



PARKS AND RECREATION

Sonya K. Harrigfeld, Director
 Margarita D. Ramos, Deputy Director
 Ron West, Chairman

MOTION:	_____
SECOND:	_____

STANISLAUS COUNTY
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
 November 13, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ron West
 Patricia Segoviano De Pier

PARKS & RECREATION STAFF PRESENT:

Margarita Ramos
 Cathy Gomez
 Mae Song
 Amanda Fife
 Cheryl Jackson
 Tom Dias

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ismael Saldana
 Betty Parker
 David Fransen

GUESTS PRESENT:

Alex Carrillo

A. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

- Chair Ron West called the meeting to order.
- Roll call: excused absences were received for Ismael Saldana, Betty Parker and David Fransen.

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. None.

ACTIONS & REPORTER

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Minutes for the August 14, 2008 meeting were tabled for motion and second to December.

ACTIONS

__Tabled for December;
 quorum not met

D. CORRESPONDENCE (S)

1. A reminder was announced for all Commissioners to complete the AB 1234 Mandatory Ethics course by the end of November this year. The certificate of completion must be submitted to Mae Song.
2. A letter from the Tuolumne River Regional Park Citizen Advisory Committee (TRRP CAC) announced the departure of Doug Critchfield from the City of Modesto whom will be moving on to the Cordova Recreation and Parks District starting November 17th, 2008. Chair Ron West would like to invite the TRRP CAC for a presentation about their park.
3. The staff recognition letter drafted was signed by Chair Ron West to be sent to Supervisor Jim DeMartini in the Board of Supervisors' Office in recognition of the hard work of Parks and Recreation staff.

ACTIONS & REPORTER

Mae Song

E. REVIEW OF YEAR 2008 AND DECEMBER'S AGENDA

1. Commissioners discussed invitation of partners i.e. SSJID, Radio Control Flyers, Archery clubs, P.A.L., Department Managers and partners to give three to five minutes update of what they did during the year. The meeting may be potentially

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relocated if the R.S.V.P. list exceeds room capacity.

F. STAFF REPORTS AND UPDATE

ACTIONS & REPORTER

Amanda Fife

1. Community Parks is working closely with the construction crew on the Empire Pool project. Commissioners are welcome to tour the construction site with proper safety gear. A Smart Water Controller, an irrigation timer was recently installed at Sterling Ranch Park in Denair as a pilot to save on cost and energy. The system is web based where watering schedule changes can be managed online. The online tool also measures water level needs and time appropriate for water to be dispersed.

Frank Raines Regional Park received forty new concrete picnic tables to be installed in their campgrounds. Bonita Park also received replacement picnic table covered under warranty.

Tree works continues to be a priority.

3. Woodward Reservoir is working on tree pruning and routine winter maintenance projects. The first stages of the Heron Point project with the new Day Use area and Boat Ramp has begun and is estimated to be completed near Fall of 2010. The project is funded by a \$1.5 million grant from California Boating and Waterways. Woodward is moving forward with the Waterfowl season. As of November 25th, no-body-to-water-contact will be enforced. 500 pounds of Trout were planted last week with another 350 pounds of Bass to be planted next week. The fish plants are from a Fish and Wildlife Committee grant.
4. The upcoming new reservation system will be piloted at Frank Raines Regional Park for online camp reservations near the beginning of 2009 and will go live on May 1st of 2009 for online camping reservations also at both the Reservoirs.
5. Aside from regular seasonal maintenance, Modesto Reservoir is conducting squirrel control in the Blonde Island campgrounds due to the number of holes that cause safety concerns for campers.

Security sensors were added to the storage at the Shop on September 17th to prevent theft. Unfortunately, the Shop was broken into with eight pieces of equipment stolen this past November 5th. The door and gate were damaged and are being repaired. A potential solution was shared—a motion-sensor camera that flashes and takes web accessible pictures. A suggestion was made to gate all boat ramps during the “non-boating” hours to prevent incidents of vandalism, vessels being launched and the increased security regarding Quagga-Zebra Mussel infestation. The reservoirs will be looking into a potential solution e.g. barcode kiosks, to track after hour entries and reservations. Fuel sales are closed. A fish plant is also scheduled for Modesto Reservoir. A fence was damaged at the Kiwanis camp and a stolen vehicle was found and reported to the California Highway Patrol.

The iron ranger at the La Grange OHV park has been repaired. There are motorcycle races on 18th and 19th of October. Additional races are scheduled for November 15th, 16th, 28th, and 29th. Fences were vandalized in the OHV park but have been repaired. The entrance station is now open on weekends for the winter season. Carcasses of cows were found in the 30-acre unused area of the OHV park.

4. The number of vehicle/visitor counts to the Woodward Reservoir has increase 9% from last year with an estimated 20,000 additional visitors to Woodward Reservoir this year.

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5. Two Parks Commissioner vacancies exist and are open for interested applicants. A question was raised on how old a commissioner has to be. There are two vacancies in District one and an At-Large vacancy.
6. Parks staff met with Positive Technology to assist in the development of the Reservation System during the first week of November for the Discovery Phase.
7. Active projects are Heron Point, Keyes storm drains, Frank Raines water systems, and the Empire Park Regional Water Safety Training Center.
8. Two grants pending are: \$200,000 grant for the Frank Raines Regional Park playground equipment and \$50,000 for P.A.L. to provide free swimming lessons.
9. Contracts in the works include the portable restrooms agreement, Grover Landscaping, MID lease renewal, and Salida water conservation measures..

G. PARKS MASTER PLAN REVIEW AND DISCUSSION

ACTIONS & REPORTER

Parks and facility standards was suggested to be a discussion topic in upcoming meetings. Chair Ron West suggested keeping record of Heron Point progress and having it is included in the new Master Plan.

Margarita Ramos

H. NEW BUSINESS

ACTIONS & REPORTER

Alex Carrillo, on behalf of the Youth Action Commission (YAC), requested to be on January's agenda to present YAC and environmental issues, one of three major issues the group had recently selected as their top three concerns to address which were gangs, family values, and the environment. Parks Commissioners suggested YAC to also extend their outreach efforts to the TRRP CAC.

Alex Carrillo/Patricia Segoviano De Pier

I. COMMISSION COMMENTS & QUESTIONS

ACTIONS & REPORTER

1. Reviewed and discussed the Sheriff's report statistics from the September minutes. A higher number of evictions, warnings and citations can be interpreted as a good sign to preventing violence and promoting safety in the reservoirs.
2. The John Balbach dedication ceremony event in October was outstanding. Pictures from the event will be shared at the next meeting.

Ron West

 Bring event pictures to December's meeting.

J. ADJOURNMENT & NEXT MEETING

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chair. The next meeting of the Parks Commission will be held on:

**Thursday, December 11, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.
3800 Cornucopia Way, 2nd Floor
Modesto, CA 95358**