



**PARK COMMISSION**

*Zachary Keller, Chair*  
*Ron West, 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, October 13, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.**

3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C  
 Stanislaus Building, 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 September 8, 2016 Meeting	Commissioners
6. Staff Highlights	Staff
7. Old Business	
a. Discuss Plaque Presentation Plan	
b. Ethics Course Certificates Due (see below)**	
8. Commission Comment(s)	Commissioners

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

**Standing Reminders:**

- a. \*\*Ethics Course Reminder (Certificate to be turned in)
  - Online: <http://localethics.fppc.ca.gov/login.aspx>
- b. July is Parks Month

**\*\*Ethics Certificates Due:**

- 1. Joseph Sanchez

**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) 525-6723, 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**  
**September 8, 2016, at 5:00 p.m.**

3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C  
 Modesto, CA 95358

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Zachary Keller, D2  
 Ron West, D4  
 Chad Kennedy, ALT  
 Ed Persike, ALT

**PARKS & RECREATION STAFF PRESENT:**

Merry Mayhew  
 Mae Song

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Joseph Sanchez, D3  
 Veronica Plaughter, D5

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

Jim DeMartini

**A. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS**

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

**ACTIONS**

*Zachary Keller*

**B. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Correspondence: Modesto Bee Article, *20 Under 40 Program*. The group congratulated Chad Kennedy for his recognition.

**ACTIONS & REPORTER**

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes for the August 11, 2016 meeting were approved upon motion and second.

**ACTIONS**

*Kennedy, West, unanimous approval*

**D. PAL**

1. The Police Activities League is preparing their annual brunch event. PAL and four other non-profit organizations gets together annually to host this fundraiser event.
2. The Empire pool tallied approximately 18,000 public swim visits this summer, and 120 kids received swimming lessons. These numbers are lower from initial opening years. PAL has 35 different programs. A question was raised why there aren't more children registering for swim lessons. The County Empire pool serves only a percentage of the area's child population. There are other agencies with additional swim programs as well. A suggestion was made for PAL to partner with schools in their swim programs. Mr. West will follow up with PAL for more information on their swim program goals and increasing the number of child participants.

**ACTIONS & REPORTER**

*Ron West*

**E. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF EMPIRE POOL PLAQUE**

1. Commissioners shared their thoughts and moved to approve the selection of a dedication plaque at the Regional Water Safety Training Center. Thoughts were to mount the plaque inside the gated area where the pool tiles are located.
2. The passage on the plaque would read as follow:  
 Betty Parker  
 A Stanislaus County Parks & Recreation  
 Commissioner And Pioneer,  
 Whose Vision, Dedication, and Persistence  
 helped inspire parks  
 and the Stanislaus County Regional Water Safety Training Center  
 in Empire, CA

**ACTIONS & REPORTER**

*Persike, West, unanimous approval*

*West, Persike, unanimous approval*

3. Mr. Ron West will follow up with Betty Parker for a picture to be included in the plaque.
4. The details of presenting the plaque will be further discussed at the next meeting.

