

Visalia Parks & Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes
April 18, 2017

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The Visalia Parks & Recreation Commission met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 18, 2017, Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Chair Carla Calhoun at 5:32 p.m.

Present: Carla Calhoun, Ben Filiponi, Peter Thomas, Steve Woods and Rick Eastes

Absent: Shann Blue and Justin Sweet

Staff: Jeannie Greenwood, Laurissa Roggenkamp, Jeff Fultz, and Susie Brown

2. Review and Approval Minutes – The regular meeting minutes of March 21, 2017, were motioned for approval by Commissioner Woods and Commissioner Thomas, seconded.

MOTION – Passed 4-0

3. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

4. Commissioner Terms, Appointments, and Recruitment, Ms. Jeannie Greenwood, Director, reviewed the Maddy list for the Commission, and provided information on how the process works, including next steps. Chair Calhoun will term off the Commission, and Commissioners Blue and Thomas' terms will expire June 30, 2017. Both are eligible for an additional term and will be asked if they would like to stay for another term. Commissioner Thomas is interested in staying for another term. Director Greenwood will talk to Commissioner Blue. Director Greenwood stated that the department would do a recruitment and bring applicants to the Commission. Chair Calhoun stated that there are interview questions in place once applicants are decided.

5. Update on City Council Reports and City Staff Announcements:

Upcoming Recreation Programs & Special Events – Ms. Laurissa Roggenkamp reported on the following:

- Senior Center Spring Open House was a success even though the patio was under construction. Vendors reported enjoying the event.
- Eggstravaganza was last weekend and over 800 wristbands were sold, being a very successful event with approximately 2,000 people in attendance at Riverway.
- Calendar handout with many events scheduled, including Summer registration begins May 1st.
- Activity Guide will be mailed end of April.
- Miki Park Dedication and Earth Day April 22nd
- Mother & Son Camp-Out, April 29, Kiwanis Park, and Kiwanis Club will BBQ dinner for all attendees Saturday night. April 29 is also Arbor Day at Packwood Creek Trail
- Dia de los Ninos, 27th Annual, April 30th at Manual Hernandez
- Cinco de Mayo Luncheon at the Senior Center and a Cinco de Mayo softball tournament will be May 6th and 7th at Plaza Park
- Mother's Day Luncheon, May 12th at the Senior Center
- Mother's Day Mad Hatter Tea Party, May 13th at Memorial Park

Commissioner Eastes inquired about the parking for Miki Park Dedication and Director Greenwood

reported that the lot by Redwood H.S. will be available for parking.

Upcoming Parks & Urban Forestry Projects, Programs & Special Events – Mr. Jeff Fultz reported on the following:

- Modoc Ditch Trail and Jennings Ditch Trail are all under construction at this time .
- St. John’s Trail at McAulff and Dinuba Blvd. plans should be completed next week.
- Arbor Day at Packwood Creek Trail, April 29th and meeting spot is Cameron and Venti.

Commissioner Eastes asked if there was any information back from the joint meeting with Council on the need for a Park Ranger truck. Mr. Fultz replied there has been no feedback.

Director’s Report on Administrative Items: Ms. Jeannie Greenwood reported on the following:

- Miki City delegation will arrive April 20th and a welcome event will be at Council Chambers Friday at 9:45 a.m. They will then tour the City, with a Rawhide Game Friday night.
- Measure N funding for a Youth Clubhouse is being challenged by Pro Youth who are reporting they can provide these services. Director Greenwood will meet with them this week.
- Cal Ripken robbery incident at Riverway has resulted in cameras being installed and an armed guard. Cal Ripken asked for the Parks & Recreation Department to help pay for these things and were told no, Cal Ripken responded that the additional costs will impact their ability to continue to contribute to facility improvements. They are meeting with Council members and City Administration to discuss on-going maintenance concerns for Riverway Sports Park.
- Pickleball contractor at Plaza was given a Stop Work Order, and the City is considering requesting that their bond pay for correcting the problems with the courts. The City will be working through the legal issues and does not have a timeline for when these things will be resolved.
- Senior Center Garden Project Grand Opening may or may not happen on April 28th. Much work needs to be done before April 28th.
- The Parks and Recreation Foundation provided their Annual Report to the City Council. The Foundation was asked questions by the Council related to their report. Council questioned the Foundation’s percentage of funds going to administrative costs and asked if the Foundation had plans to become self-sufficient without the City’s annual support of \$30,000. Proteus has notified the City that they will be terminating their lease agreement with the City effective June 30, 2017. City staff is meeting with other potential providers to try to find someone to take over the operation and maintenance of the facility. A Request for Proposals will be released and, hopefully a new contract will be executed. In the interim, the Parks and Recreation Department will continue programs and limited services until a new provider is established.
- Southside Community Center contracts are signed and in Purchasing, this is for the conceptual design.
- Quotes are in for the demolition of homes beside Riverway Sports Park, and demo should happen by the end of summer.

6. Commissioner’s Requests & Comments:

- Foundation – Commissioner Woods reported there are three more Board members and the Foundation is undergoing growing pains. They want to focus on larger scope projects and events, and be more self-sufficient. There was a motion to join the Chamber of Commerce. They will have a Rosa’s Spaghetti fundraiser on April 25th, and an upcoming date for Blaze Pizza, and a

possible gun raffle. They are considering connecting with Miki City for tree ornaments and possibly joining in the Chamber's Annual Tree Auction.

- Waterways & Trails – Vice Chair Filiponi reported the past two meetings there was no quorum.
- NVNAC – Commissioner Thomas reported on the Wittman vacancy and the Oval building vacancy. Director Greenwood commented that TCOE was awarded the Oval building lease. Commissioner Thomas reported the group (NVNAC) was extended for a year and they will discuss refocusing, but were asked to share five goals at the next meeting. He asked for an update on the CDBG process. Director Greenwood reported that approximately \$50k in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds have been approved for future use at any one of the six eligible parks. There may be additional funds once the cameras at Oval Park are installed and we know if there is any money left from that project. Director Greenwood stated that she is waiting to hear about the HRP grant for Village Park or Community Campus before we decide how the CDBG funds should be spent.

Good of the Order: Director Greenwood commented that the Economic Update will be a monthly handout. The Planning Commission is taking applications also. She reminded folks that when emailing, let her know if it is just to her or if she should share the email. Commissioner Woods requested that the Park Ordinance be reviewed and to send comments so they will be in the official record.

7. Commissioner Woods motion to adjourn at 6:20 p.m., second by Thomas, and unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Susie Brown
Office Assistant