



# 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/TTY: call 711

JEFF GAFFNEY  
DIRECTOR

### PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA

Monday, June 6, 2022

7:00pm – 9:00pm

Regular Meeting (virtual)

Meeting Link <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/3689630872?pwd=aGR4eEFySDNtMkFnbkE0aUx5OXhEQT09>

Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 368 963 0872

Passcode: 790501

#### I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

#### II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

#### III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Opportunity for persons to address the Commission on matters which are within the scope of responsibility of the Commission or on today's Agenda. Presentations must not exceed three (3) minutes in length, and individuals may speak only once during Oral Communications. Commissioners will not take actions or respond immediately to any public communications presented regarding topics not on the Agenda but may choose to follow up later, either later, or on a subsequent Commission Agenda.

#### IV. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve minutes from February 7, 2022 & May 2, 2022.....Page 3-7
- b. Consider Reports:
  - 1. Aquatics Section Report .....Page 8
  - 2. Maintenance Section Report.....Page 9-10
  - 3. Planning Section Report.....Page 11-12
  - 4. Recreation Section Report.....Page 13
  - 5. Reservations Section Report .....Page 14
  - 4. Volunteer Section Report.....Page 15

#### V. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

#### VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

#### VII. REGULAR AGENDA – Action Items

- a. Discuss and adopt resolution approving the commission's findings under AB 361

#### VIII. REGULAR AGENDA – Information Items

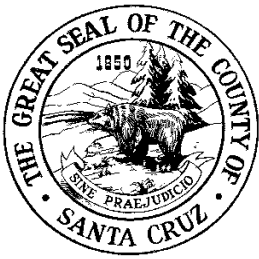
- a. Moran Lake Community Meeting update presentation by Michael Hettenhausen, County Parks
- b. Presentation on Snowy Plovers by Kriss Neuman, Point Blue
- c. Coastal Rail Trail Segments 10 and 11 Schematic Design Review by Robert Tidmore, Public Works
- d. County Parks budget discussion
- e. Suggested topics from the public to be brought to the commission
- f. Discussion on ordinance 10.04.150 to be displayed consistently on County Parks signs

**IX. NEXT MEETING:** Monday, August 1, 2022, 7:00-9:00 p.m. - Virtual Meeting via Zoom if determined by the commission

**X. WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE LISTING**

a. Letter from Jean Brocklebank on 5/6

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**



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JEFF GAFFNEY  
DIRECTOR

### PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION Minutes of February 7, 2022, 7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting Virtual via Zoom

#### I. ROLL CALL

Present: Vivian Fenner-Evans, Kate Minott, Maggie Duncan-Merrell, Jim Rapoza  
Staff: Jeff Gaffney, Noah Ross

#### II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

Minott: Recommend time for public and commissioners to discuss future topics.

(Minott/Fenner-Evans 4/0)

#### III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

1. Jean Brocklebank Subject: The last meeting was constrained to not discuss Scott Creek Management practices. Fortunately, the commission decided this topic would be moved to tonight's meeting. We are pleased to learn that a previous Parks Director had already clarified the pet policy at Scott Creek. We were also pleased to learn that Point Blue would be presenting at tonight's meeting. However, following the publishing of tonight's agenda, there is not information on Scott Creek nor the Point Blue Presentation. After contacting the chair, he informed me it would be fixed but it was not. Now the commission cannot take action on Scott Creek policies or management. Improper signage continues to be a problem.
2. Michael Lewis Subject: I am addressing the acting chair and commission. There is another unfortunate result of the postponement of a Scott Creek discussion: putting it off until April 4 means missing the start of the Snowy Plover nesting season. In the past County Parks has taken action to protect nesting areas during breeding season, however, there has not been action in 5 years. I suggest there be a special meeting prior to the start of nesting season to have a study session to discuss Snowy Plovers at Scott Creek.
3. Lisa Sheridan Subject: Regarding Farm Park and bridge situation, I am aware that the community nearby is frustrated with the bridge in its current state. I believe a narrow walking bridge at the park would be more appropriate than a larger bridge. I think a special meeting with neighborhood input would be beneficial to discuss this further. I would like to thank Jean and Michael for their words on Snowy Plovers.
4. John & Linda Brown Subject: We are surprised that Scott Creek dogs on beach was not discussed and upset it has been delayed. I understand it cannot be talked about, however, it is weird that it is not on tonight's agenda after what was discussed at the last meeting. Please find time to work on it this month.

