



**PARK COMMISSION**

Zachary Keller, Chair  
Ron West, Vice Chair  
Jami Aggers, Director  
Merry Mayhew, Assistant Director

3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C, Modesto, CA 95358-9492  
Phone (209) 525-6750 Fax (209) 525-6773

**AGENDA**

**Thursday, February 11, 2016 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 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 14, 2016 Meeting	Commissioners
6.	Park Fees	
7.	Staff Report	Staff
8.	Old Business	
	a. Fundraising Ideas and the Next Step	Commissioners
	b. Meeting Date/Time Options	
9.	Commission Comment(s)	Commissioners
10.	Commission Goals*	Commissioners
11.	Reminders:	Received:
	a. 700 Forms Reminder	--Joseph Sanchez, Ron West, Ed Persike
	b. Ethics Course Reminder (Two Options)	--Zach Keller
	• County Counsel will be providing an ethics training course on Wednesday, March 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2016, from 6:30pm to 8:30pm in the Board Chambers at 1010 10 <sup>th</sup> Street, in Modesto, or	
	• Online: <a href="http://localethics.fppc.ca.gov/login.aspx">http://localethics.fppc.ca.gov/login.aspx</a>	

Adjournment, the next meeting will be on: Thursday, March 10, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.  
Location: 3800 Cornucopia Way, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room  
Modesto, CA 95358

**\*Commission Goals:**

1. Enhance Board Communication
2. Increase Partnerships
3. Training and Education for Commissioners
4. 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**  
*Zachary Keller, Chair*  
*Ron West, Vice Chair*  
*Jami Aggers, Director, Parks and Recreation*  
*Merry Mayhew, Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation*

**MINUTES**  
**January 14, 2016, at 5:00 p.m.**

3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C  
 Modesto, CA 95358

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Zachary Keller, D2  
 Joseph Sanchez, D3  
 Ron West, D4  
 Chad Kennedy, ATL  
 Ed Persike, ALT  
 Betty Parker, D1

**PARKS & RECREATION STAFF PRESENT:**

Merry Mayhew  
 Mae Song

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

**A. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS**

The meeting was called to order and those in attendance introduced themselves.

**ACTIONS**

*Zach Keller*

**B. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There was no public comment.

**ACTIONS & REPORTER**

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes for the November 12, 2015 meeting were approved upon motion and second as written. There was no meeting in December.

**ACTIONS**

*Kennedy, Sanchez, unanimous approval*

**D. STAFF REPORTS**

**ACTIONS & REPORTER**

1. Construction begins this week on T-Island campground at Woodward Reservoir; 61 existing campsites will be upgraded to include full hook-up amenities. Camping is currently closed at Woodward Reservoir for the duration of the construction. Construction is expected to be completed near April with a 60 day turn-around, although, progress will depend on weather conditions. Camping in the park should re-opened by Memorial Day weekend.
2. A question was brought up if there were any public announcements of the construction and such activities. A web announcement was posted, including a courtesy notice to frequent winter season park visitors. A suggestion was made to be available to provide information to the media for purpose of building awareness to available recreational facilities and event hosting. Current marketing efforts include brochure information and a Facebook presence. A comment was made that there is potential still to be explored amongst providing an attractive venue. The Department has a plan to issue a press release along with other media avenues once the reservation system project is finalized. Park signs and editorial writing were additional suggestions among the discussion.
3. In progress at both reservoirs are waterfowl hunting and staff training on the upcoming online reservation system.
4. Modesto Reservoir has received several maintenance repairs this winter. Restroom doors were replaced. The entrance station windows are to be repaired. The RV dump electrical is now working. Fuel pumps are in the process of being replaced. A new feature will include the ability for park patrons to now use their credit card verses before where they were not able to.

