



**PARK COMMISSION**

*Zachary Keller, Chair*  
*Veronica Plaughter-Macias, Vice Chair*  
*Jami Aggers, Director, Parks and Recreation*  
*Merry Mayhew, Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation*

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

**AGENDA**

**Thursday, September 14, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.**

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

**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 August 10, 2017 Meeting	Commissioners
6. Staff Highlights	Staff
7. Old Business	
8. Commission Comment(s)	Commissioners

**Adjournment, the next meeting will be on:  
 Thursday, October 12, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.  
 3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
 Modesto, CA 95358**

**Standing Reminders:**

- a. July is Parks Month
- b. AB 1234-700 Forms (annual)
  - Link: <http://www.fppc.ca.gov/Form700.html>
- c. Ethics Course (every two years)
  - Link: <http://localethics.fppc.ca.gov/login.aspx>

**Commission Goals:**

- |                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 1. Enhance Board Communication | 3. Training and Education for Commissioners |
| 2. Increase Partnerships       | 4. Increase Awareness of Parks              |

Regular meetings are held at 5 p.m. the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at Stanislaus County Parks and Recreation in the Stanislaus Building, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room at 3800 Cornucopia Way, Modesto, CA 95358. If you have an item you wish to be considered for a regular meeting agenda, please contact the Commission Secretary at (209) 525-6770, three (3) weeks prior to the regularly scheduled meeting.

**REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Commission Secretary at (209) 525-6770. Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the Department to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. Agendas can be found online at <http://www.stancounty.com/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.



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**MINUTES**

**August 10, 2017, at 5:00 p.m.**

Stanislaus Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C  
Modesto, CA 95358

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Zachary Keller, D2  
Ron West, D4  
Veronica Plaughter-Macias, D5  
Chad Kennedy, ALT  
Ed Persike, ALT

**PARKS & RECREATION STAFF PRESENT:**

Merry Mayhew  
Mae Song  
Cathy Gomez

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Joseph Sanchez, D3

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

Michael Rosales

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**A. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS**

**ACTIONS**

1. The meeting was called to order and those in attendance were noted.
2. An excused absence was received for Joseph Sanchez.

*Zachary Keller*

**B. MASTER PLAN**

**ACTIONS & REPORTER**

1. Michael Rosales, O'Dell Engineering, shared the progress of the Department's new parks master plan. A kick-off meeting for the master plan was held in April. The last parks master plan was made in 1999. The process began with inventory of facilities, which were separated by districts and accounted for its amenities. In June and July, five public meetings were scheduled for the convenience of the five different districts. Feedback on local park usage was an important component at these public meetings.
2. A survey was posted to residents online about the satisfaction of existing parks and how important parks are in the community. The survey responses had a great turn-out of 600 returned surveys. The draft master plan have been in progress. A list of recommendations will be forwarded to two consultants as they go into developing the financial piece to the plan. The draft is expected to be completed at the end of October. The draft will be presented for second public review in November/December. Comments received will be incorporated into a final draft and presented to the Department in January.
3. The Commission asked if updates can be provided through each step of the process; key comments for example. A concern was made about whether the outreach for public feedback is reaching every segment of society. Efforts were made to groups such as Manos Unidos and MACs. The Commission wanted to ensure that the process did not get too far down the line before review and raised concern about adequate feedback. The Commission will have an opportunity throughout the process to comment and contribute to the master plan works. Mr. Rosales will forward the recently published survey and map identifying the facility locations to the Commissioners for their comments.
4. Mr. West and Mrs. Plaughter-Macias attended a public review meeting and shared their thoughts of its resourcefulness. Having two existing water facilities on the northeast side of Stanislaus County, Mr. West believes the west side of the county could use a comparable water recreation facility.
5. Mr. Persike points out the importance of assessing the needs of each regional area such as developing a water recreational facility near the airport district or building quality restrooms in parks that could prolong the unit from vandalism. The

*Michael Rosales*

plan needs to include consideration for time and user impact of inventories on a long term basis. Mr. Persike praised the Fairview Park community for taking ownership of the park and is impressed at the community efforts.

6. Mr. Plaugher-Macias addressed adequate outreach efforts with the acceptance that there will be some nonparticipating members in the community. Public interest may vary from the saturated everyday current events.
7. Mr. Persike asked if there were any children who were interviewed or surveyed. Although the survey could be anonymous, a parent was seen handing the surveys to their children at a MAC meeting. A suggestion was made to involve schools and student body representatives. The Department also have shared with O'Dell collective comments and feedback through the past years. As some questioned a satisfactory master plan, the plan could still be amended after its completion. There will be an environmental impact report conducted to cover the overall master plan.
8. Mrs. Cathy Gomez shared how useful the 1999 master plan has been as a guide to the Department for various projects through the years. A question was asked if there have been any economic studies done. Mr. Persike believes this could shed more light on parks. It was suggested that the new Parks master plan include such a component.
9. Mr. Keller mentioned the currently closed Bonita Pool as an ideal location for a west side park/water recreation facility. Priorities should include the underserved areas, ensuring regulatory compliance, revamping, and restrooms. Mr. West added large soccer complexes as part of the need-to-be-included list.

