



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

January 16, 2025

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

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Kyle Taylor, Albert Cendejas, Michael Rivera, Carlos Cortez-Quiroz

1. Call to Order and Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Nancy Hawkins, Chair.

2. Committee Member Matters

3. Approval of Minutes from October 18, 2024

Motion: Melynda Metheney made a motion to approve the minutes, and Armando Da Silva seconded it.

Vote: 3-0 Approved

4. Public Comment

Mike Hulsey – on behalf of the Chain Ratters, asks to have a further discussion about the Fees associated with sports events at Tulare County Parks.

Barry Povalitis is interested in putting 18 short Disc Golf baskets for Mooney Grove Park and is asking permission to discuss the topic further.

5. Grants Update

Community Outreach Specialist Michael Rivera shared the following updates:

Tulare County has been awarded a grant through the Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program (EHCRP), administered by the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Change. Tulare County General Services Agency (GSA) applied for the grant in April 2024 and submitted an implementation proposal in May 2024 to fund the installation of shade structures at playgrounds in Alpaugh, Leadbetter, and Woodville Parks. These shade

structures aim to keep playground equipment cooler, create shaded areas for children to play safely, and provide much-needed heat relief for community members during the summer months. This initiative aligns with the county's efforts to address extreme heat impacts and enhance community resilience.

6. Parks Wildlife

Parks Manager Albert Cendejas reported an increase in the goose population, and the cat population has remained stable with no changes.

7. Park Host

General Services Agency Deputy Director Kyle Taylor shared that the Board of Supervisors has approved the Park Host at Bartlett Park. A concrete pad with power, a septic system, and water will be installed at Bartlett Park, and these hook-ups will be similar to the KOA campsite.

8. Community Outreach Update

Michael Rivera updated recent park events and future activities.

9. Parks Manager Update

Albert Cendejas provided an update for the following parks:

- **Alpaugh Park:** A new irrigation system is being installed to replace the old flood irrigation method, which often washes away mulch and leaves the playground area barren. This upgrade will help maintain a greener, more sustainable play area.
- **Ledbetter Park:** Progress is being made in developing the sports park. The basketball court has been striped for Basketball and Volleyball, and goalies and line chalkers have been purchased for the soccer field. We are purchasing lights for the soccer field.
- **Kings River Park:** The park experienced extensive flooding, which damaged vegetation and created a fire hazard. Parks workers have cleared 72 piles of wood, brush, and debris from a 300-yard-long area overtaken by water.
- **Cutler Park:** Work started flattening the ground on the west side of the park. The goal is to have a place where people can play soccer, football, or baseball.
- **Bartlett Park:** The park is still closed. The paving is still being processed but will be finished this month. A new replacement fence will be placed on the park's west side and between Pond 1 and Pond 2. Small projects are still underway. The park will remain closed
- **All Parks:** All arbors have numbered blade signs on top of the arbors to identify the arbor.

10. Next Meeting Date

Thursday, March 20, 2024, at 3:30 PM. Location: History of Tulare County Farm Labor & Agricultural Museum (27000 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia, CA 93277).

11. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.