#### IV. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: Minutes of December 6, 2021 were approved; motion for action tonight on Scott Creek not acted upon; reports considered and accepted (Minott/Fenner-Evans 4/0)

## V. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Minott 2nd District: The bathroom project at hidden beach permits is progressing. App for graffiti reporting not working, Public Works and Rebecca notified.

Duncan-Merrell 3<sup>rd</sup> District: Things were great when we last checked in and it looks like we're on the cusp of exciting change in California for continued, safe use of our parks. Santa Cruz has done a great job with proceeding safely. Parks have been prospering.

Fenner-Evans 1st District: County Park Maintenance has been doing a great job. Heart of Soquel has become a community meeting place, with lots of attendance. Winkle Farm Park also great for parties and maintenance staff have been excellent in their work on Mondays following weekend events. Maintenance staff also have done a great job pruning succents near Opal Cliff. Regarding Santa Cruz Gardens, I now realize the necessity for large signs explaining dogs on leash only. I observed bilingual "play it safe" signs at Anna Jean Park. I also noticed Agents of Discovery banner and suggest that the banner and info signs be bilingual, as well as all other children's signs at this park. Great job with gopher abatement. Regarding Brommer Park, unhoused camp removed, adjacent tree removed, 24 pickleball players and sometimes 66. Picklers noted that the park feels safer with increased Sheriff's presence. Regarding the Farm Park, neighbors want to participate more in Park meetings, more social meeting outreach would be beneficial to the community.

Rapoza 5th District: No report

## VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Reading of Stephen Bennett's letter to commissioners: Stephen thought carefully about the Scott Creek Topic in question, and after careful consideration, decided it would most appropriate to be placed in Director's Report.
- Stephen resigned effective Sunday. Was on the commission for over a decade and he was always very helpful in discussions with commissioners and staff.
- Jennifer Mead is no longer with Parks and has moved to Environmental Health.
- A prior commission and administration had previously taken action (in 2001) on banning dogs from Scott Creek Beach, this action is still in effect.
- We have already ordered new signs for Scott Creek clarifying all dogs are banned from the beach.
- Reminder to commissioners, serial communications with members of the public are a violation of the Brown Act. Remember to be thoughtful with how we communicate things.
- Early draft of the agenda should not have been sent out and into public hands, we will avoid this in the future.
- Point Blue needed to reschedule, as this meeting did not work with their timing. April 4 meeting was preferable to them.
- We currently have 15 vacancies out of 49 full time positions, we've been working hard with personnel to get these filled.
- Thank you for the kind comments on our Park Maintenance Workers.
- Park Maintenance Supervisor Mike Pini has left Parks and moved to Vector Control.
- Willowbrook Park Memorial project is ongoing. We are working with the Deputy Sheriff's Association and County Park Friends.
- Heart of Soquel soil is slipping, resulting in damage to riparian corridor. Working with FEMA.
- Working on several grants and state partnerships.
- Started work at Simpkins. We are still offering swim activities at Harvey West.

## VII. REGULAR AGENDA – Action Items

- a. Motion: Adopt resolution approving the commission's findings under AB 361 (Minott/Duncan-Merrell, 4/0)

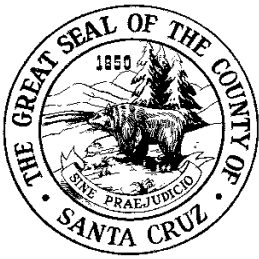
**VIII. REGULAR AGENDA – Info Items**

- a. Director Gaffney gave update on Regional Transportation trail maintenance concerns
- b. Director Gaffney gave update on Parks Commission elections of officers

**IX. NEXT MEETING:** Monday, April 4, 2022, 7:00-9:00 p.m.  
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

**X. WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE LISTING**

**XI. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m. (Minott/Fenner-Evans 4/0)**



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JEFF GAFFNEY  
DIRECTOR

### PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION Minutes of May 2, 2022, 7:30 p.m. Special Meeting Virtual via Zoom

#### I. ROLL CALL

Present: Vivian Fenner-Evans, Kate Minott, Maggie Duncan-Merrell, Monica Martinez  
Staff: Jeff Gaffney, Rebecca Hurley, Noah Ross

#### II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

- a. Motion: To move Regular Agenda to item III (Minott, Fenner-Evans 4/0)

#### III. REGULAR AGENDA – Action Items

- a. Motion: Election of Kate Minott as Chairperson and Vivian Fenner-Evans as Vice-Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Commission (Fenner-Evans, Minott 4/0)

#### IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

1. Jean Brocklebank Subject: Appreciates advisory committees following agendas clearly and not diverting, hope Kate will continue this. Welcome to Monica. Long time residents of Live Oak and are active members of the community
2. Michael Lewis Subject: Concerned about north coast Parks properties. Catony Coast Dairies national monument and access to beaches. Not heard enough about these projects from the commission.

#### VI. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: Approve the commission's findings under AB 361 from February 7, 2022 (Minott, Fenner-Evans 4/0)

#### VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- We are meeting again 6/6/22
- Will afford time to commissioners for urgent matters, but we will be keeping with tonight's agenda.
- (Kate Minott): Asked if the Parks Department will be presenting budget to Board of Supervisors. (Director Gaffney): Unknown at this time.
- Huge interest in Deputy Director position. Kim Namba, with over 30 years of County experience, prevailed.
- (Vivian Fenner-Evans): Graffiti has become a big issue at Felt St. Park.
- (Kate Minott): Athletic courts at Willowbrook Park resurfaced. There will be a memorial service at the Park next Month for Sergeant Damon Gutzwiller.

**IX. NEXT MEETING:** Monday, June 6, 2022, 7:00-9:00 p.m.  
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

**X. WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE LISTING**

**XI. ADJOURNMENT** – Meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m. (Duncan-Merrell/Fenner-Evans 4/0)



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JEFF GAFFNEY  
DIRECTOR

Date: June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022  
To: Parks and Recreation Commission  
From: Max Friedmann, Aquatics Supervisor  
Subject: Aquatics Section Report

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### **Simpkins Renovation Project and Closure**

- The renovation project at Simpkins Family Swim Center is wrapping up with the majority of the projects being completed by June 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Renovations included replastering of the 50m pool, improvements to the pump room, and resurfacing of the pool deck cement.

### **Harvey West Pool**

- All County Parks aquatics programming at Harvey West Pool ended on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Programming such as lap, swim, water aerobics, and adult fitness were offered at Harvey west while Simpkins was closed for renovations.

### **Simpkins Reopening**

- Simpkins Family Swim Center is currently scheduled to reopen for public use on Monday, June 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Programming such as Little Guards and Swim Lessons will begin on Monday, June 6<sup>th</sup>.





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JEFF GAFFNEY  
DIRECTOR

Date: May 24, 2022  
To: Parks and Recreation Commission  
From: Rebecca Hurley, Parks Superintendent  
Subject: Maintenance Section Report

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### County Wide

- Staffing Updates:
  - Recruitment underway for additional Parks Superintendent
  - Summer 2022 Recruitment for additional Parks Maintenance Supervisor
- Little League games and practices at all sports fields.
- Training and planning for the implementation of the Lucity digital work order system.

