

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Regular Meeting (virtual)

December 6, 2021, 7:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.

Public Participation Guidelines

The public may conference into the meeting via Zoom using the info below.

- Once in the meeting, ensure your microphone is muted when you are not speaking.
- If disruptive sound is coming from your device/phone line, the moderator will mute your device and you will have to unmute yourself to participate.
- You will NOT be able to attend the meeting in person.
- RELATED CORRESPONDENCE: Written comments may be sent to the Parks & Recreation Commission in care of Jennifer Mead, County Parks Secretary, either by Email or U.S Mail. Please include the agenda item number.

Email: jennifer.mead@santacruzcounty.us

Call: (831) 454-7905

U.S. Mail:

Parks & Recreation Commission
c/o Jennifer Mead
979 17th Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Zoom Meeting link

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/3689630872?pwd=aGR4eEFySDNtMkFnbkE0aUx5OXhEQT09>

Meeting information

Meeting ID: 368 963 0872

Passcode: 790501

Calling in – audio only

1 (669) 900 6833 US (San Jose)

(AGENDA to follow)



County of Santa Cruz

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, OPEN SPACE & CULTURAL SERVICES

979 17TH AVENUE, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95062

(831) 454-7901 FAX: (831) 454-7940 TDD/TTY: call 711

JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA

Monday, December 6, 2021
7:00pm – 9:00pm
Regular Meeting (virtual)
Meeting Link <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/3689630872?pwd=aGR4eEFySDNtMkFnbkE0aUx5OXhEQT09>

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I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Opportunity for persons to address the Commission on matters which are within the scope of responsibility of the Commission or on today's Agenda. Presentations must not exceed three (3) minutes in length, and individuals may speak only once during Oral Communications. Commissioners will not take actions or respond immediately to any public communications presented regarding topics not on the Agenda but may choose to follow up later, either later, or on a subsequent Commission Agenda.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve minutes from October 4, 2021.....Page 4-5
- b. Consider Reports:
 - 1. Aquatics Section ReportPage 6
 - 2. Maintenance Section Report.....Page 7-8
 - 3. Planning Section Report.....Page 9-10
 - 4. Recreation Section Report.....Page 11
 - 5. Reservations Section ReportPage 12
 - 4. Volunteer Section Report.....Page 13-18

V. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

VII. REGULAR AGENDA – Action Items

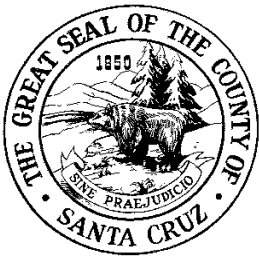
- a. Review and approve the Parks and Recreation Commission Biennial Report (Pages 19-21)
- b. Approve meeting dates for 2022 (Page 22)
- c. Discuss continuing virtual meetings in 2022 in compliance with AB 361 (Pages 23-28)
- d. Adopt resolution approving the commission's findings under AB 361 (Page 29-30)

VIII. REGULAR AGENDA – Information Items

- a. Update on Opal Cliffs Recreation District Reorganization (Page 31-32)
- b. Update on possible South County Parkland Acquisition & Development project

IX. NEXT MEETING: Monday, February 7, 2022, 7:00-9:00 p.m. - Virtual Meeting via Zoom

- X. WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE LISTING (Page 33)**
- XI. ADJOURNMENT**



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JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION Minutes of October 4, 2021, 7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting Virtual via Zoom

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Vivian Fenner-Evans, Kate Minott, Steven Bennett, Jim Rapoza
Staff: Jeff Gaffney, Rebecca Hurley, Will Fourt, Jennifer Mead

II. **AGENDA MODIFICATIONS** Approved agenda as presented. (Rapoza/Minott 4/0)

III. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS** (none)

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: Minutes of August 2, 2021 were approved; reports considered and accepted
(Minott/Rapoza 4/0)

V. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Minott 2nd District: I attended a wonderful groundbreaking for the Hidden Beach playground. Thank to Jeff for organizing, it was super.

