



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
Nicolette Deming
Melynda Metheney
Donnie Moore
Susan Uptain
Albert Cendejas
Supervisor Amy Shuklian

MINUTES

October 20, 2022

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

Staff Present: Laura Silva, Albert Cendejas, Maria Lopez

Members Absent: Susan Uptain- Tulare County Historical Society

1. Call to Order and Welcome: Meeting was called to order at 3:33 PM by Nancy Hawkins, Chair.

2. Committee Member Matters

- Committee Chair Nancy Hawkins welcomed new Park Committee Member Nicolette Deming, District 3. Susan Uptain is the Tulare County Historical Society appointee but was unable to attend.
- Committee member Hawkins read the Notice to the Public informing all present of the Public Comment Period.
- Maria Lopez informed new members Janet Zaragoza- Community Outreach Specialist and Albert Cendejas – Parks Manager will arrange to meet with them to review PAC guidelines and procedures.

3. Approval of Minutes of October 20, 2022

Motion: Melynda Metheney motioned to approve the minutes.

Vote: 4-1 Approved.

4. Public Comment: There were no comments from the public.

5. Parks Strategic Plan: Maria Lopez, GSA Staff Analyst, provided an update on the Strategic

Planning process. Thanks to the participation of the select team members and PAC Committee members Nancy Hawkins and Armando DeSilva, the Parks Strategic Plan was completed early November. Maria plans on sharing the final draft with the development team after the holidays.

6. 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: Parks Manager Albert Cendejas stated this grant will be used for Mooney Grove Pond repairs, clean-up, and upgrades. Construction is anticipated to start in early 2023.
- Environmental Enhancement Funding Grant: Parks Manger provided information on a new grant opportunity for Parks. This grant is geared to remove invasive species such as bamboo and cattails from Bartlett and Kings River parks. Applications for this grant are due October 18, 2022, and the expected award announcement is January 13, 2023.

7. Capital Improvement Plan: Albert Cendejas provided an update on the Capital Improvement Plan and projects specifically identified for Parks. The committee asked for a list of planned projects for each at the next scheduled PAC meeting.

8. Public Art Projects: Maria Lopez provided mural images for the Mooney Grove Mural Project. Murals in the park were completed late September. This is a collaboration with the Arts Consortium and Parks. Two PAC members participated in the selection process for the mural project, thank you to Donnie Moore and Melynda Metheney for their time.

9. Parks Wildlife: Albert Cendejas and Maria Lopez provided an update on wildlife.

- Geese: Signage was posted on what to feed and not feed geese.
- Feral Cats: Provided an update on cat population.

10. Museum at Balch Park: Albert Cendejas provided and update on converting the museum at Balch Park to a usable office space. This item will be taken to the Board for consideration on October 25, 2022.

Motion: motioned to approve the recommendation.

Vote: 5-0 Approved.

11. Community Outreach Update: Maria Lopez, provided an update on recent park events and future activities.

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

- CSET Workers Update- staff providing training, experience, and education working at the parks .
- Mulch: Large quantity at Mooney Grove/Pixley, being offered to the community for free.
- Dry Parks: Ledbetter, looking to install a new well. Pixley, looking for permission to hook up to the PUD
- Walk-a-thon – scheduled as plan 11/10/2022.
- Winter Wonderland – December 9,10, and 11th overview
- MADD – Overview of the event held at Bartlett Park; bathroom painting, mulch spreading, and cleaning of the area around the 3rd pond.
- COS – Certification program educating those who would like to learn about climbing, pruning, and cutting trees.
- Balch closing 10-30-2022 end of camping season
- Visalia West Main – Flathead tree borer, two trees had to be removed others may follow due to watering restrictions, water table dropping, and no rain.
- Visalia West Main Bridge – in construction, new bridge will be installed.

13. Next Meeting Date: Thursday, January 19, 2023, at 3:30 PM. Location: Tulare County History of Farm Labor Agricultural Museum Theater (27000 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia, CA 93277).

14. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 4:40 PM