### South County

- Water leaks addressed at both Hidden Beach and Seascape County Parks.
- Trimming back overgrown vegetation off the running and hiking trails at Pinto Lake Park.
- Completed the high weed mowing on the disc golf course at Pinto Lake Park open space area
- Water leak at Aptos Polo Grounds addressed and high weed mowing completed.
- New monument signs being designed and scheduled for installation at Willowbrook Park

### Simpkins Family Swim Center

- Staff have been working on a major exterior painting project as well as re-finishing portions of the concrete pool deck adjacent to the pools at the Swim Center
- A contractor replaced the concrete stairs between the upper and lower pool deck
- Staff rebuilt all of the shower valves in the locker rooms and deep cleaned the tile floor and grout
- Replastering project on the 50M lap pool to be wrapped up in early June with current Swim Center reopening date scheduled for 6/7/22 tentatively
- Staff repainted the markers on the bulkhead in preparation for reinstallation prior to pool reopening

## **North County**

- Removal of nine eucalyptus trees at Moran Lake with included staff training on tree felling.
- High weed mowing completed at both the Probation and Juvenile Hall County facilities.
- Installation of the annual summer fencing along river at Ben Lomond Dam.
- Cleanups of two downed trees at Felton Discovery Park.
- Installation of memorial benches at both Highlands County Park and Quail Hollow Ranch County Park.
- Construction of a new shed for horse boarders at Quail Hollow Ranch County Park.
- Water leak at Anna Jean Cummings Park addressed
- Plumbing repairs on 2nd floor of Highlands house at Highlands Park.
- Removal and abatement of poison oak at Moran Lake County Park and the Moran Way county owned parcel managed by County Parks.



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JEFF GAFFNEY  
DIRECTOR

Date: May 25, 2022  
To: Parks and Recreation Commission  
From: Michael Hettenhausen and Mike Pruitt, Park Planners  
Subject: Planning Section Status Report

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### **Anna Jean Cummings Mitigation Plantings**

Staff held a community event on April 9<sup>th</sup> to present the conceptual renderings of the completed project. Approximately 20 people attended the Saturday morning event. Recently, staff received and reviewed draft project plans and specifications from the landscape architect. Staff's comments will be incorporated into the plans and specifications, which will be used for bidding purposes.

### **Hidden Beach**

The discretionary permit for the new restroom was approved by County Planning. Staff is now working with our consultant to prepare the construction documents for the County Building Permit application.

### **Moran Lake**

Staff and our consultants held a community event on May 14<sup>th</sup> to present the draft conceptual plan. Approximately 75 people attended this Saturday morning event. The consultants are reviewing feedback from the community event for potential inclusion in the draft conceptual plan. The consultants are continuing to model and monitor the lagoon monthly and are beginning to draft the Monarch Management Plan Update.

### **North Coast Facilities and Management Plan**

After review of proposals submitted in response to the release of the Request-for-Proposal (RFP), the County entered into a contract with a planning consultant to facilitate meetings, review, compare, and consolidate previously approved North Coast management plans, and draft a North Coast Facilities and Management Plan.

### **Willowbrook**

Staff continues to work with a design consultant to refine the concept plan to be submitted to County Planning for the required permits as well as to be used for fundraising.

### **188 Whiting Road**

Staff has received and reviewed the agricultural viability study to assist in the evaluation to move forward with the proposed development of the site. Additionally, the team has received and reviewed the Biotic Report outlining the specific environmental features and wildlife present on site. A future environmental assessment is planned for Summer 2022 to sample the soil and water quality of the site an existing well(s).

### **Soquel Lions Park**

Parks' design consultant had completed the 90% plans and specifications and submitted them for review by County staff. Environmental approvals and exemptions for construction are in discussion with County Planning.

### **Floral Park**

Staff is awaiting the completion of a consultant service order in order to proceed with a stakeholder's meeting on site to begin the design process.

### **Felton Covered Bridge Park Pump Track**

Staff met with project stakeholders on site to review the proposed project, current status, and future steps. Three concepts are being prepared by the local designer and Santa Cruz Mountains Trail Stewards and will be presented to Parks for an internal review prior to meeting with the community.

