



TULARE COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

LOCATION:

**TULARE COUNTY HISTORY OF FARM LABOR AND
AGRICULTURE MUSEUM THEATER
27000 S. MOONEY BLVD VISALIA, CA 93277**

Committee Members

Nancy Hawkins
Armando Da Silva
Carol Finney
Melynda Metheney
Donnie Moore
Paul Ramires
Albert Cendejas
Supervisor Amy Shuklian

MINUTES

July 21, 2022

Members Present: Albert Cendejas, Armando Da Silva, Nancy Hawkins, Melynda Metheney, Donnie Moore

Staff Present: Brooke Sisk, Laura Silva, Allison Pierce, Carrie Amador, Janet Zaragoza-Martinez, and Brittany Marshall

Members Absent: Carol Finney, Paul Ramires

- 1. Call to Order and Welcome:** Meeting was called to order at 3:33 PM by Nancy Hawkins, President.
- 2. Committee Member Matters**
 - Brooke Sisk, GSA Director, announced District 3 Representative, Carol Finney, has resigned. Will be recruiting for a replacement. Additionally, the Historical Society appointee has moved away from the area and the Historic Society will appointing a new representative on Saturday, July 23.
 - Committee President, Nancy Hawkins, shared the Master Gardeners held an end-of-the-year event in June at Mooney Grove with over 70 in attendance.
- 3. Approval of Minutes of April 21, 2022**

Committee member Armando Da Silva noted that his name was misspelled. Correction will be made.

Motion: Donnie Moore motioned to approve the minutes with the correction.
Vote: 5-0 Approved.
- 4. Public Comment:** There were no comments from the public.
- 5. Parks Strategic Plan:** Allison Pierce, GSA Supervising Staff Analyst, provided an update on

the Strategic Planning process and will provide updates at future meetings as things progress.

- 6. Park Hours/Holiday Closure:** Brooke Sisk provided an update on park hours and made the following request: Parks Advisory will recommend to the Board of Supervisors to change Mooney Grove Park's operational hours, from seven to five days a week during the fall season, and all parks be closed during County recognized holidays, except for Labor Day at Mooney Grove Park for an annual Disc Golf event.

Motion: Committee member Melynda Metheney motioned to approve as read.

Second: Donnie Moore

Vote: 5-0 Approved

- 7. CSET Work Experience:** Albert Cendejas, Parks Manager, presented information about program workers starting soon to provide support for workforce. There is no cost for this program and Parks will benefit with support.

8. Grants Update

- ARPA: Albert Cendejas stated the ARPA grant is in the amount of \$8.2 million. This will result in the replacement and/or repair of arbors, picnic benches, and barbeques. Other projects include well repairs, irrigation systems, and paving. Most projects will be completed by July 2023.
- Per Capita: Carrie Amador, Staff Services Analyst, stated this grant will be used for Mooney Grove pond repairs, clean-up, and upgrades. Anticipated construction will start in early 2023.
- Skate Park: Carrie Amador shared Parks is seeking funding through the Tony Hawk Foundation for a skate park in Alpaugh. The total cost is estimated to be upwards of \$300,000. If the community raises \$10-20k for the design work, the County could match the community's portion. A member of the public voiced concern over how the community would be able to raise that amount of funds. Further discussion was made. Outreach will be conducted to gauge community interest and support for this effort.

Motion: Melynda Metheney motioned to recommend approval of matching funds.

Second: Donnie Moore

Vote: 4-1 Approved, Committee member Armando Da Silva voted against.

- 9. Capital Improvement Plan:** Brooke Sisk provided an update on the Capital Improvement Plan and projects specifically identified for Parks.

Motion: Donnie Moore motioned to recommend approval of the expenditures.

Second: Armando Da Silva

Vote: 5-0 Approved

10. Public Art Projects: Allison Pierce shared GSA and Parks is collaborating with the Arts Consortium to install murals on 5 separate restroom exterior walls at Mooney Grove. Seeking PAC involvement in selection process planned for August 11. Committee member Melynda Metheney volunteered to participate in the selection process. Committee member Donnie Moore will tentatively be able to participate.

11. Parks Wildlife: Albert Cendejas provided an update on wildlife.

- Geese: Sweeper tool is being utilized to address goose poop. Signage will be posted soon on what to feed and not feed geese. Attempting to collaborate with Boy Scouts on creating a fishline disposal receptacle.
- Feral Cats: Provided an update on cat population and new housing.

12. Community Outreach Update: Brooke Sisk introduced Laura Silva, Deputy Director, and Brittany Marshall, new Parks Community Outreach Specialist. Janet Zaragoza-Martinez, Community Outreach Specialist, provided an update on recent park events and future activities.

13. Parks Manager Update: Albert Cendejas provided several updates.

- Dog Park: Shared information and design of the proposed project. Will be completed by July 2023.
- Mulch: Large quantity at Mooney Grove, being offered to the community for free.
- Ledbetter Well: The well has collapsed and a new well will need to be built.
- Balch: Paving will be completed by July 24, 2022.
- Pixley Shop: A new shop will be constructed out of c-trains. Will be a safe place to store equipment.

14. Next Meeting Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022, at 3:30 PM. Location: Tulare County History of Farm Labor Agricultural Museum Theater (27000 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia, CA 93277).

15. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 PM