



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

March 1, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Commissioner Vanessa Quiroz-Carter
Commissioner Brando Sencion
Commissioner Jessica Carrasco
Commissioner Abel Sanchez
Commissioner Noe Ibarra

Commissioners Absent: Commissioner Araseli Campos
Commissioner Frank Barba

Staff Present: Parks and Community Services Director Nick Calubaquib
Senior Administrative Analyst Adriana Flores
Administrative Assistant II Marco Diaz
Administrative Assistant II Desiree Moya

1. ROLL CALL

Motion to excuse absent Parks & Recreation Commissioners (If any)

Pursuant to Charter Section 900, Paragraph 2.

MOTION

Moved by Carrasco

Seconded by Quiroz-Carter

AYES (5): Quiroz-Carter, Sencion, Carrasco, Sanchez, Ibarra

ABSENT (2): Campos, Barba

Carried (5 to 0)

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PRESENTATIONS & ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

3.a ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Community member Eileen Clark Nagaoka shared the idea of adding nature or adventure playgrounds to park facilities. Clark Nagaoka stated she recently retired after working as a teacher for 34 years and understands the importance of playgrounds for youth. Clark Nagaoka inquired about the feasibility of adding this type of playground to Watsonville, and wants to begin the discussion about nature and adventure playgrounds. She stated she also sent an email to the department regarding this inquiry.

3.b ORAL COMMUNICATIONS AND LIAISON REPORTS FROM THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Carrasco stated she visited Callaghan Cultural Center and enjoyed seeing kids playing on the playgrounds. Commissioner Quiroz-Carter commented that a

community member asked when restroom facilities at parks will be reopened. Commissioner Sanchez stated he is excited about the opening of the Ramsay Park Bike Pump Track.

3.c DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Calubaquib informed the Commission that most of the parks that have permanent restrooms are open daily from sunrise to sunset. Parks that have open restrooms include Franich Park, Ramsay Park, Pinto Lake Park and the City Plaza. There are restrooms at Callaghan Park and River Park that are opened during special events and other special uses, and are primarily not opened due to the high volume of vandalism. Director Calubaquib shared that the department assisted with the opening of a COVID19 vaccination site at the Old City Council Chambers, and the department is focused on vaccinating community members while collaborating with the County to fill appointment slots. Older Adult Services Supervisor Katie Nunez has taken the lead and has worked with the Library and Fire Department to coordinate outreach. Director Calubaquib updated the Commission on projects at Ramsay Park including developing construction documents for the soccer fields and renovation of the playground, and listed the process that will take place in the following months for these projects. Director Calubaquib discussed the special events for 2021, and events such as the Strawberry Festival and 4th of July parade are canceled. Other special events that will take place will include the Shamrock 5K Run, Easter Egg-drop and scavenger hunt, Earth Day activities, National Night Out, the Santa Tour and the return of Music in the Park. Director Calubaquib announced the Governor has released guidelines for restarting youth and adult sports and PCS teammates are working to implement the procedures for restarting the sports programs in April. Director Calubaquib shared the City Council will discuss at the next meeting the Pinto Lake operation and the transition to a concessionaire running the operation. Director Calubaquib announced the Star of the Month for February, Senior Recreation Leader Yajaira Rea. Rea has worked closely with the Older Adults Services Supervisor to help community members to schedule appointments for receiving the COVID19 vaccine. Commissioner Carrasco asked what Commissioners can do to help the progress of the Ramsay Park Master Plan. Director Calubaquib replied that support from community members by encouraging the City Council to push the plan forward will help.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

4.a MOTION APPROVING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 1, 2021

MOTION

Moved by Carrasco

Seconded by Quiroz-Carter

AYES (5): Quiroz-Carter, Sencion, Carrasco, Sanchez, Ibarra

ABSENT (2): Campos, Barba

Carried (5 to 0)

5. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6.a PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION WORKPLAN

- a) Staff Report - Director Calubaquib displayed the 2020 PRC Work Plan format and opened the discussion for deciding the assignments for 2021.
- b) Commission Questions & Input - Commissioners discussed the previous work plan projects to determine if they are completed, and decide to continue uncompleted work plan projects for this year. Commissioners also proposed new work plan projects and assigned work plan projects to Commissioners.
- c) Public Input - None
- d) Appropriate Action

MOTION

Moved by Quiroz-Carter

Seconded by Sencion

AYES (5): Quiroz-Carter, Sencion, Carrasco, Sanchez, Ibarra

ABSENT (2): Campos, Barba

Carried (5 to 0)

6.b PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS

- a) Staff Report - Director Calubaquib displayed the 2019 Liaison Assignments and opened the discussion for keeping, removing or adding liaison assignments.
- b) Commission Questions & Input - Commissioners asked clarifying questions and selected their preferred service areas.
- c) Public Input - None
- d) Appropriate Action

MOTION

Moved by Sencion

Seconded by Carrasco

AYES (5): Quiroz-Carter, Sencion, Carrasco, Sanchez, Ibarra

ABSENT (2): Campos, Barba

Carried (5 to 0)

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Abel Sanchez, Parks & Recreation Commission Chairperson

ATTEST:

Nick Calubaquib, Parks & Community Services Director