



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Sonya K. Harrigfeld, Director
Margarita D. Ramos, Deputy Director

Ron West, Chair
Patricia Segoviano De Pier, Vice Chair

MOTION:	_____
SECOND:	_____

MINUTES

July 9th, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

3800 Cornucopia Way, 2nd Floor Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ron West
Betty Parker
Patricia Segoviano De Pier
DJ Fransen
Ismael Saldana

PARKS & RECREATION STAFF PRESENT:

Mae Song
Margarita Ramos
Tom Dias
Amanda Fife

MEMBER ABSENT:

Chad Kennedy

GUESTS PRESENT:

A. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

- Chair Ron West called the meeting to order. Those in attendance introduced themselves.
- Roll call: Excused absences were received for Chad Kennedy.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Minutes for the June 11th, 2009 meeting were approved upon motion and second.

ACTIONS

Parker, Segoviano De Pier, Unanimous Approval

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ACTIONS & REPORTER

D. STAFF REPORTS AND UPDATE

1. Woodward Reservoir: The Fireworks Celebration at capacity or over during the 4th of July weekend. The park facility was closed near 1:00 p.m. and reopened for pass holders only near 3:00 p.m. due to capacity. There were several safety incidents, citations, accidents, and evictions. The Department believes it is important to provide a safe and stress-free weekend for visitors.
2. The Excellence Employee Enterprise of the Department of Environmental Resources and Parks conducted an employees' gathering event at Cocklebur Beach and reported that the event went well.
3. A suggestion was brought up about raising fees to offset capacity and perhaps have a second security plan to hire additional private security should the Sheriff Officers become unavailable.
4. Discussed potentially having a laser water show at Modesto Reservoir or another site, however entry/exit strategies may be a concern for traffic and safety.
5. A suggestion was made for the Parks Department to partner with other agencies on providing their annual fireworks show at a different location or event due to capacity concerns at the reservoir.

ACTIONS & REPORTER

Margarita Ramos

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<p>6. Community Parks/County Centers: Staff are learning the necessary maintenance routines required at the Regional Water Safety Training Center. Additional staff are working toward becoming Certified Pool Operators. Staff are currently scheduled off on Wednesdays at Community Parks. Restroom cleaning, litter and garbage pick-ups will be completed only on Mondays and Tuesdays. Two restrooms may be closed; Las Palmas Fishing Access and Fox Grove Fishing Access may be closed due to extensive plumbing issues that cannot be attended to immediately at this time. A gate was donated and installed at the Oregon Park. A break-in was attempted at the Frank Raines building however there was not much to take. A neighborhood watch group may be in development due to the increased number of incidents out at Frank Raines.</p>	<p><i>Amanda Fife</i></p>
<p>7. Modesto Reservoir also had an attempted theft incident with their fuel tank damage. Future security measures at all parks and regional parks were discussed.</p>	<p><i>Tom Dias</i></p>
<p>8. Waterfowl registration season is now open. Draws will be conducted electronically this year. The day of the draw is on August 8, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. A Pre-Season Waterfowl Hunters' meeting is scheduled for August 12, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><i>Margarita Ramos</i></p>
<p>9. Due to recent staffing changes, there may be some delays in the Department's services, however every effort are made to ensure urgent and emergency situations are handled accordingly.</p>	
<p>10. The Department is still working on the Reservation System. Existing reservations during the live period is still being honored.</p>	
<p>11. The Frank Raines Potable Water System Requests for Proposal (RFP) is out.</p>	
<p>12. Discussed budget reductions in staffing and operation expenses. Seasonal staff may be limited to reservoirs.</p>	
<p>13. Other Department projects include, placing twelve vaulted restroom buildings in undeveloped camping areas at Woodward Reservoir, water well repair and installment, CSA-26 Hatch/Keyes Park area turf and irrigation with a potential future project for the restroom and baseball facility area, and Capital Projects Plan. The Commission would like to review the projects under the Capital Projects Plan. There is an OHV grant with a match requirement that is pending.</p>	
<p>E. NEW BUSINESS</p> <p>None.</p>	<p>ACTIONS & REPORTER</p>
<p>F. COMMISSION COMMENTS</p> <p>1. Betty Parker remarked that the Regional Water Safety Training Center Grand-Opening went well. Approximately 400 kids now attend the pool each day at a cost of \$1 per child. A free lunch is also provided around noon. PAL was able to fundraise enough during the Grand-Opening event to cover for the month of June two swimming sessions per day. The center is open six days a week.</p>	<p>ACTIONS & REPORTER</p> <p><i>Betty Parker</i> <i>__Post pictures of event on the web and present at next meeting.</i></p>
<p>G. COUNTY VOLUNTEER PROGRAM</p> <p>1. Types of volunteer services were discussed. Individual and group volunteering process vary. The Department is working on job descriptions and categories of available volunteer positions. Discussed ideas on how to market volunteer positions e.g. fish cleaning host, go kart track host, camp host, graffiti maintenance, electrical assistance, boat inspectors, facility greeter, information specialist.</p>	<p>ACTIONS & REPORTER</p> <p><i>Margarita Ramos</i></p>

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- 2. Group talked about volunteer incentives/recognitions e.g. bumper stickers or t-shirts indicating that they are volunteers. Discussed the possibility of volunteers being able to camp or live on-site as a host. Some examples of volunteer job descriptions and volunteer programs from other states and agencies were shared.
- 3. A question was raised regarding the non-lengthy volunteer process for an inmate verses a regular volunteer person. The Department is contracted with Honor Farm/AWP to maintain a steady flow of their services to assist with routine park maintenance duties. Citizen's commitment of a consistent designated volunteer schedule may help with expanding more stable volunteer positions throughout the department. A suggestion was made to have volunteer events to help with cleaning after a holiday weekend.
- 4. A famous book called, *Every Monday Matters: 52 Ways to Make a Difference* by Matthew Emerzian was suggested as a great concept book about volunteering.
- 5. The Volunteer Center of United Way and Brandi Welsh, CEO Office, are on the August Parks Commission agenda to talk more about the County's volunteer program.
- 6. More information about the County's volunteer program can be found at <http://www.stancounty.com/personnel/student-volunteer-internship-program.shtm>.

Ismael Saldana

Patricia Segoviano De Pier

H. ADJOURNMENT & NEXT MEETING

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

Thursday, August 13th, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.
3800 Cornucopia Way, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Modesto, CA

Patricia Segoviano De Pier, Parker, Unanimous Approval

PREPARED BY: *Mae Song, Confidential Assistant III* (209) 525-6723

Minutes and agendas are posted online at <http://www.stancounty.com/er/parks/parks-recreation-commission.shtm>