



# PARK COMMISSION

*AnnaMarie Hallinan, Chair*

*Judy Loretelli, Vice Chair*

*Jami Aggers, Director, Parks and Recreation*

*Merry Mayhew, Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation*

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## AGENDA

**Thursday, March 12, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.**

Department of Parks and Recreation

3800 Cornucopia Way, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room,

Modesto, CA

### Call Meeting to Order:

The *Stanislaus County Park Commission* encourages public participation and welcomes the public's interest. Members of the public may be heard on any item of the *Stanislaus County Park Commission's* agenda. A person addressing the Commission will be limited to five (5) minutes, unless the Chairperson of the commission grants a longer period of time. The Commission will allow comments by members of the public on an agenda item only during consideration of the item.

### Agenda Items:

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| 1. Call to Order   | Chair         |
| 2. Roll Call and Excused Absences  |               |
| 3. Introduction(s)   |               |
| 4. Public Comment(s)   |               |
| 5. Approval of Minutes for January 8, 2015 Meeting<br>(There was no meeting in February)                             | Commissioners |
| 6. Staff Report  | Staff         |
| 7. Old Business  |               |
| a. Update relating to changing County ordinance to include language that permits off-leash dogs in designated areas. |               |
| 8. Commission Comment(s)   | Commissioners |
| 9. Commission Goals  | Commissioners |
| a. Commission Goals  |               |
| b. Board Update Letter – Draft   |               |

### Due:

- Form 700

Link: <http://www.fppc.ca.gov/index.php?id=500>

- Adjournment, the next meeting will be on:

Thursday, April 9, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.

Location: 3800 Cornucopia Way, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room  
Modesto, CA 95358

### Commission Goals:

- Enhance Board Communication
- Increase Partnerships
- Training and Education for Commissioners
- Increase Awareness of Parks

Please notify the Department of Parks and Recreation at 525-6723 to let us know if you **will** be attending this meeting and/or require special accommodation for access or transportation to the meeting. Agendas can also be found online at <http://www.stancounty.com/er/parks/parks-recreation-commission.shtm>, subject to staff's ability to post prior to the meeting. Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Commission after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the main office of the Department of Parks and Recreation, 3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C, Modesto, CA 95358.



**PARK COMMISSION**  
*Chad Kennedy, Chair*  
*Judy Loretelli, Vice Chair*  
*Jami Aggers, Director, Parks and Recreation*  
*Merry Mayhew, Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation*

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**MINUTES**  
**January 8, 2015, at 5:00 p.m.**

3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C  
Modesto, CA 95358

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

AnnaMarie Hallinan, D5  
Betty Parker, D1  
Chad Kennedy, ATL  
Judith Loretelli, ATL  
Ron West, D4

**PARKS & RECREATION STAFF PRESENT:**

Merry Mayhew  
Mae Song

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Joseph Sanchez, D3

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

Jim DeMartini

**A. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS**

The meeting was called to order. No excused absence was received. Chad Kennedy and Judy Loretelli arrived later in the meeting.

**ACTIONS**

*Ron West*

**B. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No comment was received.

**ACTIONS & REPORTER**

**C. CORRESPONDENCE**

The 7<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge Project was briefly discussed. A suggestion has been made to save the lion structures. Improvements will transform the existing two lanes into four including reengineered for heavier truck capacity. The Commission received an invitation to attend a public information meeting to review bridge aesthetics held Wednesday, January 14, 2015, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., in the basement training room at 1010 Tenth Street, Modesto, CA.

**ACTIONS & REPORTER**

*Jim DeMartini*

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes for the September 10, 2014 meeting were approved upon motion and second as written. (October- Field tour; November-Cancelled; December-No Meeting Scheduled)

**ACTIONS**

*Parker, West, unanimous approval*

**E. STAFF REPORTS**

Members received the November staff report. Additional report included, La Grange OHV had a recent event consisting of approximately 1,000 attendees. The reservoirs have been on a winter maintenance scheduled for the winter months. The winter season is usually low in recreational activities, aside from the permitted duck-hunting program.