Rapoza 5th District: I noticed Felton Covered Bridge and Felton Discovery Park getting a lot of use. Felton deck had a music concert that was nice. Graham Hill showgrounds is looking desolate, are there plans for landscaping improvement? JG: Yes, there is some restoration working happening there after it was used as PG&E base camp for the CZU fires.

Fenner-Evans 1st District: I attended the Moran Lake public meetings. This is a 1 acre park that hasn't been updated since 1981. There's many species of birds there. I also attended the Floral Park campaign kickoff, that park needs improvement; landscaping, playground equipment etc... I visited Brommer and the pickleball courts are packed. I did see two homeless camps that were visible from the play structure.

Bennett 4th District: Not much to report except we did have the County Fair out here, I did attend. It was very packed and a huge success.

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- National Night Out at *Mesa Village Park* - Tuesday, Oct 5th, 5-7:30pm
- Planning for the *Floating Pumpkin Patch* - Sunday, Oct 16th, 1-4pm at Simpkins
- Simpkins Renovation Project planning underway: Closing the 50M pool on Dec 6th and planning to reopen in June 2022. We are blending the Library Annex project with the renovations to minimize facility closure.
- The groundbreaking for Hidden Beach Playground was on Sept 15th
- County Park Friends launched the *Fixing up Floral Street Park* fundraiser

- \$150,000 has already been raised.
- I met the new Director of Land Trust, Sarah Newkirk; I look forward to working with her.
- Submitting grant apps for the following projects: Simpkins Indoor & Outdoor Youth Activity Center, Chanticleer Phase 2 development, South County parkland acquisition and development, and North Coast Rail Trail Ph 2.
- We have a new County Counsel person supporting parks, John Nguyen
- Regarding Scott Beach; our website is inconsistent with the signage at the beach, we'll rectify that.
- With passing of the AB/SB155, Trailer Bill for resources agencies, several hundred million dollars have become available for watershed protection, climate agency and fuel load reduction. We will look for opportunity to apply for those dollars.
- County Budget Manager, Christina Mowrey will be retiring, she's asking all gifts to be a donation to County Park Friends.
- We'll meet virtually through December. Simpkins will be closed for construction - we can talk about our options for meeting in person at our next meeting.

VII. REGULAR AGENDA – Information Items

- a. Will Fourt gave presentation on Moran Lake public meetings and the Restoration and Public Access Plan progress (Page 16-79)
- b. Todd Marco and Barry Scott presented on the Nisene Rio Gateway progress

VIII. REGULAR AGENDA – Action Items

- a. The commission approved support letter to the Board of Supervisors for the Parks FY 21-22 Budget (Page 80-84) (Rapoza/Fenner-Evans 4/0)

IX. NEXT MEETING: Monday, December 6, 2021, 7:00-9:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

X. WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE LISTING (Page 85)

XI. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m. (Minott/Fenner-Evans 4/0)



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JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

Date: November 24, 2021
To: Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Max Friedmann, Aquatics Supervisor
Subject: Aquatics Section Report

Swim Center Daily Programing

- **Lap Swim:** Simpkins Family Swim Center offers lap swim lanes 7 days a week all hours of operation.
- **Warm Water Pool:** The Swim Center has expanded warm water pool availability this fall with most hours of operation allowing for warm water pool use.
- **Water Aerobics:** Water aerobics classes are offered Monday through Friday at 12pm and Saturdays at 9am.
- **Adult Fitness:** Adult fitness workouts are offered every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 6am and Tuesday and Thursday at 12pm.
- **Dominican PEP Program:** The Swim Center host Dominican Hospital's PEP program water exercise and therapy classes every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday the warm water pool.
- **Swim Teams:** The Swim Center hosts three local swim teams in through 50m pool Monday through Friday afternoons.

