



TULARE COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

LOCATION:

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

Committee Members

Nancy Hawkins
Armando Da Silva
Nicolette Deming
Melynda Metheney
Donnie Moore
Albert Cendejas
Supervisor Amy Shuklian

MINUTES

April 20, 2023

Members Present: Nancy Hawkins, Melynda Metheney, Donnie Moore, Nicolette Deming

Staff Present: Albert Cendejas, Marina Guzman, Kyle Taylor, Janet Zaragoza-Martinez

Members Absent: Armando Da Silva

1. Call to Order and Welcome

Meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Donnie Moore, Co-Chair.

2. Committee Member Matters

Committee member Hawkins mentioned that park staff are doing a great job and the park looks beautiful. She shared she attended the Museum Mainstreet Jamboree event and had a great experience.

3. Approval of Minutes of January 19, 2023

Motion: Melynda Metheney made a motion to approve the minutes and second by Donnie Moore

Vote: 5-0 Approved

4. Public Comment

Tulare County Parks Manager mentioned there is a community member by the name of Violet Chavarria from Woodville Park who would like to give a presentation on a mural proposal for Woodville Park. The plan would be to paint the entire bathroom wall for the mural. She is requesting our Parks Division to purchase the painting materials, and she will volunteer her time. Staff will reach out to her to invite her to the next meeting.

5. Bylaws Revision

Marina Guzman, GSA Staff Analyst, provided the new proposed Bylaws revision to remove the Tulare County Historical Museum seat and Parks Manager seat from voting seats from

Parks Advisory Committee (PAC).

Motion: Melynda Metheney made a motion to approve the minutes and second by Donnie Moore.

Vote: 5-0 Approved

6. Grants Update

- Albert Cendejas, Parks Manager provided an update on Per Capita Grant to renovate the entire walkway surrounding the perimeters of the pond. This project includes adding a cement border around the entire pond and reconstructing the inner walls of the pond. The Project is under contract with Mid-Valley Engineering for the design phase and should be completed by Summer 2024.
- Marina Guzman, GSA Staff Analyst shared our department did not receive the Environmental Enhancement Grant. However, staff is excited to announce we were awarded the Community Integration Social Rec Grant to install an all-inclusive playground at Mooney Grove Park. Our department will be working closely with Central Valley Regional Center (CVRC) for the development of this project. We will be posting the design on social media and sending a press release to media outlets. The focus of this playground is on equipment that is inclusive for children and adolescents with access and functional needs. The equipment will include a full playground unit with ramps, an inclusive orbit, a roller slide, inclusive swings, wheelchair accessible swings, and more. The selected location for the installation will be on the southside of the park near the Radio Shop. Staff will also install ADA parking and a sidewalk to the restroom nearby. The Project estimated completion date is December 2023, however, CVRC is willing to work with the timeline in case of any equipment delays.
- Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant- GSA Staff Guzman mentioned this is a 50% match program, reimbursement grant only. Staff is going to apply for this grant to supplement funding for the Mooney Grove Dog Park Project. This project is funded by Capital Projects. If the grant is awarded, Parks will be reimbursed 50% of the total cost of the project which could potentially go towards additional projects.
- Recreational Trails Grant-Staff is applying for a grant that can develop walking trails inside the Community Park of Goshen. This project would help set the foundation for the future layout of the park. Staff plans on building a shaded arbor for the community to utilize with tables and a grill. Staff has been receiving input towards using this park for community sports.

7. Park Project Updates

Alert Cendejas, Parks Manager provided an update the following parks:

- **Alpaugh Park-** Staff is working with an Engineer to design plans to provide electricity at the park to be able to power irrigation controllers.
- **Bartlett Park-** Staff is looking into a new irrigation system to be added to the park.
- **Cutler Park-** All arbors are completed and have new roofing and picnic tables. Staff will work on replacing the existing grills with new ones.
- **Mooney Grove-** Arbors #14-18 have new wooden tables with composite tops, new roofs, and grills. The Designs have been submitted for all of the Parks that need new arbors. The bridge at Mooney Grove Park has been partially restored with the painting completed to date. Staff had the structural soundness of the bridge assessed by an Engineer. The bridge walkway will be replaced with composite planks in the near future.
- **Pixley Park-** Staff is looking into connecting domestic water for the Park with the Public Utility District in the area for the bathrooms and designing the irrigation system.

8. Parks Wildlife

Albert Cendejas pointed out that a full report is located within the meeting packet. The Geese population has reduced due to the pond not having water, but they are still all over Tulare County.

9. Community Outreach Update

Janet Zaragoza, Community Outreach Specialist provided an update on recent park events and future activities.

10. Parks Manager Update

Albert Cendejas provided several updates.

- **Woodville Park-** Members of the community have been dedicating a lot of work to beautify the Park by cleaning and adding plants.
- **Kings River Park-** The Department of Water Resources, County Fire, and Cal Fire began setting up barriers due to flooding to prevent water from breaching the banks of the river.
- **Bartlett Park-** Bartlett has been damaged by the Winter Storms. About 75 percent of the park is damaged including irrigation, pumps, and electrical. The damages are estimated at \$3-4 million. Parks Manager spoke with the Army Corps of Engineers and County Counsel about possible FEMA reimbursement.

11. Next Meeting Date

Thursday, July 20, 2023, at 3:30 PM. Location: The Theater inside the History of Tulare County Farm Labor & Agricultural Museum (27000 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia, CA 93277).

12. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM