



County of Santa Cruz

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, OPEN SPACE & CULTURAL SERVICES

979 17TH AVENUE, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95062

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JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION **Minutes of October 2, 2017, 7:00 p.m. meeting** **979 17th Avenue** **Santa Cruz, CA 95062**

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Steven Bennett, Kate Minott, Alex Sibille
Staff: Gretchen Iliff, Jennifer Mead

II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS:

Motion to accept agenda as presented. (Minott/ Bennett 3/0)

III. CONSENT AGENDA

Approved minutes from August 5, 2016. (Minott/ Bennett 3/0)
Accept and file items and reports. (Minott/ Bennett 3/0)

IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

- Michael commented on the Maintenance section report – really enjoyed it. Thinks there should be more signs in the parks, in particular Corcoran Lagoon Beach. Friends of Corcoran Lagoon Beach (FoCLB) is willing to work with Parks Department on this.
- Jean echoed what Michael said about the Maintenance section report. She had a concern about the Planning section report, it seems the department should be getting CEQA for the Quail Hollow trail project. Also the public should be more engaged with both the Quail and Heart of Soquel Projects, there should be public meetings.
- Elaine was interested in learning the results of the recent dog study conducted by Dr. Erickson – the study should be posted. Regarding the Maintenance section report, I think that's good they are installing solar panels at Simpkins, they should do that at the Animal Shelter.
- Georgina had concerns about safety on county beaches in regards to off-leash dogs. She brought her grandson to the beach and a dog jumped on him and startled him – this happened on two different occasions. People don't follow the leash-laws and no one enforces them. I ask that you get County Park rangers to enforce the laws.
- Anonymous person said that Animal Services struggles to keep the Animal Officer position staffed. I suggest County Parks carves a clear path to work with Animal Services to get boots on the ground.

V. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- Bennett – Question: Is County Parks participating in rail trail discussions/developments?
GI: Yes, we have a staff member acting as liaison.
- Minott – I'm concerned about the safety at 'Beer Can' beach – I'm trying to get the neighbors to communicate with each other. Perhaps Dr. Erickson can come to the meeting in December.
- Sibille – The Downtown Streets team is having their launch party tomorrow. The organization started in Palo Alto and is now in Santa Cruz – they employ homeless people for a few hours in return for a stipend. There's a ribbon cutting tomorrow at 11:30pm, Joan Baez will be there.

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Gretchen Iliff gave the Director's report to the Commission.

- Jeff is at a NRPA conference in New Orleans! (National Recreation & Parks Association)
 - Be sure to get an update from him at your next meeting.
- Recruitment continues for the North County Maintenance Supervisor.
- Offered a job to a Park Recreation Specialist
- Staff submitted 3 applications to Habitat Conservation Fund grant
- Submitted application to Outdoor Education grant for Felton Library
- Staff has been researching a recreation software system called ACTIVE Net
 - This will replace our current registration software because our current software is outdated. We anticipate going live March 1st, 2018.
- Park Events! We have a lot of events this month!
 - Oct. 6th – *Friday Night Recess* - Collaborating with the MAH downtown on Cooper St.
 - Oct. 7th – *Grazing on the Green* at Aptos Village Park
 - Oct. 14th – Granite Rock Fundraiser for Quail Hollow at Quail Hollow Quarry - \$10 taco lunch
 - Oct. 22nd - *Floating Pumpkin Patch* here at Simpkins

VII. REGULAR AGENDA – Action Items (none)

VIII. REGULAR AGENDA – Information Items (none)

IX. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting Adjourned at 7:47 p.m. (Minott/ Bennett 3/0)