Simpkins Renovation Project and Closure

- Simpkins Family Swim Center will close for renovations starting December 23rd, 2021.
- The renovation project is scheduled to last for approximately 6 months.
- Renovations include replastering of the 50m pool and resurfacing of the pool deck cement.

Harvey West Pool

- While the swim center is under renovation County Parks will move its aquatic programing to Harvey West Pool.



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Date: November 24, 2021
To: Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Rebecca Hurley, Parks Superintendent
Subject: Maintenance Section Report

South County

- Turf renovations that include aerating, fertilizing, seeding and top dressing are underway at Polo Grounds and Pinto Lake sports fields.
- Drains and ditches in all South County parks are being cleared in preparation for winter weather.
- Staff is preparing the irrigation systems for winter weather including draining lines, and turning backflows off to prevent leaks.
- Tree work was completed at various parks including thinning and removing end weight on branches to prevent failure.
- Staff is procuring quotes for resurfacing the Willowbrook Park tennis/basketball/pickleball courts.

Mid County / Swim Center

- A Decomposed Granite pathway was installed near the Brommer Street Park sports courts to help lessen the sand that gets on the courts from the play area.
- The pool deck steps between the upper and lower pool deck at Simpkins were repaired.
- A felled tree and fence were repaired at Jose Ave Park.
- Staff installed isolation valves to the water system at Brommer Street Park.
- The injector lines were replaced on the Jacobson mower that serves multiple mid county parks.

North County

- A new split rail fence was installed at 38th Avenue beach access.
- Staff has been dealing with multiple water main leaks at Anna Jean Cummings Park.
- Gopher control continues at Anna Jean Cummings and Highlands Park (532 gophers so far in 2021).
- Brush was cleared at Moran Lake County Park around a group of Eucalyptus trees that were subsequently inspected by an arborist out of constituent concerns. We anticipate receiving the report back in the first weeks of December.
- Tree work was completed at Highlands, Quail Hollow Ranch, Felton Covered Bridge, and Felton Discovery Park.

- Turf renovations that include aerating, fertilizing, seeding and top dressing are underway at Anna Jean Cummings Park and Highlands Park sports fields.
- A new split rail fence was installed at Highlands.
- Staff removed the summer river fence at Ben Lomond Dam.



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JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

Date: November 24, 2021
To: Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Will Fourt and Michael Hettenhausen, Park Planners
Subject: Planning Section Status Report

Chanticleer Park: Staff submitted supplemental information needed for the Prop 68 Statewide Park Program grant application for Chanticleer Park Expansion and development of Phase 2 at the park. Statewide Park Program grant awards are anticipated Fall/Winter. Parks staff is working on the application for the Regional Park Program for Prop 68 for Chanticleer Park Phase 2 Development if the Statewide Park Program grant is not awarded. The scope of the Regional Park Program application includes converting the historic residence into recreation space, constructing two new reservable picnic pavilions, constructing a walking and bicycle trail in the park, and an outdoor fitness station.

Hidden Beach

The playground replacement project was completed on November 12th and the ribbon cutting ceremony was held on November 22nd. Also, Parks staff applied to County Planning for a discretionary permit for the new permanent restroom.

Moran Lake

The consultants provided a site understanding diagram for the restoration and public access improvements, which Parks staff reviewed and provided comments. On November 9th, the Board approved a contract amendment to include updating the Monarch Butterfly Habitat Management Plan in partnership with the County Sanitation District into the existing contract. Parks staff and consultants/subconsultants held a project kick-off meeting/site walk on November 22nd.

Greyhound Rock

Staff continues to work with staff from the state Coastal Conservancy and state Department of Fish and Wildlife on a grant application for planning and development of minimalist overnight accommodations and indoor programming facilities at the park.

Live Oak Library Annex

Staff is participating on the Technical Advisory Group with County Department of Public Works and Library staff as well as an architectural firm to produce interior and exterior design plans for the Live Oak Library Annex, proposed for construction along the north wall of the Simpkins Family Swim Center. The County's Planning Commission recently approved the development permit and CEQA Notice of Exemption for the library annex.

