Herps – Reptiles and Amphibians at Quail Hollow* on Sunday, December 6 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- The Star Gazing event scheduled for Sunday, December 11 was cancelled due to poor weather conditions.
- An Old-fashioned Pioneer Party took place on Saturday, December 12 from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Lee Summers led 13 kids with about 13 parents tagging along.
- On Sunday, December 13 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m., Lee Summers led children on a chemical exploration called *Mad Scientist Experiments*.
- Another Old-fashioned Pioneer birthday party took place on Sunday, December 20 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Lee Summers led 7 kids, with about the same number of adults looking on.
- *In Search of Herps* with Paul Haskins was offered on Sunday, January 3 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- *Star and Moon Gazing* with the Astronomy Club of Santa Cruz was scheduled for Friday, January 15 from 7:00 p.m. to midnight but was cancelled due to weather conditions.

- The first two *Broom Bashes* of the season was scheduled for Monday, January 18 and Saturday, January 23, both from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. A total of 20 volunteers and members of the public joined the Monday program with 11 attending the Saturday event.
- Lee Summers offered a Creepy Crawly birthday party on Saturday, January 23 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Staff member Lee Summers, met with Chris Berry from Santa Cruz City Parks and a number of other habitat restorationists to discuss the possibility of creating frog habitat at Quail Hollow. The meeting took place on Saturday, December 5 from about 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Interest seemed to focus on creating habitat in the space between the entrance road and the pond.

Upcoming Interpretive Programs and Activities:

- A Child's Victorian Tea Party with Lee Summers will take place on Sunday, January 31 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- Scheduling for February-December 2016 is underway with volunteer programs being added.

Staff met with the volunteer trail crew to look at the flag line for a new trail traveling from the top of the Sunset trail at Quail Hollow to Pace County Park. Staff is in communication with County Planning and F&WL to get approval for the project. Staff from County Planning has requested to review the flag line when it is complete before approving the project. It is hoped that CEQA approval will not be necessary.

Staff also met with the Broom Bash leads on Friday, January 15 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. for a reconnaissance of the French broom maintenance sites in preparation for the upcoming season.

Two park volunteers will be assisting staff in cleaning and reorganizing storage cabinets on Saturday, January 30 from 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

The nest box maintenance crew will meet on Saturday, January 30 from 10:00 – 12:00 noon in order to clean and install the nest boxes for the season.

Staff has been tallying volunteer hours for 2015. Over 3,300 hours was donated to the park last year. The park's attendance statistics will be compiled next and sent to the office in the next few weeks.



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Jeff Gaffney
Director

DATE: January 27, 2016
TO: Parks and Recreation Commission, Arts Commission
FROM: Margaret Ingraham, Aquatics Supervisor
RE: Aquatics Division Status Report

AQUATIC PROGRAMS

Our winter pool schedule runs December 1, 2015 – February 28, 2016 and is as follows:

Lap Pool Hours:

Monday thru Friday: 6:00 am to 7:30 pm
Saturdays: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
All pools will be closed on Sundays

Warm Water Pool Hours:

Monday, Wednesday and Fridays:	6:00 am – 10:30 am 3:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Tuesday and Thursday	6:00 am – 7:30pm
Saturday	9:00 – 10:30 am Adults only 10:30 am – 12:30 pm Adults and children 6 years and under. 1:00 – 4:00 pm all ages
Sunday	Pool Closed

Swim lessons – Winter Swim lessons will be held Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10:30am – 12:30pm and Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday evening from 4:00 – 7:00 pm.

** Registration for our Spring Swim lessons begins on Monday January 11 at 9am.
Registration for Summer Swim Lessons and Junior Lifeguard Programs begins on Monday March 28 at 9am. **

Adult Fitness Swimming - Adult Fitness Swimming is very popular at the Simpkins Family Swim Center. The best-attended workouts are Tuesday and Saturday mornings; up to 35 swimmers fill the 50-meter pool at these times. Fitness swimmers may choose from several different workout times: Monday's 6:00 am; Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday workouts are at 6:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.; Saturday at 9:00 a.m.

Water Aerobics & Exercise - 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, pre-natal, seniors, and rehabilitating or cross training fitness enthusiasts. 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.

