



# 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: (831) 454-7978

JEFF GAFFNEY  
DIRECTOR

### PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION --REVISED-- AGENDA

Monday, April 3, 2017  
7:00 pm  
Regular Meeting

Simpkins Family Swim Center  
979 17<sup>th</sup> 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 Feb. 6, 2017 .....Page 1-2
- B. Consider Reports:
  - 1. Maintenance Section – Status Report .....Page 3-4
  - 2. Facilities Section – Status Report .....Page 5
  - 4. Aquatics Section – Status Report.....Pages 6-8
  - 5. Planning Section – Status Report.....Pages 9-11

#### 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. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

#### VI. REGULAR AGENDA – Information Items

- 1. Postponing By-law review to next meeting (June 5, 2017)
- 2. Direct Staff to prepare a study concerning the expansion of Santa Cruz County Park staff to include Santa Cruz County Park Rangers.
  - a. [Discussion]: The report will propose and examine the role of on-site County Park Rangers in county parks.
  - b. The report should distinguish the role of volunteer docents, and the Rangers as paid staff whose job description could include Rangers as nature guides and peace-keepers in county parks

**VII. REGULAR AGENDA – Action Items**

3. Motion to approve commissioners sending correspondence about the Strategic Plan on behalf of the commission (Pages 12-13)
4. Motion to create a 'commissioner reporting section' in the agenda, during which time a commissioner may request a letter of endorsement from the commission
5. Direct staff to work with (new) Chair to write a letter of congratulations to the Artist of the Year from the commission
6. Take nominations and Elect Chair and Vice-chair of the commission

**VIII. WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE LISTING (Pages 14-17)**

**IX. ADJOURNEMENT**



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JEFF GAFFNEY  
DIRECTOR

### PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes of February 6, 2017, 7:00 p.m. meeting

26 W. Front St.

Watsonville, CA 95076

#### I. ROLL CALL

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

#### II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS:

Motion to accept agenda as presented. (Roberts/ Bennett 4/0)

#### III. CONSENT AGENDA

Approved minutes from December 5, 2016. (Roberts/ Rapoza 4/0)

Accept and file items and reports. (Bennett/ Rapoza 4/0)

#### IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

- Raymon Cancino: Ray provided an update about the non-profit Friends of Santa Cruz County Parks (FSCCoP). Moving forward FSCCoP is working on prioritizing goals. FSCCoP is working on a cocktail event for early March as a way to spread awareness about FSCCoP and increase membership. Everybody, please, like us on Facebook!
- Supervisor Greg Caput: Represents the 5<sup>th</sup> Supervisorial District. The goal of the 5<sup>th</sup> District as it relates to parks is to find more park land. We are looking into utilizing the fairgrounds as possible recreation space. Recently the County is putting a lot of time, work and effort into managing storm damage and preventing flooding.
- Brian Peterson: Brian is a member of Mountain Bikers of Santa Cruz (MBoSC). MBoSC is currently promoting a trail to be built in Santa Cruz City Pogonip Park. Also, MBoSC is working with Watsonville City Parks on a paved bike pump track at Ramsay Park. It's been nearly 2 years since the Aptos, postoffice bike jumps were closed and it still feels like a big loss for the community.
- Margit Aramburu: I am very excited to be the new Secretary for Friends of Santa Cruz County Parks. The timing was right. I was involved with advocacy for Seacliff Village Parks, as well as Seascape Park and I look forward to serving FSCCoP.

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

- Maintenance staff has been really busy recovering from the recent storms. Luckily, no major damage has occurred in county parks however, the damage at this point is probably costing at least \$250,000.
- It's Budget Season. The County is implementing a new budget format that will be easier for the public to read and analyze. Carlos Palacios has implemented the new budget format.
- Bear Creek Country Club Open House – Saturday, Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>. Boulder Creek Rec District hosting the event. Some Parks staff will be helping
- Proposal for San Vicente Redwoods Park Related Program – deferred to March 21<sup>st</sup>. Deciding on how to formulate agreements among County Departments.
- Parks Department Strategic Planning Process is underway! Developing a work plan – we have gathered staff input. The first working group meeting is this week. Planning public meetings for late April / early May.

