

APPROVED 2/8/22

**Visalia Parks & Recreation Commission**

**Meeting Minutes**

**January 11, 2022**

**Call to Order/Roll Call**

The Visalia Parks & Recreation Commission met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 11, 2022, at City Hall West located at 707 W. Acequia Avenue, in the Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Steven Woods at 5:30pm.

**Members Present:** Steven Woods, Lisa Walsh, Veronica Barajas, Edgardo Monroy and Samantha Wagner

**City Staff:** Jeremy Rogers, Alvin Dias, Laurissa Roggenkamp, Daryl Tillman and Kathleen Machado

**Guest(s):** Brandon Morse, Plaza Park Raceway

**1. Public Comment:** None

**2. Review and Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meetings of December 14, 2021**

MOTION: Motion to approve the minutes as presented, Barajas/Woods; Motion carried 4-0

**3. Introduction of Daryl Tillman, Parks Maintenance Supervisor, Alvin Dias, Parks & Facilities Manager**

**4. Review and Make Recommendation for the 2022 Race Schedule for Plaza Park Raceway, Laurissa Roggenkamp, Recreation Manager**

- **Recommendation:** City staff recommends that the Commission provide conditional approval the proposed 2022 Plaza Park Raceway schedule as submitted and authorize the Director of Community Services to issue a permit for the days and times specified on the schedule pending City Council's approval of the Operations and Management Agreement.
  - Commissioner Woods requested to meet with Parks Maintenance Supervisor Daryl Tillman and Community Services Director Jeremy Rogers in April to discuss the Plaza Racetrack maintenance issues and discuss next year's contract with maintenance and upgrades as part of the contract.
  - Commission Walsh asked if piping for reclaimed water was provided to the racetrack. Parks & Facilities Manager Alvin Dias explained that this piping goes to the pond; that it still needs to be changed over to use the reclaimed water.

**MOTION:** Motion to approve as presented: Walsh/Barajas; Motion carried 5-0

**5. Trail and Bike Paths – End of Year Update 2021, Casey Chu and Diego Corvera, City of Visalia Engineering Division**

- Commissioner Walsh asked if City staff has worked with Google to get online trail maps or bike routes for Visalia. Mr. Corvera will make note and investigate.

**6. Authorization of Letter of Support for Recreation Park Enhancement Project - Clean California Local Grant Program, Casey Chu, City of Visalia Engineering Division**

- Commissioner Walsh asked about groundwater sustainability at the Recreation Park location. Mr. Chu said that the parking lots will remain asphalt to drain water into the bios wells.
- Commissioner Woods expressed concern for the pavement alternatives of the grant and wants to make sure that there's balance for the needed pavement with other structures and landscaping.
- Commissioner Wagner asked if the 'walk' in the rendering would impede on the access of the ballpark that looks to be where materials are delivered. Mr. Chu said that they would investigate.
- MOTION: Authorize letter of support from the Parks and Recreation Commission for the Recreation Park enhancement project. Woods/Wagner; Motion carried 5-0

**7. Update on City Council Reports & City Staff Announcements:**

- **Recreation Programs and Special Events** – *Laurissa Roggenkamp, Recreation Manager*
  - Recreation Division staff is developing Spring 2022 work plans
  - Enrollment for Winter season activities has been low; many cancellations
  - Registering for Youth Baseball; games will be at Whitendale Park
  - Cancelling Winter Adult Volleyball League because of extended Mask Mandate
  - ASA is going well
  - Winter Day Camp enrollment averaged 25 kids per week
  - The Manuel Hernandez Community Center Winter Drop-In enrollment averaged 35-40 kids daily
  - Recreation Division staff will begin working on developing 2022 Special Events
- **Parks & Urban Forestry Projects, Programs and Special Events** – *Alvin Dias, Parks & Facilities Manager*
  - Park Projects out to bid
    - Blain Park arbor replacements
    - Playground replacements at Riverway Sports Park and Village Park
  - Renovations scheduled for Riverway Sports Park Soccer Fields 4, 5 and 6
  - Park well pump replacements update
  - Weed control
  - Gopher and squirrel control; new contractor
  - Trail projects
  - Corp Yard clean-up
  - Playground RFP Committee – asked for commissioner to volunteer to sit on the committee to make the design selection on 2/17/22
    - Monroy and Barajas volunteered
- **Administrative Items** – *Jeremy Rogers, Community Services Director*
  - COVID is affecting operations City wide
    - Due to staffing shortages the Animal Services temporarily closed; calls and appointments only, but have since reopened
  - Clarified that the shelter only euthanizes animals that are sick or aggressive and has hurt a person or other animal; not to make room for more animals

**8. Commission Requests and Comments:**

- **Visalia Community Enhancement Foundation Report** – *Lisa Walsh, Commission Vice Chair*
  - Made a few thousand dollars at the end of 2021
  - Momentum Broadcasting expressed interest in supporting an amphitheater in Visalia
  - First Five Grant information to Jeremy for park projects
  - Meeting in February and then mid quarter virtually

Adjourn to the Regular Meeting of Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Meeting adjourned at 6:34pm

MOTION: Motion to adjourn. Monroy/Barajas; Motion carried 5-0

Respectfully submitted by,

Kathleen Machado,

Senior Administrative Assistant

City of Visalia, Community Services Department