



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

JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA

Monday, February 4, 2019
7:00pm – 9:00pm
Regular 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 December 3, 2018... Pages 2-3
- B. Consider Reports:
 - 2. Planning Section – Status Report... Pages 4-5
 - 3. Aquatics Section – Status Report... Pages 6-8
 - 4. Volunteer Program – Status Report... Pages 9-10
 - 5. Facilities Section – Status Report... Pages 11-12

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. Presentations must not exceed three (3) minutes in length, and individuals may speak only once during Oral Communications.

V. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

VI. DIRECTOR’S REPORT

VII. REGULAR AGENDA – Informational Items

- a. Presentation on the Library Annex project

VIII. REGULAR AGENDA – Action Items

- a. Adopt resolution to encourage County Parks access (Page 13)

IX. WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE LISTING (none)

X. ADJOURNMENT



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PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION Minutes of December 3, 2018, 7:00 p.m. meeting 979 17th Avenue Santa Cruz, CA 95062

I. ROLL CALL

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

II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

Accept agenda as presented (Sibille/ Rapoza 4/0)

III. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approved minutes from October 7, 2019 (Rapoza/ Minott 4/0)
- B. Accept and file reports (Minott/ Sibille 4/0)

IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Stacey Kyle – Speaking for the Live Oak Education Foundation, our mission is positive play for kids in Live Oak. We are looking at Brommer field as an area that can be developed and improved. There is a grant coming out and we want to ask the commission and Director to consider Brommer field for this grant. There is a need for field space from local softball and baseball organizations. In the Parks Strategic Plan, the community identified an all-weather field as a great need. We are happy to help and be involved in the grant process.

V. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Rapoza 5th District – There was a good chili cook off at Felton Covered Bridge. The Valley Press had a great article on Felton Community Deck. Everything else is already in the reports. We have rebar in the ground at Felton Library.

Sibille 3rd District - I was at the Be the Difference award, it was really cool to see a North Coast volunteer to be honored. I love seeing the Fraternity taking care of Scott Creek beach - I want to help with that and bring more involvement from UCSC. It was really exciting to see the groundbreaking from Chanticleer, I was honored to be part of it.

Minott 2nd District - Saturday was exciting at Rio Del Mar; the Rio Del Mar Improvement Association celebrated the installation of the new drinking fountain they raised funds for. The group is really motivated to work with Parks. Friends of Santa Cruz County Parks set aside money for a shade structure at Seacliff Village Park. Happiness abounds!

Bennett 4th District - My highlight was the Pinto Pump track opening. We had one biker show up which was good to see the pump track in action.

Roberts 2nd District - The biggest thing is Measure G passed with great support. It will have a wonderful effect on a number of parks.

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

- Superintendent recruitment is open - extending to the 21st... need time to put together an interview panel.
- Library annex meeting tomorrow night - there are mockups online to look at.
- Dec 11th - we are advertising for Chanticleer park bids - opening bids Jan 24th
- I went to a workshop in San Diego to discuss homelessness in County Parks. They are turning parks over to the homeless to live in. We don't want to get to that point. It's a problem all over the state. Some Counties are providing services in parking lots. Talking more in a unified voice with Parks Directors and an opportunity to hear about what other Counties are experiencing. We focused on advocacy, transitional opportunities for people on the cusp of homelessness, service for mental health and addressing health issues. We also considered designating areas in the short-term.
- We've been talking about having a large event for the families in Butte County where they can come and enjoy the day, or go up to Paradise to build a park. We'd like this to coincide with the CPRS conference coming up in March 2019.

VII. REGULAR AGENDA – Information Items

VIII. REGULAR AGENDA – Action Items

- a. The Commission accepted meeting dates for 2019 (Rapoza/ Roberts 5/0)
- b. Motion to accept amendments to the resolution, with final review at the February 2019 commission meeting (Roberts/ Rapoza 5/0)

IX. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m. (Sibille/ Roberts 5/0)



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JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

Date: January 30, 2019
To: Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Sheryl Bailey & Will Fourt, Planning Section
Subject: Planning Section Status Report

North Section: (Highlands, Ben Lomond, Felton Covered Bridge, Probation, Michael Gray Field, Quail Hollow Ranch, the North Coast, AJC, Government Center, Emeline Complex, Twin Lakes, Brommer, Felt, Floral, Jose Avenue, Winkle Farm, Twin Lakes Beachfront)

Felton Library

Staff has been working with consultants and partners on construction documents and preparing the building permit application.

Chanticleer Park: The Santa Cruz Playground Project has completed their fundraising efforts for the construction of the inclusive playground, LEO's Haven. Building Permits for the Phase I construction project, including LEO's Haven, have been approved by the County Planning Department. The restroom building has been constructed at an off-site facility. Two bids from contractors have been received. The first order of play equipment has been received and stored at a Parks facility.

