



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, November 8, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.
3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C, Stanislaus Building
2nd 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 October 11, 2018 Meeting	Commissioners
6. Staff Highlights	Staff
7. Commission Comment(s)	Commissioners
8. Approval of 2019 Meeting Calendar	Commissioners
9. Elections (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary)	Commissioners
10. Old Business	

Adjournment, the next meeting will be on:
Thursday, January 10, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.
3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C, Stanislaus Building
2nd Floor Conference Room
Modesto, CA 95358

Standing Reminders:

- a. Elections in November
- b. July is Parks Month
- c. FPPC 700 Forms (annual)
 - Link: <http://www.fppc.ca.gov/Form700.html>
- d. AB 1234 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 2nd Thursday of each month at Stanislaus County Parks and Recreation in the Stanislaus Building, on the 2nd 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.



PARK COMMISSION
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MINUTES

October 11, 2018, at 5:00 p.m.

Stanislaus Building, 2nd Floor
 3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C
 Modesto, CA 95358

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Zachary Keller, D2
 Joseph Sanchez, D3
 Ron West, D4
 Veronica Plaughner-Macias, D5
 Chad Kennedy, AL
 Kyle Fiflet, AL

PARKS & RECREATION STAFF PRESENT:

Lisa Velarde

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Vacant, D1

GUESTS PRESENT:

A. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

- The meeting was called to order.

ACTIONS

Zachary Keller

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes for the August 12, 2018 meeting were approved upon motion and second. There was no meeting in September.

ACTIONS

West, Kennedy, unanimous approval

C. STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

- There were 7,500 members present at the Dirty Bird Campout event held this month at Modesto Reservoir. The event went well with a great turnout. This is the first time this event has come to Stanislaus parks. The event also sold out.
- Fairview Park's restroom issues were briefly discussed. A short history was provided on why the locks are being changed and authorized access. A comment was made for staff to ensure vandalism proof locks are placed on restroom doors in future developments.
- Commissioner West commented that Grover did a good job trimming the trees at Laird. A question was also raised on why the sprinklers were being turned on manually. Commissioner Kennedy suggested two boxes for areas where there are frequent vandalism to the irrigations system.
- A brief conversation was held about nutria being in the area and found at Shiloh Fishing Access. Nutria are known to be rodents and looks like beavers.

ACTIONS & REPORTER

Lisa Velarde

Coypu Rodent as defined by Wikipedia

The coypu, also known as the nutria, is a large, herbivorous, semiaquatic rodent. Classified for a long time as the only member of the family Myocastoridae, Myocastor is actually nested within Echimyidae, the family of the spiny rats. The coypu lives in burrows alongside stretches of water, and feeds on river plant stems. Originally native to subtropical and temperate South America, it has since been introduced to North America, Europe, Asia, and Africa, primarily by fur farmers. Although it is still valued for its fur in some regions, its destructive feeding and burrowing behaviors make this invasive specie's endurance controversial to human occupants throughout most of its range.

5. Commissioner West added that PAL did well this summer at the Empire pool, however attendance was down from last year. And, there were fewer kids who took swimming lessons. Although, the pool continues to pay its way. There has been able to draw in small events successfully.
6. Commissioner West would like to invite the Bonita Ranch Park neighborhood to be involved as a neighborhood watch for the continuous vandalism to the sprinklers. Manos Unidas usually hold a monthly meeting to get the community involved for Fairview. Community involvement has helped prevent vandalism.
7. Commissioner Plaugher-Macias asked what the role is for the Department's marketing position. Lisa Velarde responded that the marketing position coordinates events, social media, and work contract details. The question posed was whether the Department is having the marketing coordinator work on any community engagement or public outreach, education, and public relations (PR); does the Department have any position assigned to dealing with community engagement and assisting in the matter of preventing all these vandalism as a whole. The Commission is aware that the last marketing coordinator mainly brought in large events, but expressed the need and lack of a community liaison. The Commission would like to know more about this and the marketing position's role at the next meeting. A suggestion was made for the Department to also be in touch with the MACs on these vandalism issues.

D. COMMISSION COMMENTS

ACTIONS & REPORTER

1. Commissioner Sanchez reported that Fairview Park needs lighting for evening practice. A question was raised on what the Department policy is on someone wanting to start a soccer league out at a park such as Fairview. The concern is what and when is it considered exclusive use. Commissioner West questioned why PAL doesn't have a soccer league. Participation may have been an issue in the past. Commissioners Sanchez stated that having snacks for the kids could help bring up participation.
2. Commissioner West shared that the Modesto RecFest is coming up on October 20th at Gateway Park, along the Tuolumne River. The event is being hosted by the Tuolumne River Trust. More info can be found at: <https://www.tuolumne.org/events/recfest/>

Joseph Sanchez

Ron West

E. ADJOURNMENT & NEXT MEETING

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting of the Parks Commission will be held on, **Thursday, November 8, 2018, at 5:00 p.m. at 3800 Cornucopia Way, Stanislaus Building, 2nd Floor Conference Room, Modesto, CA 95358.**

