



MINUTES  
CITY OF WATSONVILLE  
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Location: Council Chambers  
250 Main Street  
Watsonville, CA 95076  
Thursday, March 06, 2025, 6:30 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Commissioner Celeste DeWald  
Commissioner Noe Ibarra  
Commissioner Jennifer Schacher  
Commissioner Fabian Leonor  
Commissioner Araseli Campos

Youth Representative: Isabella Alvaro

Commissioners Absent: Commissioner Emiko Stewart

Staff Present: Nick Calubaquib, Director, Parks & Community Services  
Robert Berry, Sr. Utilities Engineer, Parks & Comm Svcs  
Hilda Peralta, Project Manager, Parks & Comm Svcs  
Leonardo Cruz, Environment Coordinator, Public Works  
Jeremy Sanders, Asst Admin Analyst, Parks & Comm Svcs

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1. ROLL CALL

Motion to excuse absent Parks & Recreation Commissioners

Commissioners Present: Commissioner Celeste DeWald  
Commissioner Noe Ibarra  
Commissioner Jennifer Schacher  
Commissioner Fabian Leonor  
Commissioner Araseli Campos

Youth Representative: Isabella Alvaro

Commissioners Absent: Commissioner Emiko Stewart

Pursuant to Charter Section 900, Paragraph 2.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PRESENTATIONS & ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

3.a. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

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

## RECREATION COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Leonor shared information regarding the clean-up of the Wetlands, as well as to bring attention to the homeless issues within the city.

Commissioner Schacher also spoke on the Strawberry Art contest.

Commissioner DeWald commented on the Public Art Master Plan meeting. There was a lot of planning a great interaction.

### 3.c. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Nick Calubaquib provided an update to the Commission on the upcoming events held by the Parks and Community Service Department. To include construction projects going on at some of our more popular parks. Also advised the vacant seat is working on being filled on the Parks and Recreation Commission. Calubaquib also provided the Commissioners with a 2024 Annual Report for the Parks Department.

## 4. CONSENT AGENDA

### 4.a. MOTION APPROVING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 6, 2025.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Leonor and seconded by Commissioner Campos to approve the minutes of February 6, 2025.

AYES: Schacher, DeWald, Ibarra, Leonor, Campos,  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Stewart

## 5. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

NONE

## 6. PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS

NONE

## 7. WORKPLAN PROGRESS REPORTS

NONE

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

### 8.a. APPROVAL OF A NEW COMMUNITY GARDEN ON FLODBERG PARK AT 219 ALVARADO STREET, WATSONVILLE CA 95076 IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COMMUNITY HEALTH TRUST OF PAJARO VALLEY

Staff recommends approval of the creation of a community garden on a section of the south corner area in Flodberg Park so that community members can grow food on raised beds under the coordination of the Community Health Trust of Pajaro Valley.

- a) Staff Report: Leonardo Cruz provided information on the new location of the proposed Community Garden as well information about the community members. Cruz also provided general information regarding policies regarding participation from the community.
- b) Commission Questions & Input: The Commissioners all agreed with location adding that there is a high level of excitement bringing another community garden to the City of Watsonville.
- c) Public Hearing:
- d) Appropriate Action: Motion to approve of the creation of a community garden on a section of the south corner area in Flodberg Park so that community members can grow food on raised beds under the coordination of the Community Health Trust of Pajaro Valley.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Schacher and seconded by Commissioner Campos to approve of the creation of a community garden on a section of the south corner area in Flodberg Park so that community members can grow food on raised beds under the coordination of the Community Health Trust of Pajaro Valley.

AYES:	Schacher, DeWald, Ibarra, Leonor Campos
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	Stewart

8.b. CITY PLAZA REVITALIZATION PROJECT 100 PERCENT DESIGN UPDATE AND UPDATE

Staff recommend that the Parks and Recreation Commission approve the 100% design plans for the Watsonville City Plaza Revitalization Project.

- a) Staff Report: Hilda Peralta, Program Manager and Robert Berry Lead Engineer provided an update on the 100 percent design plan for the City Plaza Renovation. This update included information regarding the signage as well as tentative start and end dates.
- b) Commission Question & Input: The commissioners discussed the 100 percent completion of the design plans. All agreed that this is what the City Plaza needs to remain a focal point in the city.
- c) Public Input:
- d) Appropriate Action: Motion that the Parks and Recreation Commission approve the 100% design plans for the Watsonville City Plaza Revitalization Project.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner DeWald and seconded by Commissioner Schacher to approve the 100% design plans for the Watsonville City Plaza Revitalization Project.

AYES:	Leonor, Campos, Schacher, DeWald, Ibarra
NOES:	None

ABSENT: Stewart

8.c. 2025 PRC WORKPLAN

That the Parks and Recreation Commission develop and adopt a Workplan for 2025.

- a) Staff Report: Nick provided information on the 2025 Workplan and potential work areas for the Commissioners.
- b) Commission Question & Input: Commissioners discussed the Workplan and the possible areas to engage with the Parks and Community Services Team.
- c) Public Input:
- d) Appropriate Action: Adopt the Workplan for 2025.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Schacher and seconded by Commissioner DeWald to adopt the Workplan for 2025.

AYES: Schacher, Ibarra, DeWald, Campos, Leonor  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Stewart

8.d. APPOINT PRC LIAISONS FOR 2025

That the Parks and Recreation Commission appoint specific Commissioners as Liaisons to specific service areas, as determined by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

- a) Staff Report: Nick Calubaquib provided an overview of the Liaisons report.
- b) Commission Question & Input: The Commissioners discussed the Liaisons report, and the specific areas of service.
- c) Public Input:
- d) Appropriate Action: That the Parks and Recreation Commission appoint specific Commissioners as Liaisons to specific service areas, as determined by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Leonor and seconded by Commissioner Schacher to approve the Liaison Report for 2025.

AYES: Schacher, DeWald, Ibarra, Leonor, Campos  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Stewart

9. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm

The next Commission meeting will be held on April 3, 2025 at 6:30pm.