**VI. REGULAR AGENDA** – Information Items

1. Jonathan Pilch, Director of Watsonville Wetlands Watch presented to the Commission
2. Ana Espinoza, Director of Watsonville City Parks & Community Services presented to the Commission

**VII. REGULAR AGENDA** – Action Items (none)

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT** – Meeting Adjourned at 8:25 p.m. (Bennett/ Rapoza 4/0)



# County of Santa Cruz

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS PARKS, OPEN SPACE, AND CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION

979 17<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95062

(831) 454-7901 FAX: (831) 454-7940 TDD: (831) 454-7978

JOHN J. PRESLEIGH  
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

**DATE:** April 6, 2017  
**TO:** PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION  
**FROM:** GRETCHEN ILIFF, MAINTENANCE DIVISION  
**RE:** STATUS REPORTS ON CURRENT PROJECTS

### **PARKS, BUILDING, AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE**

**NORTH COUNTY PARKS** (Highlands, Ben Lomond, Felton Covered Bridge, Probation, Michael Gray Field, Quail Hollow Ranch and the North Coast)

Staff are working through the FEMA process to get funding and make repairs to storm damaged parks. Staff hope to have a section of Ben Lomond Park opened soon.

Staff prepared the athletic fields at Michael Grey field and Highlands park for opening day of baseball.

The Americorp team did a week of non-native plant removals at the future Felton Library site. Volunteers led by the Valley Women's Club, Environmental Coordinator, Linda Skeff are continuing efforts to make improvements to the site.

**MID-COUNTY PARKS** (AJC, Government Center, Emeline Complex, Twin Lakes, Brommer, Felt, Floral, Coffee Lane, Soquel Lyons, Jose Avenue, Winkle Farm, Willowbrook Lane, Moran Lake, Maplethorpe, Santa Cruz Gardens, Heart of Soquel Plaza, The Farm, Mid-County beach access areas)

Clean up, tree removals and assessments are continuing at Moran Lake Park. Staff are working with an arborist and butterfly specialists to further reduce any tree hazards.

Staff repaired a fence that was damaged by a falling tree at Floral Park.

Staff are working with the Water Conservation Coalition and Ecology Action to participate in a Lose your Lawn workshop at the Emeline Campus on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

**SOUTH COUNTY PARKS** (Polo Grounds, Valencia Hall, Hidden Beach, Seascape, Aptos Village, South County Beach access areas, Scott Park, Scott Estate, Aldridge Lane, Mesa Village, Pinto Lake, Freedom Government Annex, Seacliff Village Park)

The old stairway leading to the creek area at Aptos Park has been removed. Staff hope to replace it before summer.

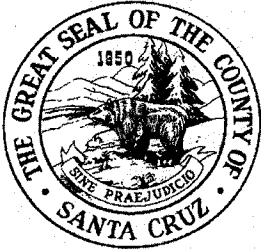
Park staff removed and replaced failing concrete around one of the picnic pavilions at Pinto Lake Park.

Staff have begun out spring mowing at our undeveloped park site and undeveloped areas of current parks. Pinto Lake Parks, Seascape Park and the 'Crestview' lot were mowed this month.

**SIMPKINS FAMILY SWIM CENTER**

A new hot water heater was installed in the kitchen at the **Simpkins Family Swim Center**. The previous hot water heating system did not provide a hot enough temperature to meet code conditions for a commercial kitchen.

All maintenance staff received training on the topics of Bloodborne pathogens.