PREPARED BY: Mae Song, Park Commission Secretary (209) 525-6770

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Woodward and Modesto Reservoir

- Woodward is still on high visitation and seasonal maintenance and operations. The planning of special events are still in progress. We are working with Symbiosis, the return of Serenity in May 2019, and have talked with several other new events that are interested in coming to Woodward in the future.
- Early hunt waterfowl season opened on Sept. 29th. The regular opening day will be Oct 10th.
- Safe Kids Stanislaus held a life jacket give-a-way on August 18th specifically for disadvantaged youth.
- A 26-year-old male drowned over Labor Day weekend at Woodward.
- Modesto Reservoir will host its first major event, Dirty Bird Campout will be held October 4-8 and will bring 5-7K people to the park.
- The Archery range held events August 4th and 11th.
- The Society for Disabilities held two adaptive ski events on August 11th and 25th.
- The Kiwanis camp was vandalized with graffiti in August; however, the graffiti abatement team was able to get it all removed and repainted just in time to welcome the Girl Scouts. Kiwanis will Host the Christian Brigade and The Pathfinders. Between Both groups this camp will host over 500 kids this month. Staff Mows and cleans this area on a weekly basis.
- LaGrange OHV had low visitation due to the high heat and dusty conditions in September. Staff continues to maintain the park and trails as well as field collections. October's cooler weather is bringing on an increase in visitation on the weekends. Staff continues to maintain the park and trails as well as field collections.
- Basso Fishing Access and Turlock Fishing Access has been very busy, it has become a popular place for jet skiers and fishermen. Staff maintains and cleans the facilities on a regular basis. Basso Bridge fishing access is constantly being used as an illegal garbage dump site. Staff have posted "No Littering" or "Illegal Dumping" signs in hopes it helps with this problem.

Community Parks:

- Fairview Park –New restroom doors have been installed and the locks have been changed.
- Oregon Park – Restrooms at this location will be reopened this week after vandalism repairs are made. The interior stall door walls had been dislodged from the mounting locations in the floor/walls, amongst other items. Sprinkles were turned on manually at the valve boxes several times in one day last week so water was shut off at the backflow. Irrigation work, including adjusting all the sprinklers to ensure they are not over spraying on the sidewalk as well as seeking adequate coverage over dry areas is currently being performed.
- Laird Park –Grover has completed trimming tree within the turf areas of the park and is now working on trees along the shoreline.
- Shiloh Fishing Access – Fish and Game recently used this river access to set traps for Nutria, which are about the size of beavers.
- Riverdale- Someone continues to cut the chain and lock off of the gate at the top of the boat ramp. A new larger chain and lock are being sourced and will be installed asap.
- Burbank Park – There is at least one if not two water leaks underground at this location. We are working to determine if it is irrigation or the water supply to the building so either Parks or GSA can make the repair.
- Empire Pool/Park – PAL's summer pool program has finished for the season and the pool is now closed. Parks has purchased and worked with PAL to assemble several new picnic tables and benches. A vehicle recently went off Yosemite Blvd and took out a portion of the fence between the road and the pool.
- Fox Grove Park – Staff are currently working with West Yost Associates, SWRA and TID regarding access to the Pump house construction site just upstream of Fox Grove Park. The contractor will have access to the parking lot and the ability for them to access and improve the access road to the area while they are working on Phase 1 construction of the water pump.
- United Community Park in Grayson - Someone started a fire on the playground set and melted a very large hole in the walking deck, damage has resulted in about \$1,700 worth of replacement parts. These parts have been received and have been installed.
- Bonita Ranch Park –Recently a concrete bench and the bench attached to a concrete table has been destroyed. It looks like someone used a large rock/piece of riprap from the basin discharge area to damage the bench and table. The sprinklers are continually being damaged in the park from vandalism.

- Sterling Ranch – Park benches will be reinstalled next week, this repair was required after someone drove a vehicle up into the park and knocked over all of the single concrete benches that had been epoxied to the concrete.

Frank Raines Park:

- Parks staff and volunteers had a successful event at this location during the August 18th weekend. ASD Crawlers put on a remote controlled car rock crawler event. This organization donates all of their profits to Autism research foundations.
- Parks staff and volunteers are preparing for the opening of OHV season. This consisted of repairing or replacing any damaged or nonfunctioning lighting, repainting an epoxy floor in both sides of the campground restrooms, tree trimming and general detail cleanup.

Parks Administration

- We finalized our recruitment for a Marketing Coordinator and have promoted an internal candidate who began the position on September 17, 2018. The Grayson Road Firing Range project has final approval from the Board, the MT2 vendor contract has been approved, and mobilization will begin October 15th.
- LaGrange Entrance Station Project quotes have recently been completed and sent to Risk Management for insurance reimbursement. We are hopeful that we can get an entrance station constructed quickly as our OHV season is coming up quickly.