Anna Jean Cummings Mitigation Plantings

Local seed collection has been completed for plant propagation in anticipation of planting in fall 2022.

Farm Future Phase 2

Staff and consultants are preparing a Master Plan Amendment Application (MPAA) to include a bike pump/jump track as an additional alternative feature and revise the development permit expiration date. The MPAA will be submitted to the County Planning for review and consideration. On July 13th, the Parks Department director and Planning staff hosted the Statewide Park Program grant administrator at the park. Also, staff has addressed questions from the grant application's incomplete letter and resubmitted the required information. Grant awards are anticipated Fall/Winter.

Park Dedication In-Lieu Fees and Park Impact Fees Update

The updates to the Park Impact Fee program including ordinance updates and Unified Fee Schedule amendments took effect on October 1, 2021. Parks staff is working with Planning staff to transition to the new program as it applies to collecting fees during permit applications. Parks staff launched a new web page with information about the program.

North Coast Facilities and Management Plan

The state Coastal Conservancy awarded a planning grant to the County for the development of a North Coast Facilities and Management Plan, which would consolidate all the various federal, state, and local government agencies' planning and capital improvement plan documents into one comprehensive document. State Parks has also contributed funding for the project. The state contributions will fund the hiring of a consultant to review existing documents, facilitate stakeholder meetings, and produce a regional planning document. The Board will consider a resolution to accept the funds at its December 7th hearing and will consider the Request-for-Proposal for a planning consultant at its January 11, 2022, hearing.

North Coast Rail Trail

Parks staff is working in partnership with the Regional Transportation Commission to submit Prop 68 grant applications for partial funding of construction of the North Coast Rail Trail segment from Yellowbank to Davenport, to be completed by RTC through a memorandum of agreement. The MOA was approved by the Board on November 9th.

Simpkins Family Swim Center Indoor Youth Activity Center and Outdoor Learning Center

Staff is preparing a Prop 68 Regional Park Program grant application to design and construct an indoor Youth Activity Center and an outdoor Learning Center. The indoor Youth Activity Center would be in the south plaza area and offer free play as well as programmed activities for youth while their parents/guardians use the aquatic center. The outdoor Learning Center would be located adjacent to the indoor Youth Activity Center and offer a dedicated space for outdoor trainings for Junior Guards and others.

Willowbrook

Parks has entered into a design contract with SSA Landscape Architects to redesign the Baseline Drive park entrance and improve a nearby seating area. Staff is also seeking proposals from playground design companies to replace the existing 5–12-year-old play structures and sand with a new 5–12-year-old play structures and rubber surface material.



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JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

Date: November 24, 2021
To: Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Jaime Jimenez, Recreation Supervisor
Subject: Recreation Section Report

Recreation

- Our After School Care Enrichment (ACE) Programs at Mar Vista Elementary school and at La Selva Beach Clubhouse are in full swing this Fall. Programming included field trips, Halloween costumes parties, pumpkin decorations, and outdoor picnics.
- At these sites, Recreation team provide positive recreational experiences with various activity games, arts and crafts, outdoor nature, and science enrichment happenings for children Transitional Kinder (TK) through 6th Grade.
- The sites have weekly themes such as: Wheels Week, What's in your Mystery Tree House Week, and Adventure Week; and most recently Appreciation Week. Activities range from riding around the neighborhoods, roller skating, native American culture, pajama movie day, wacky Wednesdays and more!
- We have several youth volunteers ranging between ages 13-17 from local junior high and high schools volunteering their time to help create positive recreational opportunities at our after-school enrichment programs.

Partnerships with Local Recreation Departments

- For the month of October, we partnered with the Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter in the "HOWLoween" Doggie Date Night and watched Hocus Pocus movie at Broomer Park.
- We are collaborating with the La Selva Beach Library branch where participants get to use up to 17 laptops to play Mine Craft every Thursday.
- We continue in communication with the City of Watsonville – Public Works Department exploring a possible Agents of Discovery site at their Nature Center. Progress was placed on hold while renovations and the holidays are taking place.
- We look forward to the months to come as we seek out additional potential partners to offer high quality programs to the community.