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JEFF GAFFNEY  
DIRECTOR

DATE: April 3, 2017  
TO: Parks & Recreation Commission, Arts Commission  
FROM: Mary Chavez, Program Coordinator  
RE: Facilities Division Status Report- March/April 2017

### Summary for reservations and Facilities operations in the Parks (excluding SFSC):

#### Attendance at Reserved Facilities:

March and April have seen an increase in use of reservable areas with parties, weddings, memorial services and sports taking place at park centers, picnic areas and athletic fields. Staff estimates that approximately 59,500 park visitors attended events in reserved facilities at County Parks in these two months, an increase of over 50,000 from January and February attendance.

#### Center and Meeting Room Rentals in March and April 2017:

March and April hosted 19 weddings, receptions and family events held at various Park Centers with rental revenues totaling \$17,850. 54 meeting room rentals also took place during these two months, with revenues totaling \$1,720.

#### Picnic Area Rentals in March and April 2017:

Use of the reservable picnic areas have increased during the months of March and April, with 43 rentals for parties and family events taking place so far, as compared to 14 rentals that took place in January and February. Anna Jean Cummings picnic areas continue to book months in advance and typically rent to capacity on weekends each month. Revenues for March and April total \$6,450.

#### Athletic Fields in March and April 2017 (includes February info for baseball fields):

The season for athletic field use began late February for baseball and softball fields, while soccer fields were opened between the end of March and beginning of April in an effort to provide for a longer renovation period. The athletic season is now in full swing and has become very busy, for both baseball and soccer fields, with 679 individual field bookings in 18 athletic fields (504 bookings in baseball fields and 175 bookings in soccer fields). Revenues totaled \$39,200.

#### Special Events:

The special event season has kicked off during these past few months with a number of events having already successfully taken place. Fleet Feet Sports hosted the **Diocese of Monterey Health Challenge 3K** at Anna Jean Cummings Park on March 11<sup>th</sup>. It was the first event of its kind at Anna Jean and was very successful. April events include: Coast Chapel will host the second annual free **Easter Egg Hunt** for the community at Brommer Street Park on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Activities include a free BBQ, jump house, and photos with the Easter bunny. **Earth Day** on April 22<sup>nd</sup> will take place at the San Lorenzo Park and include use of the back and south lawns of the Government Center as well as the parking lot for festival parking. Team in Training/ Leukemia & Lymphoma Society will host the **Spring Fun Run for Team Coco** at Pinto Lake County Park on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. This race commemorates the birthday of Coco Lazenby, a civic-minded, young community activist, who was killed by a distracted driver in 2015. Aptos Park will host Mar Vista Elementary's second annual **Move For Mar Vista** on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. The inaugural **Run.Sweat.Love. 5k Fest**, benefitting Mini Mermaid Running Club & Young Tritons, will take place at the Polo Grounds, for a first time entire park rental which anticipates attendance of up to 1500 local youth participants. The Big Stick Surfing Association will host the annual **Big Stick Log Jam** retro surf board contest at Pleasure Point Park on April 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, which fundraises for the community and ocean-focused non-profits. 2017 is proving to be another busy year of special events.



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Jeff Gaffney  
Director

DATE: April 3, 2017  
TO: Parks and Recreation Commission, Arts Commission  
FROM: Rebecca Hurley, Aquatics Coordinator  
RE: Aquatics Division Status Report

### AQUATIC PROGRAMS

**Our spring schedule runs through June 9th and is as follows:**

#### Lap Pool Hours:

Monday thru Friday: 6:00 am to 7:30 pm

Saturdays: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Sundays: 9:00 am to 12:30 pm

#### Warm Water Pool Hours: (Hour will vary May 28<sup>th</sup> – June 9<sup>th</sup> due to School Parties)

Monday, Wednesday and Fridays: 6:00 am – 10:30 am  
3:00 pm – 5:00pm  
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Tuesday and Thursday 6:00 am – 5:00 pm  
6:30 pm - 7:30pm

Saturday 9:00 – 10:30 am (Adults only)  
10:30 am – 12:30 pm (Adults and children 6 years and under)  
1:00 – 4:00 pm (All ages)

Sunday 9:00 am – 12:30 pm – (All ages)