**ACTIONS & REPORTER**

*Merry Mayhew*

**F. OLD BUSINESS**

**ACTIONS & REPORTER**

1. At the Fairview Park tour, community members address priorities and discuss the park's improvement progress. The Commission supports the community's passion in the care of their neighborhood park. Community park goals can be prioritized and recommended tackled one at a time. AnnaMarie helped provided the Manos Unidos community group with more information on potential grants to help them achieve their goals. Despite donations and volunteer efforts, recently installed amenities have already been vandalized. Fairview Park's original plans were to build a residential subdivision. A high priority of the park could be to replace the existing inoperative restrooms. ADA compliance regulations would need to be taken into consideration.
2. A brief discussion was made on graffiti abatement. As graffiti are reported, the

Department’s abatement team is generally prompt in taking immediate action. Restitution have been received on past graffiti vandalisms with the assistance of law enforcing agencies.

3. From previous discussions on dog parks, the County has an existing ordinance for dogs to be on a leash in public neighborhood parks. The Department will look into the Commission’s recommendation to designate and identify “off-leash areas” with signs. A reminder note was made regarding the current department priorities of reducing maintenance expenses and increasing revenue. Maintenance concerns were discussed. As an example proposal, a favorable area in mind that can be designated for dogs would be an unmanicured open-space area at Laird Park. The area may not require heavy maintenance but available garbage bins for trash. Designated areas do not have to be fenced in.
4. Camp Taylor has purchased the old Honor Farm area for campground expansion. Concerns were brought up whether designated dog areas with no fence could pose an issue with the new neighbors. The Graceada dog park had issues with ground digging maintenance. A suggestion was made to look into the origination of the rule for dogs to be on a leash; this could be a Statewide regulation. After taking into consideration several factors, the subject may be revisited when funding is available. Meanwhile, the Commission would like the Department to explore the possibility of adding to the existing ordinance, where the verbiage of dogs kept on a leash at all times to include an exception in designated areas.

**G. COMMISSION GOALS**

**ACTIONS & REPORTER**

Clarifying the purpose of the Commission goals were mainly established for a frame of reference and to guide meeting discussions and advising. Members discussed the purpose of drafting a letter to Board; providing a short summary of the Commission’s progress on an annual basis is intended to remind the Board of the important role parks play in the community. The Chair will draft a letter for review at the next meeting.

**H. ELECTIONS**

**ACTIONS & REPORTER**

The following elections were motion and second to be effective February 2015 and remain through the end of the year:

Chairperson: AnnaMarie Hallinan

Vice-Chairperson: Judy Loretelli

Secretary: Mae Song

*Parker, West, unanimous approval  
West, Hallinan, unanimous approval  
West, Parker, unanimous approval*

**APPROVAL OF THE 2015 PARK COMMISSION MEETING CALENDAR**

**I.**

**ACTIONS & REPORTER**

The Commission will meet the second Thursday of every month except in December. The 2015 Park Commission meeting calendar was approved upon motion and second with no meeting in December.

*West, Kennedy, unanimous approval*

**J. COMMISSION COMMENTS**

**ACTIONS & REPORTER**

1. The community brunch last year was a “smashing” success.
2. The Empire pool reported 26,000 entrance tickets. The pool received a profit in its year-end collections.

*Ron West*

*Betty Parker*

**K. ADJOURNMENT & NEXT MEETING**

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting of the Parks Commission will be held on, **Thursday, February 12, 2015, at 5:00 p.m.**, 3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C, Modesto, CA 95358.

**WOODWARD RESERVOIR BY CHERYL JACKSON:**

- Woodward Reservoir is in winter maintenance mode with the usual tree pruning and weed abatement throughout the park. We have just finished the 2014/15 Waterfowl season with minimal issues. We are still receiving Trout plants approx. bi-weekly at approx. 400- and up lbs per week. The fishing has been good from the reports of our customers. We are still in the NO BODY TO WATER contact restriction with SSJID and will be until they lift the restriction when they start drawing from the inlet intake. We are still in the planning of the T-Island and Muir Point upgrade project with the proposed construction 10/15.