Recreation Programs & Contractual Agreements

- The recreation team continues seeking out potential contractual agreements with groups and individuals in the community to offer positive recreational programs in our county for the winter and spring.

Marketing Efforts

- The Department launched the updated website and continues to conduct social media postings to inform the community of upcoming recreational opportunities and to help navigate their interest in our reservations and registrations system and opportunities on the Web.



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JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

Date: November 24, 2021
To: Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Sarah Shea, Recreation Supervisor
Subject: Reservations Section Report

Summary for Reservations and Facilities:

In October, two new Park Service Officers joined the team and have added to our growing department serving venue rentals and special events. Mid November, Garret Smart joined the department as the Recreation Program Specialist. Training for all new staff while maintaining incoming inquiries and reservations is the sections current priority.

Picnic Reservations saw over 70 groups enjoy the county parks these past two months.

Athletic Field Usage – This fall we have permitted 19 youth and adult leagues for use of county park fields. The fall season has ended allowing maintenance time to work the fields. Reservations for spring and summer seasons will begin in early December.

Garden Plots – after delays in refilling all plots at Chanticleer, permits have been issued to all existing plots.

Venue Rentals Overview:

- 12 Private Events were held in October
- 7 Private Events were held in November
- Events were a mix of weddings, baby showers, birthday parties and overdue receptions from newly wed couples celebrating post 2020 Covid related closures
- Open houses returned to all four venues with a focus on booking our 2022 season

Special Events:

- Santa Cruz Cancer Benefit, Grazing on the Green held annually in Aptos Village Park, returned to half of its pre-covid ticketed fundraiser.
- Heart of Soquel held one of its first major special events, a free music concert from New Music Works, "In C Outside"

Commemorative Program:

- After a lengthy delay due to covid, the commemorative sunset letters will begin this winter. Options to renew or reassign the aging dedications of benches and tables throughout the county will be offered to all dedications that have exceeded the ten-year timeline.



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JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

Date: November 24, 2021
To: Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Margaret Ingraham, Volunteer Program Coordinator
Subject: Volunteer Program Report

Anna Jean Cummings Park

One of our volunteers at AJ has started the project of painting the Sky Balls! We are so excited for the fresh look, thank you Meta!



In progress



Finished!

Below are pictures of some of the accomplishments of the students enrolled in the Workability Program through Cabrillo. A group of up to 5 students meet at AJC and **Willowbrook Park** on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 – 12 and maintenance staff directs them on projects.