### **Boulder Creek Park**

Staff was approached by volunteer organization to explore the possibilities of developing a new park in downtown Boulder Creek. Park staff performed a preliminary site walk and assessment of the site for a potential park. A meeting is scheduled with stakeholders for June 2022 to discuss project goals, objectives, opportunities, and constraints based on the site analysis and preliminary community desires. This information will assist in formulating a design program which we can use to begin the conversation with the community.



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JEFF GAFFNEY  
DIRECTOR

Date: June 6, 2022  
To: Parks and Recreation Commission  
From: Jaime Jimenez, Recreation Supervisor  
Subject: Recreation Section Report

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### **Learning and Enrichment Camps**

- We have continued to offer our Learning and Enrichment Camps at various sites throughout the County.
- At these sites, Recreation Staff provide various active games, arts and crafts, outdoor nature, and science enrichment activities for stable groups of up to 12 elementary school aged children.

### **Partnerships with Local Recreation Departments**

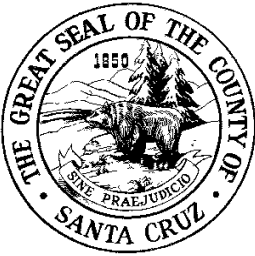
- We have continued to work with our partners - City of Watsonville, City of Capitola, Pajaro Valley Unified School District, DELTA Charter School, City of Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter, and County Parks Friends non-profit. The recreation team is assisting the partners mentioned above with summer offerings collaboration and ideas to provide programs throughout the county.
- With our support they have been able to open and operate multiple special events. Youth Action Network, Teen Job fairs, movie night, 5K run at Pinto Lake, and Growing Up Santa Cruz downtown events.

### **Recreation Programs & Contractual Agreements**

- The recreation team continues seeking out potential contractual agreements with groups and individuals in the community to offer positive recreational programs in our county.
- We make strides in fostering human development opportunities and providing a safe place for the community to recreate. This St. Patrick's Day, the recreation team conducted a scavenger hunt at different county parks in hopes to increase park attendance and to create an opportunity to have the community go outdoors and explore with their friends and loved ones. The recreation team scattered 250 gold rocks that leprechauns had left behind for the community to test their good fortune near playgrounds and frequently visited park trails. The scavenger hunt was a success.

### **Marketing Efforts**

- The Department marketing efforts this month consist of working on updating the website and creating a summer activity guide to inform the community of upcoming recreational opportunities and to help navigate their interest in our reservations and registrations system and opportunities on the Web.
- The Department has continued to create our marketing flyers in both Spanish/English.



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JEFF GAFFNEY  
DIRECTOR

Date: May 25, 2022  
To: Parks and Recreation Commission  
From: Sarah Shea, Recreation Supervisor  
Subject: Reservations Section Report

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**Picnic Reservations** continue to be popular and steady booking at all locations.

**Athletic Field Permits** Fall Season Permits are being received and the reservation process is underway.

**Concessionaires**: rebuilding concessionaire program. Currently six concessionaires are permitted to sell food within the County Parks.

### **Venue Rentals:**

Online reservations improvements have been made for Wedding and Events allowing for an availability calendar and online reservations.

Weekend Events have started to increase this spring and we look forward to a full summer of events.

We continue to find new ways to market our venues, including virtual open houses and updating features of current venues-including furniture to the second Bridal Suite at Highlands.

**Special Events**: Save the Date! Parks and Rex August 20, 2022, 12:00-4:00pm

The following special events were permitted between March- May:

- Run for Rio at Seascap
- Live Like Coco at Pinto Lake
- Never Forget Relay, Fallen Officers Foundation at Aptos Village
- Marfan Foundation Walk Event at Seascap
- Pajaro Valley Shelter Services 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Mother's Day Walk/Run Event, first year at Pinto Lake
- Boulder Creek Business Association held their annual fundraising event for the first time at Highlands
- Felton Remembers Festival held at Felton Covered Bridge

**Staffing**: Three new Park Services Officers were brought on to the team. A new Procedure handbook was developed and a training event for all current and new PSOs was held in late April.