**MODESTO RESERVOIR BY TOM DIAS:**

- Polar bear day event was successful. The event was well attended.
- Staff is currently spraying for weed control and raking and picking up leaves.
- Staff installed 20 new hot coal receptacles in the day use areas.

**LA GRANGE REGIONAL PARK BY TOM DIAS:**

- Boy Scout troop 451 had a campout at the Kiwanis Youth Camp on 1/23rd-25<sup>th</sup>.

**LA GRANGE OHV PARK BY TOM DIAS:**

- The Stuck Fest 4x4 event was successful. Park visitors enjoyed playing in the mud and camping out. This is the third event this season.

**COMMUNITY PARKS AND COUNTY CENTERS BY JAMES PURSLEY**

**OREGON PARK:**

- We are working with a community based volunteer group at Oregon Park. On Sat. Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> the volunteer group will be performing a park clean up that will focus on weed and graffiti abatement within the playground area. The Parks Dept. provided the supplies and the volunteer group is providing the labor. This cleanup is in cooperation with PAL which will be on site Sat. to help organize the event as well as provide youth activities such as face painting and football games after the cleanup is over.
- We are also working with this same group to identify a volunteer project for the upcoming LOVE Modesto event.

**FAIRVIEW PARK:**

- We are working with a separate community based volunteer group at this park to identify a volunteer project for the upcoming LOVE Modesto event.

**EMPIRE PARK:**

- The "Lighted Walking Path" project has been completed.

**FRANK RAINES OHV PARK:**

- Frank Raines OHV Park is currently working on a Ground Operations grant for next fiscal year. This grant is awarded annually from the State of California's OHV Commission. Both Frank Raines and La Grange have historically been very successful in acquiring this grant each year. This grant provides the operating budget for the year that includes all labor and maintenance of the campground and trail system. A public meeting will be held on Feb.18 to gain input from the public before the preliminary grants are submitted on March 2<sup>nd</sup> for review with the final due on May 4<sup>th</sup>.

## PARKS ADMINISTRATION BY CATHY GOMEZ

- Put out a Request for Quotes for the 2015 Fireworks Show
- Working on the 2015-2016 OHV Grant for Both La Grange and Frank Raines –(Public Meeting will be held at 6:00pm – Harvest Hall on February 18, 2015
- Going to PFF for several projects
  - Dump Truck for Frank Raines
  - Surveillance system for Frank Raines
  - Water to Day Use area at Frank Raines
  - Generator for Frank Raines
- Waiting to find out if we received the Quagga Mussel Grant

## MARCH 2015 Park Commission Staff Report

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### WOODWARD RESERVOIR BY CHERYL JACKSON:

Woodward is currently still in the NO BODY TO WATER restriction with the projection of it being lifted as of 5/1/15. The water will be at 210' by then and then lowered to 205' for the remaining of the season after Labor day holiday. We are in winter/early spring maintenance with tree pruning, mowing and weed abatement in process. We have recently had our seasonal recruitment for extra help and hope to receive some good candidates for our summer season. We are still working on the T-Island, Muir Point upgrade project and hope to start construction in the fall and by next season have an additional 61 Hook-up sites.

### MODESTO RESERVOIR BY TOM DIAS:

Waterfowl season went well. Hunters are removing their blinds. Park staff is currently working on weed control. The Spring Fling archery tournament is scheduled to be held this month.

### LaGrange:

The Kiwanis Youth Camp was vandalized. None of the electrical is working. Copper wires were taken. The Clampers volunteered to repair a fence at the Dredge site that was recently vandalized. They will be holding their spring event at the old dredge site.

### LaGrange OHV:

The Mud Fest event held on February 14<sup>th</sup> went well. Staff is currently working on fencing and track maintenance.

### LA GRANGE REGIONAL PARK BY TOM DIAS:

### LA GRANGE OHV PARK BY TOM DIAS:

### COMMUNITY PARKS AND COUNTY CENTERS BY JAMES PURSLEY

#### Oregon Park:

We are working with a community based volunteer group at Oregon Park.