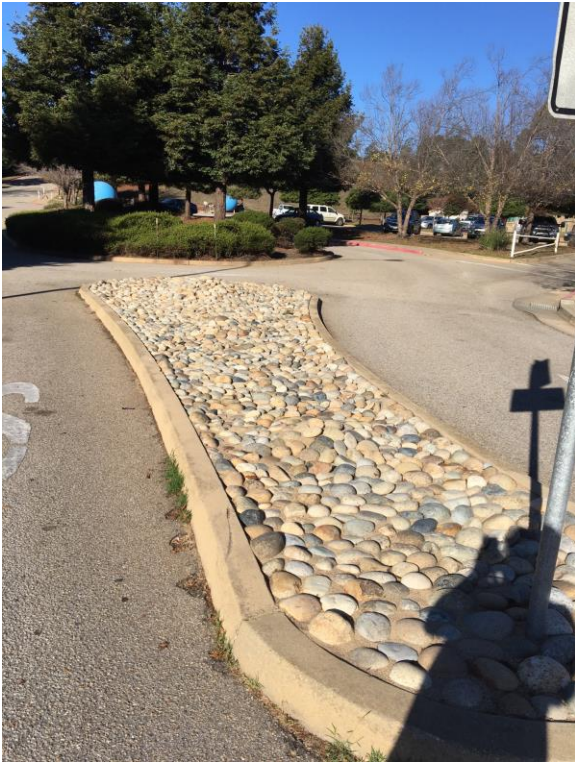
BEFORE



AFTER



WORKING ON THE ENTRANCE AT AJ



THE at AJ ENTRANCE FINISHED

Felton Discovery Park

October and November volunteer days attracted 11-12 volunteers. Volunteers removed invasive plants, cleaned the children's gravel pit area, and the interpretive 3D watershed map, prepared the pollinator bed for fall planting and then planted approximately 30 native plants that were donated by the Friends of Felton Library. We will not have a December volunteer day and will resume in January.



Pictured below is Chris Soriano, Field Programs Coordinator for the Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History with his group from the of Earth Stewards Program. The group volunteers in the park 4 hours a month and will continue through May.



The Earth Stewards Program aims to empower the next generation of environmental stewards by providing STEM education to alternative education high school students through outdoor experiences.

Quail Hollow Ranch

The Friends of Quail Hollow helped to organize and provide snacks for a long overdue Volunteer appreciation gathering at the park. We had a good turn out with almost 30 volunteers and guests. Jim Williams, a long-time volunteer, birder, and founding President of the Friends of Quail Hollow was honored for all of his time, skill and enthusiasm he has given to the park over the years.

In addition; the Trail Crew, Nest Box, Habitat Restoration, Friends and Astronomy volunteer groups all gave updates on the progress and happenings over the last 2 years.

And, the coveted volunteer pins were passed out to deserving volunteers, 3 volunteers received 1000 hours pins, 5 received 500 pins and many received 100/250 hours pins.

All the volunteers were appreciative of the gathering and left feeling valued and appreciated.



Jim Williams



Our 3 new docents are fully trained and have started volunteering regularly at the park! We are excited to have more docents at the park to answer questions for the public, hike the trails, explain the Park rules and open the Visitor Center to the public.

In October the **Santa Cruz Astronomy Club** brought 10 of their volunteer members to set up telescopes and answer question at the stargazing event and 15 community members showed up to enjoy the stars.

The dates for the next FREE star gazing outings are:

December 3, and January 28. Come at sunset to enjoy the evening with this group of knowledgeable Astronomers!

Interns

914 hours to date through October



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JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION 2020-2021 BIENNIAL REPORT

ROLE OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Assess the needs and resources of the County of Santa Cruz Department of Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services and recommend programs to satisfy those needs.

- I. Advise the Board of Supervisors & Parks Department on matters regarding parks, recreation and open space in the County.
- II. Advise the Board of Supervisors on the preservation of historic, cultural and natural resources in the County.
- III. Review the annual budget for Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services, and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors.

MEETINGS AND STRUCTURE

The Commission meets on Monday evenings, six times a year at 7:00 p.m., on dates determined by the Commission. Prior to COVID-19, meetings were held at the Simpkins Swim Center, Community Rooms at 979-17th Avenue, Santa Cruz, or other sites throughout the County. Since COVID-19, the Commission has been meeting virtually on the Zoom platform.

The Commission is comprised of five members, one nominated by each Supervisor. The Commission operates following Roberts Rules of Order. Commission meetings are governed by a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson who are elected on a rotating basis each April. Staff support is provided by the Department of Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services.

COMMISSION STAFF

Jeff Gaffney, Director; Rebecca Hurley, Parks Superintendent; Michael Hettenhausen, Park Planner; Jennifer Mead, Secretary.

ATTENDANCE

The Commissioners attendance for the past twenty-four months is attached with this report.

2020-2021 ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Reviewed communication strategies developed in the Commissions' Charter & Mission.

Reviewed Robert's Rules of Order to efficiently conduct Commission business.

Receive a presentation about the County's PRIMO! Initiative and reviewed the Parks Department PRIMO! project for streamlining Maintenance Crew Deployments.