Quail Hollow Brook Restoration Grant

The Request for Qualifications & Request for Proposals (RFQ/RFP) for the Outdoor Environmental Education Interpretive Signs was completed and released. A graphic artist team, Jane Bolling Design, has been selected and staff is currently putting a Purchase Order (contract) into place for this work. The final goal will be to install three grant funded interpretive signs at the pond and along the west side of the Discovery Loop Trail adjacent to Quail Hollow Brook. Planning staff will be coordinating efforts with the Recreation Program Specialist and hopefully the Friends of Quail Hollow Ranch to review conceptual sign proposals as they are developed.

South Section: (Coffee Lane, Soquel Lions, Willowbrook Lane, Moran Lake, Richard Vessy, Santa Cruz Gardens, Heart of Soquel Plaza, The Farm, Polo Grounds, Valencia Hall, Hidden Beach, Seascape, Aptos Village, South County Beach access areas, Scott Park, Scott Estate, Aldridge Lane, Mesa Village, Pinto Lake, Seacliff Village Park, Freedom Government Annex)

Heart of Soquel Phase 2 & 3

The conceptual grant application we submitted for the California Natural Resources Agency's River Parkways ranked within the top 20% out of 99 applications. Due this high ranking the Soquel Creek Linear Parkway project was selected for a field visit from the grantors on 1/24/19. The grantors requested that the meeting not only include Parks staff but also other project

representatives. Soquel Elementary Union School District was kind enough to host our meeting which was well attended with over 15 supporters. Supporters included, Supervisor Leopold, Toni Castro of the Capitola/Soquel Chamber of Commerce, Jim Dupre' and Kristin Murphy of the Soquel Elementary Union School District, Angie Gruys of the Resource Conservation District, and three key members of the Planning Department (Steve Guiney, John DiSalvo and Leah MacCarter). In preparation of this meeting, the grantors requested that we be prepared to respond to an extensive list of questions. This preparation required a considerable amount of Parks Planning staff's and others time. The grantors will be informing us within the next couple of weeks if we will be invited to submit the final grant application. If approved and fully awarded, this grant would allow us to complete both phases of the project.

Also, the grantors for the two Habitat Conservation Fund grant applications that we submitted in October of 2018, have requested a field meeting on February 7, 2019 to determine if one or both will be funded. These two grant applications are for a combined maximum request of \$445,363. One is a riparian grant application that includes Phases 2 and 3 and the other is for a trail on Phase 2 only.

Thanks to the advance appropriation of Measure G Funds for the Heart of Soquel project, Planning Staff is working with SSA to amend their Board of Supervisor's approved contract to add professional design services for Phase 3. It is anticipated that the Board will be asked to approve this contract amendment on February 26, 2019, on the Consent Agenda. This will insure that the project is "shovel- ready" when grant funding is appropriated.

Fiscal and Planning Staff continues to research potential grant applications as the State Agencies continue to release guidelines for Proposition 1 and 68 grant funding.

In December, Planning Staff worked with the adjacent land owners, the California Conservation Core (CCC), Parks Maintenance staff, and the project's consultants (Arborist, Biologist and Surveyor) to begin work utilizing the ATP CCC grant (\$174,000) at the Heart of Soquel Phase 2. The CCC staff removed non-native invasive plants, trimmed tree branches, removed debris, installed erosion control measures and planted willow and cottonwood pole cuttings. The City of Santa Cruz Park staff provided Cottonwood Pole cuttings for part of the riparian restoration work. Future work by the CCC is pending other grant awards so that the work can be coordinated.

Also, Planning Staff is continuing to work with the Discovery School owner and consultants (same as the Park's Team of SSA, Whitson Engineers, Arborist, Biologist, etc.) to coordinate the school's proposed parking and drainage improvements with the Park's trail design to seamlessly combine the two project's improvements and schedule of construction.

Farm Phase 2

Planning Staff continues to work on developing three alternative project scenarios including cost estimates, budgets and schedules. However, this work was delayed in order to respond to the River Parkways grantors questions and complete the meeting preparations.

Moran Lake-

Planning and Parks Maintenance Staff have recently coordinated with Washington State University Monarch Butterfly Research Scientists and our Park's Monarch Butterfly consultant, John Dayton to allow Monarch Butterfly Studies to occur at the Moran Lake County Park. The research scientists will be completing these studies from February to the end of March of 2019, as an NSF "Rapid" Grant Proposal. This "Rapid Grant Proposal" is warranted, as during the past year, the western population of Monarch Butterflies dropped to its lowest recorded size. Studies will take place at Moran Lake County Park, City of Santa Cruz's Lighthouse Field Park, the Natural Bridges State Park and at UCSC and will be conducted in compliance with pending CA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife and County Parks permits.



