



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

May 3, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

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

Staff Present: Parks and Community Services Director
Nick Calubaquib
Recreation Superintendent Imelda Negrete
Senior Administrative Analyst Adriana Flores
Recreation Coordinator Israel Tirado
Administrative Assistant Desiree Moya

-
- 1. ROLL CALL**
 - 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
 - 3. PRESENTATIONS & ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**
 - 3.a ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Paul DeWorken, a member of the public, commented on feces along the side of the Ramsay pump track and bike path going towards Main St. Would like to know what can be done regarding this issue.

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

Commissioner Quiroz-Carter asked staff if it would be possible to have the Callaghan restrooms open to the public.

Commissioner Carrasco commented that a public member had asked if the swing that looked similar to a car seat at Callaghan would return.

Commissioner Sanchez commented that he attended the farmers market located at Ramsay Park and was nice to see a second location for the community to attend.

- 3.c DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Calubaquib updated the Commission on upcoming projects and events. The Recreation division is planning summer programs such as sports, aquatics, summer youth programs and special events. Parks Division released an RFP for design services

for Ramsay Dog Park, all-inclusive playground and soccer fields. There will be a request to go to Council to approve a construction contract for the urban greening project, which provides ADA improvements throughout Ramsay Park. The Council will also be considering moving contracts forward for the urban greening project under a grant provided by CalFire. The contract will be for a consultant to develop a tree ordinance and a contract for Wetlands Watch, that is included in the grant. Calubaquib also announced there would be a ribbon cutting ceremony to take place on May 4, 2021, from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. for the movable murals that were installed in front of 250 Main St. Calubaquib recognized April's star of the month, Carmen Pichardo. Calubaquib updated the Commission about an updated attachment for item 7.a, that includes images of proposed artwork for that agenda item.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

4.a MOTION APPROVING MINUTES OF APRIL 5, 2021

MOTION: Approve Minutes of April 5, 2021

Moved by Carrasco

Seconded by Quiroz-Carter

Motioned Carried by Majority Vote

5. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: NONE

6. PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS

6.a WATSONVILLE RETURN TO PLAY

Recreation Superintendent Imelda Negrete reported on the positive impacts the Virtual Recreation Center brought to the community, which served as a place for fun, education and resources. Negrete went over the Watsonville Return to Play chart that outlines the programs and facilities that are allowed to open in each tier. Negrete went over programs, sports that currently are offered, following COVID guidelines, and the continuation of the Virtual Recreation program.

Commissioner Carrasco, asked if it would be possible to increase leagues or start new ones that historically have not been offered in the past. Negrete replied that other programs can definitely be explored given the guidelines of what can be offered.

Commissioner Sanchez asked what it meant for the Department when the state opens up on June 15th and if it meant programs will still follow COVID guidelines or if things will be as before COVID. Negrete clarified that our programs follow State guidelines, but also follow local County Health Official guidelines.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.a APPROVE APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC ART FOR TEMPORARY FRAME ART AT VARIOUS PARKS, SUBMITTED BY COUNTY PARK FRIENDS

a) Staff Report: Senior Administrative Analyst, Adriana Flores reported on the application submitted by County Park Friends, for public art for temporary frame art at various parks. The project is called, The 4 Mayors' Project, "Getting Outside the Frame". Director of the

County Parks Friends, Mariah Roberts and Carlos Campos provided a brief presentation on who the County Parks Friends are and about the project. The Mayors of the four cities in Santa Cruz County (Scotts Valley, Santa Cruz, Capitola, Watsonville) have come together to show how Parks can support the community during the pandemic. The idea for this project came from current projects where residents are participating in hike challenges to find art throughout those parks. The art will serve as an outdoor challenge for residents to go out to visit different parks and find each frame in each City starting in the month of June, with a second round of art provided by Santa Cruz County parks in July. All of the artist where invited by County Park Friends by reference. The artists for the Watsonville frames are Ome Garcia, Jamie Sanchez, Paul DeWorken, Jessica Carrasco and Priscilla Martinez.

b) Commission Questions & Input: Commissioner Quiroz-Carter asked if there would be a hashtag when images are posted. Roberts responded that they were looking into it.

Commissioner Carrasco informed the Commission that she would be abstaining from voting on this item as she is one of the artists on this project.