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JEFF GAFFNEY  
DIRECTOR

Date: June 3, 2022  
To: Parks and Recreation Commission  
From: Margaret Ingraham, Volunteer Program Coordinator  
Subject: Volunteer Program Report

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### **Anna Jean Cummings Park**

We have an independent volunteer named Meta – she has refurbishing and painted both bathrooms, the picnic pergolas and the Blue-Sky balls. She recently moved over to Brommer and just finished re-painting the picnic pergola there. The Board of Supervisors will be honoring Outstanding Volunteers in SC County and Meta will be one of those, receiving an Outstanding Volunteer award from the Board of Supervisor next Tuesday.

Students apart of the Workability Program come every Thursday to Anna Jean Cummings Park and Willowbrook, maintenance staff direct them in projects. Since January they have logged over 250 hours. This program and their supervisor also received an Outstanding Volunteer.

### **Felton Discovery Park**

We have monthly community volunteer days; the volunteers help to keep the park weeded and pruned and have done some planting as well. We have had a group of students who come monthly and work under Chris Soriano, with the [Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History](#) he leads group and helps with landscaping projects. Chris has also brought students to our Pinto Lake County Park to work on invasive ivy removal and litter control. Chris will also be receiving an Outstanding Volunteer. Recently we worked with Jay Ryan who is an intern with the California Conservation Corps Watershed Stewards Program. He organized and led a group of over 30 volunteers in removing Blackberry.

### **Quail Hollow Ranch**

Over the last couple months, we have been training new docents and currently have 7 who have weekly volunteer shifts and open the VC for the public. We have Wednesday through Sunday afternoons covered at the park.

We also have a couple Trail Watch volunteers who hike the trails on a regular basis. We have an independent volunteer, Ralph who has done many projects such as building walkways, installing gutter drainage, and he recently built 2 privacy screens which were funded by the Friends of Quail Hollow group. Ralph will also be receiving an Outstanding Volunteer award.

We have brought back the very popular **Forbidden Sandhills** hikes with the help of our long-time volunteer, Sean. The **Trail Crew** meets weekly keeping the trails in great shape. At Quail Hollow there are, 25 active Bird **Nest Box** Volunteers, Monthly **star gazing** by the SC Astronomy Club Weekly, and **French Broom** removal group. **Richard and Kathy** continue to be the constant at Quail helping on many levels from hosting the VC to cleaning, hiking, helping with the pond, the list goes on.

**We are working** with the Nature Lodge to organize volunteer days at our parks. In Feb. they had a cleanup day at Hidden Beach. In May they will be on East Cliff Parkway In July and August, they will help up on the North Coast.

We hosted 110 8<sup>th</sup> graders from Westlake Charter to paint newly built fences. They were able to fully prime and paint the back corral and a side fence in the front corral and well.

### **We hosted an AmeriCorps Team**

Thank you to everyone that helped with this team to getting the house ready, leading some of the projects, getting material and equipment they needed, etc. Thank you!

1. **Shore Trail** – Built and restored steps and the path on the Shore Trail, hauled over 10 tons of rock, built a split rail fence, and poured a footing for a bench.
2. **Scott Creek Beach** – Habitat restoration: Planted over 300 native plants and removed uprooted invasive Ice Plant.
3. **Jose Ave.** – Gave the park a much-needed face lift with the removal of dead shrubs, pruning, split rail fence repair and replacement, and mulch spreading.
4. **Anna Jean** – Removed a massive amount of French Broom in the park.
5. **Pinto house yard work** – Repaired and replaced the house picket fence, removed invasive plants, mulched around previously planted native plants in the front yard, weeded and mulched around the house.
6. Removed a large truck load of debris from Pinto Lake County Park.

### **Keep America Beautiful Grant**

We have a Keep America Beautiful grant, and we will be installing new signs and garbage cans on the North Coast.

Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup> 3-5pm, we will be at Davenport Main Beach with the Santa Cruz Warriors

Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 10am-12pm will be at Bonny Doon Beach

Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup>, 10am-12pm will be at Davenport Landing Beach

Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 10am-12pm will be at Scotts Creek

Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, 10am-12pm will be at Greyhound Rock Beach

Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 10am-12pm will be at Davenport Main Beach

### **Nature Lodge Hidden Clean Up**

Brittany from Nature lodge clean up organizes large group cleans every other Saturday on east-cliff parkway and Felton Discovery Park.