*Merry Mayhew*

5. Repair quotes are in progress from a large tree that fell on the Kiwanis camp shelter.
6. A large event was held at La Grange OHV in November with two additional events scheduled for January—the Department received \$10,000 in revenue from the event.
7. The restrooms at community neighborhood parks are now re-opened. There are a select few that may continue to be closed until the following month. Oregon Park's lights were vandalized, not sure MID will repair them again. The electrical system repair is expected to happen in January.
8. The recent tornado that went through Denair took out a tree at the library, which required clean-up efforts from staff.
9. The Department is currently seeking estimates on repairing a sound wall at Countrystone Park in Salida that was caused by a vehicle accident. Insurance coverage will also be considered.
10. A generator project is underway at Frank Raines for the water treatment lift station in the case of a power outage. The OHV grant allowed for a purchase of a new dump truck for Frank Raines. The bidding process has been initiated for a rental dozer and a mini excavator. The Department will be holding a workshop to go over the annual OHV grant. The date is to be determined.
11. Theft of the soccer goals at Bonita Ranch Park was reported; the estimated replacement cost is around \$2,500. The brand new fencing at Laird Park had forty foot of fencing damaged. Replacement may not occur until funding is identified.
12. A new mandate was received by the State Water Board to place ground water monitoring sampling wells around the waste water ponds at both the reservoirs. The well projects will be an expensive project to construct. This is expected to monitor ground water contamination.
13. The Department is working with various hosts on a boat show event at Woodward Reservoir. The event is scheduled to be held on May 7<sup>th</sup>. A question was raised if the State Fish and Wildlife have been asked to temporarily waive fishing licensing for the event. The Department had not asked due to the event being more of a boat show than a fishing event.
14. The Army Corp will be hosting a fishing day event for kids, and Bass Pro will be donating fishing poles for the event. The kids fishing day event date is still to be determined. Additional similar events were also shared: the hatchery annually hosts an educational trout fest event for kids, as well as the Tuolumne River Trust.

**E. OLD BUSINESS**

**ACTIONS & REPORTER**

1. The correspondence from Ed Persike regarding fundraising opportunities was discussed. Mr. Persike stated that recreation is a large business industry. Stanislaus County is a unique gem filled with facilities and potentials, attractive to numerous participants. Discussion included building customer loyalty and cultivating ideas on recreational events at none to minimal cost through partnership/sponsorship. An example on the subject is the evolved fireworks show at Woodward Reservoir. It is this type of promotion and direction that Mr. Persike has envisioned and is suggesting. Having a clear vision was recommended as a starting point. Thereafter, establish partnerships. The starting point can begin with one or two projects. Commissioners and staff could identify a few ideas to explore for the Fall and engage in other organizations' participation. Suggestions were to be open to 'could be's' and catch the imaginations of the people. The vision is to provide superior recreation to the community and contribute to high quality of life. Examples of events can be on drones, hobbyist, or projects that build on the basis of existing facilities.
2. Aside from looking at new ideas, strengthening existing events could also be a viable option. Public/private partnership was suggested. A subcommittee option

*Ed Persike*

to develop sound ideas was discussed however, due to the size of the Commission, one or two commissioners may simply lead on the subject. A clarification was made that staff impact is expected to be at a minimum to none. The role was described as visionary and passive. The main contribution is providing the venue. Thoughts shared is to begin with smaller events. A music/food festival or a drone show was suggested as ideas to possibly explore. The reservoirs currently have two air fields that are being used by radio control clubs. These areas could be a potential area for the drone show idea.

## F. COMMISSION COMMENTS

## ACTIONS & REPORTER

1. Betty Parker announced that this meeting would be her last. She has served as a Park Commissioner for fifteen years and will be retiring the title. Betty will remain with the Friends of the Empire Pool group.
2. Ron West reported that the Tuolumne River Trust group may be hosting a hamburger cook off event sometime in April. The event is to be held at the American Legion Hall in support of raising money to renovate the building. Betty Parker also reported a monthly pancake breakfast benefitting the hall.
  - American Legion Hall, Modesto, 1001 S. Santa Cruz Ave. \$7.  [\(209\) 522-1150](http://www.modbee.com/entertainment/article3160321.html#storylink=cpy). (Read more here: <http://www.modbee.com/entertainment/article3160321.html#storylink=cpy>)
3. Zach Keller suggested writing an editorial as an effort in building park awareness. The Commission has in the past written an informational letter to the Board of Supervisor.

*Betty Parker*

*Ron West/Betty Parker*

*Zach Keller*

## G. 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 11, 2016, at 5:00 p.m. at 3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room, Modesto, CA 95358.**

PREPARED BY: Mae Song, Park Commission Secretary

(209) 525-6723

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