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes for the July 13, 2017 meeting were approved upon motion and second as written.

**ACTIONS**

*Kennedy, Persike, unanimous approval*

**D. STAFF HIGHLIGHTS**

1. Modesto Reservoir's main focus at this time is on customer service in the park. Both reservoirs are preparing for waterfowl season. The Waterfowl draw was made electronic this year and it went very smoothly.

**ACTIONS & REPORTER**

*Merry Mayhew*



La Grange OHV is slow at this time due to the dry season. Kiwanis reported continued use.

The park sign has been installed at Fairview Park. The delivery of the restroom is expected on September 6, 2017, ready for installation.

The Riverdale lighting project will now begin as the water has receded.

2. The Segesta Park neighborhood asked the Department for horseshoe pits to be installed at the old volleyball court that was not much in use. A boys scout troop helped installed the pit.
3. The Salida CSA 10 project is almost complete with a few last details.
4. The Helen White Trail, bordering Mellis Park, a City park located in Modesto, off Martin Luther King, is maintained by Grover for landscaping. An abundance of litter on the trail has left Grover the additional task of also picking up litter. The Department is working on signs for the trail to help prevent litter on the trail.
5. The Department will be going out to bid for several paving projects throughout various facilities. November is when it is anticipated paving may be completed.

6. The Department is negotiating with the engineering firm who will be designing the firing range *work plan*. Once the work plan is complete, the plan will be taken out for bid for the actual clean-up, which is estimated for next spring/summer. The area is in the flood plain and is approximately three acres. The master plan called for a golf course meanwhile other use ideas were discussed. The ideal goal of the project is to expand Laird Park to include trails, fishing access grounds, and potentially including undeveloped camping.
7. The north side project at Woodward Reservoir will have a preliminary biological report to identify any mitigation issues before the Department moves forward with plans for the area.
8. The Modesto Reservoir fuel pump project will be submitted to the Board on August 22<sup>nd</sup> to obtain the authority to negotiate a contract and finalize the start of the project. The unsuccessful bid attempts may be due to the size of the project and its requirements.

**E. COMMISSION COMMENTS**

**ACTIONS & REPORTER**

1. A question was raised on Mono Park’s property sale. The property has been declared as surplus property and will be placed through a bid process. Bidding will open on September 6, 2017. The property was appraised at \$400,000. The sale was approved at the past week’s Board meeting. The community is aware of the sale as well as many of the issues surrounding the park in terms of use and location. Money from the sale will be going back into improving the community. Local news reports Gallo as an interested buyer. A suggestion was made to possibly utilize the money as a match for additional grant funds. Mr. Kennedy stated the sale may be of no concern as seeking funding for the current master plan’s works could be difficult. The Department will be involved in the improvement fund received from the sale. Mr. Persike asked if the designated roads for the property was considered in the proposal. Details to add more value to the sale was probably considered being that the money will be returned to the community. Mr. Kennedy stated that the Department is efficient at maximizing the dollar to matching funds. Matching funds would always be considered if available.
2. Mr. Persike asked if the issue with the water trucks out at Del Puerto Canyon had been addressed. Mrs. Plaughter-Macias stated that this was addressed at the MAC meeting to Public Works. The new Measure L funding will help renovate roads in the County over the next three years, however, the Measure does have its own priorities. Public Works have continued to patch the roads on a need basis. A question was asked if prohibiting heavy trucks on this road could be an option to reducing the impact of damages to the road. There was a resident present at the MAC meeting to provide input on the road damages caused by the heavy water trucks. Public Works may look into re-designing the roads based on capacity and use.
3. Mr. West shared that PAL celebrated their 25-year birthday party and it turned out great. Many past members including the founders were invited.
4. Mr. Keller shared that a resolution is in the works to urge a parks master plan for the entire State. Within the plan, it would include connecting trails, developing a phone app guide for access and promotions, etc.

**F. ADJOURNMENT & NEXT MEETING**

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting of the Parks Commission will be held on, **Thursday, September 14, 2017, at 5:00 p.m. at 3800 Cornucopia Way, Stanislaus Building-2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Modesto, CA 95358.**

PREPARED BY: Mae Song, Park Commission Secretary

(209) 525-6770

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