### **Extra Notes**

The Tai Kappa Epsilon Fraternity will start back up at Scott Creek Beach removing the sand from the platform and pulling up invasive Ice Plant from the dunes.





Photos from AmeriCorps



Fence painting at quail Hollow

**BEFORE THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ**

**RESOLUTION NO. 22-1**

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION'S  
FINDINGS PURSUANT TO ASSEMBLY BILL 361 AUTHORIZING TELECONFERENCE  
MEETINGS AS A RESULT OF THE CONTINUING COVID-19 PANDEMIC STATE OF  
EMERGENCY AND HEALTH OFFICER RECOMMENDATION FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING**

**WHEREAS**, the Parks and Recreation Commission is a legislative body under the Brown Act as defined under Cal. Gov. Code section 54952(b) and Santa Cruz County Code Section 2.38.110; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 361 ("AB 361"), urgency legislation effective immediately, that amended Government Code section 54953 to permit legislative bodies subject to the Brown Act to continue to meet under modified teleconferencing rules provided that they comply with specific requirements set forth in the statute; and,

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to AB 361 and Cal. Gov. Code section 54953(e)(1)(A), a legislative body may meet under the modified teleconferencing rules during a proclaimed state of emergency, and where local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a Proclamation of State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and which remains in effect; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 30, 2021, Santa Cruz County Public Health Officer Dr. Gail Newel strongly recommended that legislative bodies in Santa Cruz County continue to engage in physical/social distancing by meeting via teleconference as allowed by AB 361 and confirmed that she will regularly review and reconsider this recommendation and notify the public when it is no longer recommended; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to AB 361 and Cal. Gov. Code section 54953(e)(3), within 30 days of the date the legislative body first holding a teleconferenced meeting under the modified rules, and every 30 days thereafter, a legislative body can continue to hold such teleconference meetings provided it has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and determined either that the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person or that local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 7, 2022, the Parks and Recreation Commission held initial teleconference meeting under AB 361; and

**WHEREAS**, this Commission has reconsidered the circumstances of the current state of emergency and finds that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to directly impact the ability of members of the public to participate safely in person and further finds that the Santa Cruz County Public Health Officer continues to recommend measures to promote social distancing; and

**WHEREAS**, in the interest of public health and safety, and due to the emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, the Parks and Recreation Commission deems it necessary to utilize the modified teleconferencing rules set forth in AB 361;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Parks and Recreation Commission makings the following findings by a majority vote:

**Section 1.** The foregoing recitals are true and correct, and adopted as findings of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

**Section 2.** Effective immediately, and for the next 30 days, the Parks and Recreation Commission will meet via teleconference as authorized under AB 361 and Government Code section 54953(e)(3).

**Section 3.** No later than thirty (30) days from making today’s findings, or at the next scheduled meeting, the Commission will reconsider the circumstances of the COVID-19 state of emergency and, if necessary, adopt subsequent findings to continue holding teleconference meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3).

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Parks and Recreation Commission in Santa Cruz, State of California, this 7th day of February, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: 4  
NOES: 0  
ABSENT: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:  
*Nash Ross*  
0545F803BFDB4E6...  
Department Staff

DocuSigned by:  
*Katharine Minott*  
29B7661D024F471...  
Commissioner, Parks and Recreation Commission

Approved as to Form:  
DocuSigned by:  
*John Nguyen*  
13427C3A76E8404...  
Office of the County Counsel

## WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE LISTING:

The Written Correspondence Listing is established to act as a report of materials received by the Commission as a whole, but may also include items requested for inclusion by individual Commissioners.

The Parks and Recreation Commission has received the following items of correspondence which require no official action by the Commission at this time:

1. Letter from Jean Brocklebank, dated May 9, 2022, detailing commission correspondence.