Ron West

## F. STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

## ACTIONS & REPORTER

1. The recently held waterfowl draw had a successful turnout as in previous years. Each reservoir usually designates a number of blind spots each duck hunting season. The Department may be looking at exploring an electronic draw in the upcoming seasons.
2. Woodward is preparing the back side of the reservoir for the Symbiosis event. The Symbiosis event at Woodward Reservoir is from September 22<sup>nd</sup> through the 26<sup>th</sup>. A question was asked whether the noise complaint from the previous year have been addressed. The Department received few complaints last year, as they had conducted a decibel noise level test. Traffic and litter issues of the event were addressed. Surrounding neighbors gave compliments of the event this year. Invitations for free event entry were issued out to neighbors within a three miles radius.
3. Kat Country handed out more life jackets just outside of Woodward Reservoir, and at Modesto Reservoir on Labor Day. The Modesto Reservoir fuel pump design is complete and out for bid. Construction will be planned to occur over the winter month.
4. Several fencing repair work are in progress with new installations near river shorelines; this includes Laird and Oregon Park. The City of Modesto will be installing a new American Disability Act bus stop at Oregon Park; existing fencing have been temporarily removed to accommodate the project.
5. Vehicles at Riverdale Fishing Access are restricted due to illegal dumping activities.
6. The Department is working together with Kaboom, PAL, and Manos Unidas on the playground project for Fairview Park. A design meeting is scheduled for September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Additional meetings have been scheduled for preparations up to the groundbreaking day. Construction is expected to occur at the beginning of November. Portable restrooms will be provided during the project's construction.
7. A homeless litter issue has been identified at Mono Park. Staff are continuously working with the Sheriff's Office and MID to keep the area clean. Vandalism, litter, and debris are common ongoing problems.
8. The Frank Raines backup generator project has been completed.
9. The Parks Master plan is under review with the Purchasing division. Expectations are for the bid to post by the end of September. A timeline will be established once the bid is posted.
10. Eight monitoring wells have been drilled at both the reservoirs and are being conditioned and surveyed as mandated by the State. Thereafter, quarterly samples will be conducted. The wells are meant to detect ground water contamination due to nearby wastewater treatment plants.
11. A new project is up and coming to clean up the gun range at Laird Park.
12. Sixteen full time positions were approved at a recent Board of Supervisors meeting. The positions are for full time Park Aides and Account Clerk II positions. The full time positions are expected to contribute to a more stable workforce.

Merry Mayhew

<p>13. The Board has approved for the Department to re-apply for a two year quagga-mussel grant. The grant has been submitted. This grant has helped put into place an invasive species prevention plan.</p> <p>14. Brown Act tips and highlights were distributed to Commissioners and briefly discussed.</p>	<p><i>Mae Song</i></p>
<p><b>G. OLD BUSINESS</b></p> <p>Commissioners were reminded to complete the AB 1234 course.</p>	<p><b>ACTIONS &amp; REPORTER</b></p>
<p><b>H. COMMISSION COMMENTS</b></p> <p>1. Ron West shared a thought of a potential of the south portion of Laird Park as an OHV recreation area. The grounds near the shooting range area may be looked at as a mining operation. A suggestion was made to use a magnetic lead removal process. A contractor in Sacramento has been known to provide this type of service.</p> <p>2. Mr. West shared an article from the Men's Health guide, where Modesto ranked number two as one of the fattest cities in America. He also wanted to remind the group about the Police Activities League's brunch event this Sunday. Tickets are available for purchase through Mr. West.</p> <p>3. The City of Newman has an upcoming grand-opening for a new dog park on the east side of Newman.</p> <p>4. Chad Kennedy is working on a pro bono project for a playground in Modesto called Awesome Spot Playground. It will be a socially inclusive playground specially created for children with disabilities in mind.</p> <p>5. In response to an inquiry about the status of changing the dog park ordinance; the Department has checked with Planning in regards to CEQA concerns and a board agenda item is in progress. Further details will be provided as they are identified and available.</p>	<p><b>ACTIONS &amp; REPORTER</b></p> <p><i>Ron West</i></p> <p><i>Chad Kennedy</i></p> <p><i>Ron West</i></p> <p><i>Jim DeMartini</i></p> <p><i>Chad Kennedy</i></p> <p><i>Merry Mayhew</i></p>
<p><b>I. ADJOURNMENT &amp; NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p>There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting of the Parks Commission will be held on, <b>Thursday, October 13, 2016, at 5:00 p.m. at 3800 Cornucopia Way, Stanislaus Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room, Modesto, CA.</b></p>	<p><i>Persike, West,</i> <i>unanimous approval</i></p>

PREPARED BY: Mae Song, Park Commission Secretary

(209) 525-6723

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