Commissioner Sanchez asked if this project will be advertised in the local news outlets so the community can be aware of this project. Campos clarified that they had not thought about but is something they can do.

c) Public Input: None

d) Appropriate Action: Motion to approve application for Public Art For Temporary Frame Art at Various Parks

MOTION: Motion to approve application for Public Art for Temporary Frame Art at Various Parks

Moved by Sencion

Seconded by Quiroz-Carter

Motioned Carried by Majority Vote

7.b ADOPTION OF REVISED RECREATION FACILITY RENTAL FEE SCHEDULE

a) Staff Report: Director Calubaquib, Superintendent Imelda Negrete and Recreation Coordinator Israel Tirado reported on the background of the facility rental program, current rental fees and proposed rental fees. Negrete discussed the proposed changes to the Facility Rental Fee Schedule, which are to create a more uniform and less complex schedule to reflect one base fee and eliminate existing add on fees and the annual CIP increase to fees, implement a 40% fee reduction for non-profits from base rates and apply this rate to picnic rates, establish a non-resident fee and establish fees for facilities that are not on the fee schedule.

b) Commission Questions & Input: Commissioner Sencion commented on simplifying the fee schedule and making it easier for someone to understand is great and can help generate revenue to maintain the facilities.

Commissioner Barba asked where the 40% for non-profit come from and does the school district pay rental fees. Clarification from Negrete that the percentage was taken

from the average of the non-profit youth rate and the non-profit adult rate and majority of the school district rentals are free. Calubaquib added that the fee study of other local Cities for nonprofit discount rates range from 10-20% on average, our City has a higher discount rate and is recommending to maintain that discount rate. The waiver of fees for District events has been in place for a long time and the District is responsible for paying any direct costs, such as cleaning fees and staff time for events that are after operating hours.

Commissioner Quiroz-Carter commented where the 10% non-resident fee came from because it seems low and where does it put the fees with the market. Quiroz-Carter also asked if there are facilities that are not in use due to maintenance issues as she noticed there are some facilities that are not available. Quiroz-Carter questioned how the process would work if the CPI increase was eliminated and revised every two years. Calubaquib clarified that the proposed non-resident fee percentage is low compared to the varied non-resident fees of comparison Cities. Coordinator Tirado stated that none of the facilities are closed due to maintenance, however, some are closed due to programs at various sites, a COVID testing site and a shelter. Negrete stated that it is challenging to maintain a competitive rate so by revising the CIP increase every two years, it allows us to make adjustments necessary to the market. Calubaquib clarified that any fees proposed to be changed would go to the Parks and Recreation Commission for a recommendation to the Council.

Commissioner Sanchez questioned the priority for reservations, the ways someone can submit a reservation application and what determines events that require security guards. Tirado responded that the reservation process is first come, first serve and application can be submitted online, in person and via email. Events that are 75 guests and over or any event that serves alcohol and/or amplified sound would require security.

Commissioners would like more data for the non-resident rates. They also stated they would like an update in 6 months to a year.

c) Public Input: Public commented on an item not relevant to the item discussed.

d) Appropriate Action: Adjust base rental fees as outlined in Attachment D and eliminate existing add on fees and annual CPI increase, Implement a uniform 40% fee reduction for non-profits from the rates established for private renters and apply this fee reduction to rentals for picnic areas and pavilions, Establish an additional 10% rental fee for non-residents, and Establish fees for facilities not currently included in the rental schedule.

MOTION: Adjust base rental fees as outlined in Attachment D and eliminate existing add on fees and annual CPI increase, implement a uniform 40% fee reduction for non-profits from the rates established for private renters and apply this fee reduction to rentals for picnic areas and pavilions, establish an additional 10% rental fee for non-residents, and establish fees for facilities not currently included in the rental schedule.

Moved by Quiroz-Carter

Seconded by Carrasco

Motioned Carried by Majority Vote

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

8.a PRC LIAISONS

- a) Staff Report: Director Calubaquib provided a brief report on the recommendation that the Parks and Recreation Commission adopt the list of Commissioners to serve as a Liaison to various program areas and to allow Commissioner Campos the opportunity to select the program to serve as liaison.
- b) Commission Questions & Input: Commissioner Campos selected to serve as liaison in the program of Older Adult services and Special Events.
- c) Public Input: None
- d) Appropriate Action: Motion to approve the Parks and Recreation to serve as Liaison as presented to the commission to various program areas.

MOTION: Motion to approve the Parks and Recreation Commissioner Liaisons List, as presented to the Commission detailing which Commisisoner is to serve as Liaison to each program area.

Moved by Quiroz-Carter

Seconded by Sencion

Motioned Carried by Majority Vote

8.b PRC WORKPLAN

- a) Staff Report: Director Calubaquib provide a brief overview on the recommendation that the Parks and Recreation Commission develop and adopt a work plan for the 2021 calendar year.
- b) Commission Questions & Input: Commissioner Campos would like more time to decide and go over questions with Director Calubaquib regarding the adoption of a work plan for the calendar year.
- c) Public Input: None
- d) Appropriate Action: None

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at [Time]

Abel Sanchez, Parks & Recreation Commission Chairperson

ATTEST:

Nick Calubaquib, Parks & Community Services Director