



# County of Santa Cruz

---

## DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, OPEN SPACE & CULTURAL SERVICES

979 17<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95062

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

JEFF GAFFNEY  
DIRECTOR

### PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION Minutes of February 6, 2017, 7:00 p.m. meeting 26 W. Front St. Watsonville, CA 95076

#### I. ROLL CALL

Present: Kate Minott, Mariah Roberts, Jim Rapoza, Steven Bennett  
Staff: Jeff Gaffney, Jennifer Mead, Will Fourt

#### II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS:

Motion to accept agenda as presented. (Roberts/ Bennett 4/0)

#### III. CONSENT AGENDA

Approved minutes from December 5, 2016. (Roberts/ Rapoza 4/0)  
Accept and file items and reports. (Bennett/ Rapoza 4/0)

#### IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

- Raymon Cancino: Ray provided an update about the non-profit Friends of Santa Cruz County Parks (FSCCoP). Moving forward FSCCoP is working on prioritizing goals. FSCCoP is working on a cocktail event for early March as a way to spread awareness about FSCCoP and increase membership. Everybody, please, like us on Facebook!
- Supervisor Greg Caput: Represents the 5<sup>th</sup> Supervisorial District. The goal of the 5<sup>th</sup> District as it relates to parks is to find more park land. We are looking into utilizing the fairgrounds as possible recreation space. Recently the County is putting a lot of time, work and effort into managing storm damage and preventing flooding.
- Brian Peterson: Brian is a member of Mountain Bikers of Santa Cruz (MBoSC). MBoSC is currently promoting a trail to be built in Santa Cruz City Pogonip Park. Also, MBoSC is working with Watsonville City Parks on a paved bike pump track at Ramsay Park. It's been nearly 2 years since the Aptos, postoffice bike jumps were closed and it still feels like a big loss for the community.
- Margit Aramburu: I am very excited to be the new Secretary for Friends of Santa Cruz County Parks. The timing was right. I was involved with advocacy for Seacliff Village Parks, as well as Seascape Park and I look forward to serving FSCCoP.

**V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT** – Director Jeff Gaffney gave his report to the Commission.

- Maintenance staff has been really busy recovering from the recent storms. Luckily, no major damage has occurred in county parks however, the damage at this point is probably costing at least \$250,000.
- It's Budget Season. The County is implementing a new budget format that will be easier for the public to read and analyze. Carlos Palacios has implemented the new budget format.
- Bear Creek Country Club Open House – Saturday, Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>. Boulder Creek Rec District hosting the event. Some Parks staff will be helping
- Proposal for San Vicente Redwoods Park Related Program – deferred to March 21<sup>st</sup>. Deciding on how to formulate agreements among County Departments.
- Parks Department Strategic Planning Process is underway! Developing a work plan – we have gathered staff input. The first working group meeting is this week. Planning public meetings for late April / early May.

**VI. REGULAR AGENDA** – Information Items

1. Jonathan Pilch, Director of Watsonville Wetlands Watch presented to the Commission
2. Ana Espinoza, Director of Watsonville City Parks & Community Services presented to the Commission

**VII. REGULAR AGENDA** – Action Items (none)

**VIII. ADJOURNEMNT** – Meeting Adjourned at 8:25 p.m. (Bennett/ Rapoza 4/0)