NEW Winter Swim Pass – This year we are offering swimmers the opportunity to purchase a Winter Swim Pass at a 50% savings. The pass is good during our winter schedule which will conclude on February 28, 2016. The pass provides swimmers with twice the amount of entries for the same price as a regular lap swim pass. So far it has been a huge success with over \$11,850 in sales. Ideally it will encourage more swimmers to come in and swim even on days that the weather is not ideal.

Lifeguard Training Exercises – We will continue conducting one-on-one skills checks for all Aquatic staff the month of January. Skills checks include CPR, AED and Respiratory Arrest scenarios as well as some “what would you do if…” topics. Our first of six Lifeguard Training course occurred the week of January 4-8 with 5 students. Each student successfully passed all aspects of the course and will be receiving certifications in Lifeguarding/CPR and First Aid for Public Safety Personnel/Title 22.

Swim Teams - The Cabrillo Threshers and Santa Cruz County Aquatics swim teams continue to rent lanes in the 50-meter pool. The swim teams offer school-age competitive swimming programs Monday through Friday from 4:00-7:30 p.m.

Pool Closures and Holiday Schedule

There are no scheduled pool closures for the month of January.

The pool had to close for one day at the end of December due to the pump room flooding, which in turn shut down the pool pumps and caused many other problems. Swim Center Maintenance did a fantastic job of working hard to get all pools open after just one day of closure with some Maintenance staff even coming in on from their scheduled vacations – we are so lucky to have such skilled and dedicated Maintenance staff at the Swim Center!

Live Oak Community Rooms - The Live Oak Community Rooms at the swim center are rented out regularly throughout the year for meetings, small events and classes.



JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

County of Santa Cruz

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

DATE: JANUARY 27, 2016
TO: PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
FROM: SHERYL BAILEY & WILL FORT, PLANNING DIVISION
RE: PARKS PROJECT PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION STATUS REPORTS ON CURRENT PROJECTS

NORTH COUNTY PARKS (Highlands, Ben Lomond, Felton Covered Bridge, Probation, Michael Gray Field, Quail Hollow Ranch and the North Coast)

Quail Hollow Brook Restoration Project was completed in October 2016. The stream and trail restoration are doing well in the recent rains.

MID-COUNTY PARKS (AJC, Government Center, Emeline Complex, Twin Lakes, Brommer, Felt, Floral, Coffee Lane, Soquel Lyons, Jose Avenue, Winkle Farm, Willowbrook Lane, Moran Lake, Maplethorpe, Santa Cruz Gardens, Heart of Soquel Plaza, The Farm, Mid-County beach access areas)

Twin Lakes Beachfront Project, including the parkway, is under review by staff to reduce project design costs. Meetings with general contractors were held to identify bid items that were problematic for the contractors. The timing of the construction during the winter was considered a huge liability for all the contractors. Staff also met with Coastal Commission staff to determine what project changes may trigger a Coastal Permit Amendment. A report back to the Board of Supervisors is scheduled for 2/23/2016. A grant from the Waterways and Boating Division of the State Parks Division is awaiting review and if approved, this source of funding may allow the project to move forward.

The Regional Trails Grant application was not chosen by the State Parks Department for the trails and a portion of the restroom and other associated infrastructure at Chanticleer Park. The grant application was up against some tough competition for trails in more natural and remote settings.

Staff is preparing a Land Water Conservation Fund Grant Application for Chanticleer Avenue Park. A contract with the design team for Phase I improvements at Chanticleer went to the Board for approval on January 26. Shane's Inspiration is working on the design of the inclusive playground for the park.

Farm Park Pedestrian Bridge- Maintenance staff purchased a pedestrian bridge and staff has begun work on gathering a design team to develop conceptual renderings depicting the bridge and connecting walkways for a tentatively proposed community meeting at the end of March 2016.

Heart of Soquel- Notice of Completion is pending resolution of a drainage issue. The wage labor penalty appeal was withdrawn.

Polo Grounds Restroom/Concession and Maintenance Buildings – design consultants have prepared a development permit application. The building manufacturer is developing detailed building plans for the submittal of the building permit.

Seacliff Village Park Phase 1- The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony occurred on December 10th and was a well attended event. The contractor is in the process of finishing up some minor improvements and is anticipated to be totally complete January 29th pending final inspections.