



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

October 17, 2024

Members Present: Nancy Hawkins, Nicolette Deming, Armando Da Silva

Members Absent: Donnie Moore, Melynda Metheney

Staff Present: 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 July 18, 2024

Motion: Armando De Silva made a motion to approve the minutes, and Nicolette Deming seconded it.

Vote: 3-0 Approved

4. Public Comment

No public comments.

5. Grants Update

Park Manager Albert Cendejas shared the following updates:

- The State completed an audit and review of the Mooney Grove Park Pond Improvement project, which passed with excellent results. The final reimbursement check is pending.
- The Analyst team is seeking new opportunities, including the "Arts in the Parks" grant. This funding will support additional murals in parks to help reduce graffiti.

6. Capital Improvement Plan – Park Projects

Albert Cendejas provided an update on the Capital Improvement Plan, highlighting the strong commitment of Tulare County Supervisors to improving County Parks over the past five years. A total of \$8 million in funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) has been allocated to these efforts. Additionally, the General Services Agency (GSA) staff remain

proactive in pursuing grant opportunities to further enhance park development and maintenance initiatives.

Motion: Armando Da Silva moved to approve the CIP Parks Projects for FY 2024-2025. Seconded by Nicolette Deming.

Vote: Motion approved unanimously, 3-0.

7. Parks Wildlife

Albert Cendejas reported an increase in the goose population and noted that the squirrel population is now under control, with only occasional sightings.

The cat population has remained stable. A few kittens recently found in the park were adopted and, therefore, are not included in the report.

8. Community Outreach Update

Michael Rivera, Community Outreach Specialist, provided updates about recent park events and future activities.

9. Parks Manager Update

Albert Cendejas provided an update for the following Parks:

- **Kings River Park:** The staff's goal is to maintain the Park, which includes cleaning and cutting the overgrown areas.
- **Ledbetter Park:** Progress is being made in developing the Sports Park. It now has goalies, a line chalker, and nets. The goal is to double the size of the basketball court.
- **Cutler Park:** The Park is currently closed, with paving work is expected to be completed soon. However, trespassing by ATVs remains an ongoing issue.
- **Mooney Grove Park:** Many projects have been completed; now, the focus will be on seeding some areas where grass isn't growing.
- **Alpaugh Park:** New irrigation system, an electrical connection to the irrigation system, and removal of trees to open the field up to a new soccer field.
- **Balch Park:** The Park will soon be closed for the Winter.
- **Pixley Park:** The wall has been repainted.
- **Bartlett Park:** The Park is still closed. The new irrigation system is functioning, and the grass is beginning to grow, making the Park green again. The paving is still underway, and the pier looks excellent. Small projects are still underway. The Park will remain closed

10. Next Meeting Date

Thursday, January 16, 2025, 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.