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Jeff Gaffney
Director

Date: January 30, 2019
To: Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Rebecca Hurley, Aquatics Supervisor
Subject: Aquatics Section Status Report

Winter Session November 26, 2018 – March 3, 2019

Lap Pool hours:

Mondays through Fridays from 6:00 am to 7:30 pm
Saturdays from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Sundays from 9:00 am to 12:30pm

Warm-Water Pool:

The warm-water pool is available for general use on:

Monday/Wednesday/Friday 6:00—10:30am
2:00— 7:30pm

Tuesday/Thursday 6:00am—7:30pm

Saturdays 9:00 am —10:30 am (adults only)
10:30 am — 12:30 pm (adults & kids 6 years and younger)
12:30 — 4:00 pm (Rec Swim ~ all ages)

Sundays 9:00am—12:30pm (all ages)

Special Events at the Pool

Polar Plunge – We held the second annual *Polar Plunge* event on New Year's Day where participants raised funds for Learn-to-Swim scholarships with a commitment to how many times they could *bear* to ride down the waterslide – unheated! Over 20 people participated helping raise over \$1,800 for swim scholarships, an increase from the \$1,500 raised last year!

24 Hour Swim- Starting at noon on Saturday, January 26th we hosted the Monterey Bay Swimming Association annual 24 hour swim event. Every hour for 24 hours straight each participant swam a mile (70 laps) and rested for the remaining time in that hour. They were watched over by a rotating staff of at least three of our lifeguards during the entirety of the event. By noon on Sunday, January 27th all 11 swimmers completed the challenging swim.

Aquatics Programs

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

Private Swim lessons – Private lessons are available with either our Aquatics staff or one of our four private contractors.

Adult Fitness Swimming – Adult Fitness remains a very popular 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 & 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 their joints. Classes are designed to appeal to all levels of ability- including healthy, cross training fitness enthusiasts, pre-natal women, seniors, and those rehabilitating. A monthly calendar is available with dates, times, class type, and instructors' names. Previous swimming or water-exercise experience is not required for participation in any of the water exercise classes.

Winter Lap Swim Pass – On November 23, 2018 sales of the widely popular winter lap swim pass began, valid for 50 swims during the 18/19 winter season only. Despite a slight increase in price to \$161 with a 40% discount from previous years' \$135 price with a 50% discount, winter pass sales remained in line with 17/18 sales- selling 103 passes to date for a total revenue of \$16,686 thus far.

Child Care – The drop in child care program is now in its third year of existence. Over the summer this program was being offered five days a week, Tuesdays through Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays. This program is open to children 6 months and up and costs \$5 per child for up to two hours. It is currently staffed by both Aquatics and Recreation staff members.

Current fall hours for child care are:

9:00 AM – 1:30 PM Tuesday and Thursday

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Saturday

Drop-in Water Polo – Water polo drop in is available on Sundays from 10:30am to 12:30pm. Participants must sign a waiver and be a member of USAWPA to participate in the program.

Lifeguard Training Exercises – The Aquatics staff February in-service training will focus on multiple responder and infant CPR skills. Lifeguards will also practice activating and carrying out our Emergency Action Plan (EAP) and CPR skills during swim-sprint relays.

Red Cross Lifeguard/Title 22 Certification Courses – Two Red Cross Lifeguard Certification courses will be offered this winter. Participants who complete this course receive a Red Cross Lifeguard certification as well as a Title 22 certification. Additional courses will be offered in spring.

Pool Rentals

Swim Teams – Currently three swim teams: Aptos Cabrillo Swim Club, Santa Cruz County Aquatics, and Quicksilver Swimming are renting lanes in the 50-meter pool. The swim teams offer school-age competitive swimming programs Monday through Friday from 3:00 to 7:30pm as well as Monday and Wednesday mornings 6:00am to 7:30am.



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JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

Date: January 30, 2019
To: Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Margaret Ingraham, Volunteer Program Coordinator
Subject: Volunteer Program Status Report December/January

NORTH COUNTY

Scott Creek Beach

The UCSC fraternity had another volunteer day on January 19 and over 30 brothers showed up. The platform is once again cleared for users to enjoy. They have two days scheduled in February and hope to install a sand blocking sheet to slow down the sand build up. They will also start removing ice plant from the dunes.

Jay Todd, volunteer on the North Coast continues to pick up trash rain or shine! He put in approximately 25 hours in December. He also delivered equipment to Scott Creek Beach for the fraternity volunteer day.

Quail Hollow Ranch

The Nest Box volunteers have started their season and installed all the Nest boxes around Quail Hollow Ranch.

The Volunteer Trail Crew repaired a large washout on the Wood Rate trail. They did the majority of the repairs in the cold and rain, to make the trail safe and passable, then returned a week later to finish the job.