On Sat. Feb. 7th the volunteer group performed a park clean up that focused on weed and graffiti abatement within the playground area. The Parks Dept. provided the supplies and the volunteer group provided the labor. This cleanup is in cooperation with PAL which was on site Sat. with several deputies to help organize the event as well as provide youth activities such as face painting and football games after the cleanup was over. This event went very well and everyone is looking forward to another.

We have planned another Volunteer day on March 14th at Oregon Park to replace the playground fiber (wood chip) under the play areas and pressure wash the walk ways.

#### Fairview Park:

The two portable toilets that were placed at the park on Feb. 6th were burned to the ground along with part of the rest room roof on Feb. 17th. Power to that restroom was cut and disconnected by the Fire Dept. We will now have to figure out a way to water the turf as the sprinkler timer was powered by that connection.

#### Denair/Sterling Ranch Park:

We meet with the MAC in Denair on 3/3 to listen to concerns regarding lighting at Sterling Ranch Park. Some were concerned that the lighting there at night is inadequate and that people were hanging around the playground or even sleeping there. This area is quite dark at night and only lit by street lights that face the

road. We apprised them of the costs of recent lighting projects of similar size we have performed in other parks. They had additional questions that we will answer when we return to the next MAC meeting in April or May. There seemed to be genuine interest in moving forward with this project. I met with one of the chair members after the meeting, he works for the UC Merced and gave me some additional info on a recent lighting project they completed their using solar lights.

#### Frank Raines OHV Park:

Frank Raines OHV Park is currently working on a Ground Operations grant for next fiscal year. This grant is awarded annually from the State of California's OHV Commission. A public meeting was held on Feb.18 to gain input from the public before the preliminary grants are submitted. This meeting had a high attendance than in years past. We had several positive comments in regards to the operation and maintenance of the park as well as the renewed working relationship with the Sherriff's off road unit. The preliminary grant has been submitted and we will wait to hear the comments back from he both the State OHV Division and the public during this public comment period. After which we will take all of those comments into consideration as we draft our final grant for submission by May 4th.

#### PARKS ADMINISTRATION BY CATHY GOMEZ

1. Submitted the preliminary grant for OHV.
  - a. Frank Raines – Grant Request is \$535,753
  - b. La Grange – Grant Request is \$306,248
2. 2015 Stanislaus County Park's Easter Egg Hunt
  - a. Working with PAL to facilitate the event
  - b. We are having a 0-6 Kiddie Hunt and a 7-12 Big Kid Hunt
  - c. There will be a Bunny present and a photographer taking pictures
  - d. There will be games and races for the kids.
  - e. KHOP will be there to MC the Event
3. Worked with the Sherriff's Department to submit their OHV Grant
4. 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks Show
  - a. Went out for Quotes for a Fireworks Show and a possible Laser Show
  - b. Set up Meeting in March for all the different agencies to attend to go over the details
5. Received notification that we received the Quagga Mussel Grant
  - a. We received:
    - i. Modesto Reservoir: Funding in the amount of \$10,000 is being requested for the cost of producing pamphlets and self-inspection handouts for the boaters. Our plan is to utilize mussel dogs to complete inspections for forty weekend days annually. Each inspection session is six hours long and costs \$60.00 an hour. The costs come out to \$360.00 per day times 40 days equals \$14,400. This amount doubled equals \$28,800. **The total amount requested for this project is \$38,800.**
    - ii. Woodward Reservoir: Funding in the amount of \$10,000 is being requested for the cost of producing pamphlets and self-inspection handouts for the boaters. Our plan is to utilize mussel dogs to complete inspections for eight sessions annually. Each inspection session is six hours long and costs \$60.00 an hour. The costs come out to \$360.00 per day times 8 days equals \$2,880. This amount doubled (for the two year grant) equals \$5,760. We are also requesting \$21,000 to purchase an electronic message board from WANCO for \$21,000. This sign would alert the public of our intention to inspect all vessels for our Quagga Mussel Prevention Plan. **The total amount requested for this project is \$36,760.**
    - iii. TOTAL = \$75,560.00
6. Ordered 25 Trash Bins for Modesto Reservoir
7. Completed a Customer Service Orientation PowerPoint for new hires