

APPROVED

**Visalia Parks & Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes
July 9, 2024**

Call to Order/Roll Call

The Visalia Parks & Recreation Commission met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, July 9, 2024, at City Hall West located at 707 W. Acequia Avenue, in Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Samantha Wagner at 5:30pm.

Members Present: Samantha Wagner, Janelle Hickey, Nancy Hawkins, and Kaitlyn Lusk

Members Absent: Edgardo Monroy

City Staff Present: Alvin Dias, John Lollis and Laurissa Roggenkamp

1. Public Comment:

- None

2. Review and Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 11, 2024

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

3. Recap Inaugural Independence Spectacular – Presented by Laurissa Roggenkamp, Recreation Manager

4. Reports and Announcements

- **Recreation Programs and Special Events – Laurissa Roggenkamp, Recreation Division Manager**
 - Special Events
 - 7/18 – Teen Night at Adventure Park
 - 7/18 – Adult/Senior Dance at the Visalia Senior Center
 - 7/19 & 8/9 – Summer Night Lights at Summers Park
 - Fall Season Work Plans – Launch Date: 8/12/24
- **Parks, Urban Forestry, and Facilities – Alvin Dias, Parks & Facilities Manager**
 - Park Projects
 - All playground replacement and shade structure ARPA funded projects have all been awarded, letters have been sent to contractors and equipment has been ordered
 - Park playground structure replacement project update
 - Shade structures to start late summer-early fall
 - Plaza Park Pond shoreline project update
 - Project budget funding was approved for equipment, park lighting, a new excavator, etc.
 - Budget approved positions
 - One Parks Maintenance position to maintain pocket parks
 - 2 Lead Parks position approved for field maintenance
 - Meeting with TCOE to discuss the MHCC lease contract renewal
 - Working with landscape assessment district contractor to get maintenance improved
 - Projects sent to a landscape architect for review and a pump company to design booster pumps funded by ARPA

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- Bids closed for retaining wall at Blain Park, , and picnic table replacements at Blain, Whitendale, and Ruiz Parks
- 5. **Commission Requests and Comments:**
 - Commissioner Hawkins said that there is lots of trash on the Millcreek Trail, Lovers Lane to McAuliff Street
 - Alvin Dias said that the City is currently negotiating cost with ABLE Industries to increase service. Looking at possibility of additional City staff to perform in-house maintenance. The City HOPE Team, Code Enforcement, and other entities are involved to try to clean up the area
 - Visalia Police Department and Tulare County Sheriff Department performed a detail at the St. John's trail to reduce the number of illegally operated vehicles
 - Commissioner Wagner asked for a recruitment update for the Parks & Recreation Director position
 - John Lollis said a decision is anticipated this week
 - Commissioner Hickey asked for an update on the Anthony Community Center electrical panel repair.
 - Alvin Dias said that Southern California Edison set the meter, and the repairs have passed inspections. Remaining wiring issues to be fixed. Hope to have staff return by August 1st
- 6. **Adjournment -**
 - Meeting adjourned at 6:20pm

MOTION: Motion to adjourn, Lusk/Hawkins; Motion carried 4-0

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Machado
Senior Administrative Assistant
City of Visalia, Parks & Recreation Department