Miller Property

The volunteers have logged approximately 8 hours in December picking up trash, removing French Broom.

Anna Jean Cummings Park

The volunteers at AJ have logged approximately 24 hours in December picking up trash.

SOUTH COUNTY

Seacliff Village Park

Rotarians from the Capitola-Aptos Rotary have been volunteering at Seacliff Village deadheading plants and pulling weeds.

Pinto Lake Park

Volunteers at Pinto Lake Park installed 22 new signs for the Disc Golf Course and organized for the signs to be made at cost by Santa Cruz Signs. Thank you volunteers and Santa Cruz Signs for providing the signs at cost.

Junior Recreation Volunteers

We have three junior volunteers that volunteer year round. In December they logged over 30 hours. Sadie Spaulding, a junior volunteer from the summer has been nominated for the CPRS District 6 Annual Volunteer Recognition Awards.



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JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

Date: January 30, 2019
To: Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Mary Chavez, Program Coordinator
Subject: Facilities Section Status Report

Summary for Reservations in the Parks:

*Please note that in an effort to provide a more accurate summary, this status report will only include information for January 2019, so that we are reporting in retrospect, not projections for the upcoming month.

Overall Facility Reservation Summary:

January has been typical for off season events with ongoing programming on park grounds and rentals of picnic areas, meeting rooms, and centers. Staff estimates that approximately 3,000 park visitors attended events in reserved facilities at County Parks this month.

January hosted one event at a park center and 53 meeting room rentals. Revenues totaled \$1,900 for the month.

The Facilities office has been very busy with inquiries and bookings for weddings, receptions and special events in the park centers for 2019. The summer schedule is quickly filling up. Park centers continue to be popular wedding and event locations, with customers appreciating the picturesque and affordable venues for their special occasions while continuing to be a significant revenue source for the Department.

There were 5 picnic area rentals in the month of January with rental revenues totaling \$600.

Online picnic reservations are now available for booking via the new ActiveNet software program. Staff has developed streamlined procedures for oversight of this new process and communication with customers who book with this new method. Staff are currently preparing for reservations of the Jose Avenue Park covered picnic area beginning February 1, 2019, as well as adding a reservable group picnic area back at Highlands Park, which will be available by April, 2019.

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 those plots released during the renewal process. The new gardeners are excited about starting their gardening experience in County Parks. A waitlist is still being maintained for future park site Chanticleer Park. Garden plot revenues are approximately \$2,500 annually.

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 and the Hook (41st Avenue) overlook, which are favorite surf contest sites.

Special Events and General Park Use:

The **Santa Cruz Women's March** held post-march activities at the County Government Center grounds and parking lot on January 19th, drawing up to 2,000 in attendance. **Tara Redwood School** provides bi-weekly recess and outside lunch activities at the Heart of Soquel Park. Fitness programs continue during the winter season and include the **Fit4Mom Santa Cruz**, which offers Stroller Strides workouts three times a week at Felt Street, Anna Jean Cummings and Seascape Parks. **Julie Grant Yoga** provides bi-weekly yoga programs at Highlands Park. **Good Dog Santa Cruz** provides weekly dog training at Willowbrook Park. **Pickleball** continues weekly/bi-weekly use of courts at Brommer Street and Willowbrook Parks.

County Parks Special Events, Administration:

Surf lessons are now available as the new Surf School Concessionaire Program began on January 1st. Three (3) exclusive concessionaire permits were issued to Club Ed, Richard Schmidt Surf School Inc., and Surf School Santa Cruz who will provide surf instruction from the designated beaches and coastal access points between Pleasure Point Park and The Hook Park.

The RFP's for the Polo Grounds and The Hook Concessions Opportunities have been issued and proposals are due March 8, 2019. We anticipate concession services at each site to begin as early as March 30th.

Facilities staff has completed its portion of the proposed 2019-20 and projected 2020-21 budgets. The Facilities section continues to be a strong, consistent contributor to Department revenues. Staff is evaluating the expansion of beach and ideal wedding ceremony locations as both a generator of additional revenue and expansion of services to the public.

BEFORE THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF POLICY TO ENCOURAGE
COUNTY PARKS ACCESS

WHEREAS, County Parks are places for all people to gather, explore and connect with the outdoors, other cultures, and communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we as a Commission designate all County Parks and Open Spaces as places for the community to gather; and they are, to the greatest extent possible, free from fences, gates, and any other impediments to pedestrian, wheelchair and non-motorized traffic; any obstruction to travel through County Parks and Open Spaces will only be utilized for the protection of resources and/or public safety.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Parks and Recreation Commission of the County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this 4th day of February 2019, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

STEVEN BENNETT, CHAIR
Parks and Recreation Commission