Received updates from the Parks Department on COVID-19 response to park closures, signage, safety precautions, and programming changes.

Participated in a discussion to follow the Board of Supervisors' policy promoting diversity, equity and inclusion in matters concerning the Commission and County Parks.

Discussed how the Commission can best support the Parks Department through a future recession provoked by a global pandemic.

Received an update from the Parks Department on the Coastal Encroachment program.

Supported the Parks Department in developing a Public Service Announcement to remind park users about the leash laws in Santa Cruz County Parks and on public beaches.

Reviewed and approved the Chanticleer Park Phase 2 Conceptual Site Plan.

Reviewed updates to the Parks Dedication Fees Ordinance and made the recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to hold a public hearing, consider ordinance changes, and take related actions.

Discussed the impact of the COVID-19 on County parks, open spaces, and recreation programs.

Issued a Certificate of Appreciation to the Cabrillo Host Lions in recognition of their 60 Years of Service to the community.

Discussed the report on upcoming Highway-1 construction and mitigation factors which include new plants and trees at Anna Hean Cummings Park. The Commission requested Parks staff focus on public outreach prior to implementation.

Received status reports on park improvement projects including:

- Greyhound Rock
- Felton Discovery Park
- Chanticleer Park
- Heart of Soquel Phase 2 & 3
- Farm Phase 2
- Seacliff Village Park Phase 2
- Hidden Beach playground replacement

Received updates about the community meetings and outreach for Chanticleer Phase 2 and Moran Lake park restoration.

Received regular reports on the activities and accomplishments of the Parks Maintenance, Planning, Recreation, Aquatics, Reservations and Volunteers sections. Received presentations from the following agencies:

- Department of Public Works, Zero Waste Initiative
- County Parks Friends
- Cabrillo Host Lions, Veterans Memorial Bench project
- Nisene Rio Gateway, land use options to support a pedestrian path from Nisene to Rio Del Mar

Reviewed the Department's proposed budgets for Fiscal Years 2020/2021 and Fiscal Years 2021/2022.

Submitted a letter of support to the Board of Supervisors for the Parks Department's FY 2021-2022 Budget.

PROPOSED 2022-2023 GOALS

Support acquisition and development of a County Park in South County.

Consider and recommend specific means for how the Parks Department can provide for open space and natural resource preservation.

Meet with other Santa Cruz County Commissions and representatives from local agencies and municipalities to exchange ideas and shared goals.

Prepare a letter of support as necessary for various grant opportunities.

Support efforts to collaborate with volunteers and other partners to provide access to parks, recreation and cultural opportunities.

Support, collaborate and advise staff on providing services and programs to underserved populations in the County.

Consider and recommend interpretive programs and opportunities to increase awareness and appreciation of all natural, cultural and historical resources.

Continue to encourage and engage recommendations and input from community members and stakeholders regarding County Parks, Open spaces, and Cultural Services.



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PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETINGS

The meetings are generally on the first Monday, every other month. The commission may meet at an alternate location specified in the public notice. Additionally, the commission may call for special public meetings in order to timely conduct commission business.

Please check the meeting agendas to get virtual meeting information or location of meeting. For questions, please call (831) 454-7905.

2022 Schedule

MONDAY	February 7, 2022	7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
MONDAY	April 4, 2022	7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
MONDAY	June 6, 2022	7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
MONDAY	August 1, 2022	7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
MONDAY	October 3, 2022	7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
MONDAY	December 5, 2022	7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

AB 361 – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What are the circumstances under which AB 361 virtual meetings are permitted?

A: Gov. Code § 54953(e)(1) provides that a local agency may use teleconferencing in any of the following circumstances:

(A) The legislative body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency, and state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing.

(B) The legislative body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency for the purpose of determining, by majority vote, whether as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

(C) The legislative body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency and has determined, by majority vote, pursuant to subparagraph (B) that, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

Q: Does AB 361 only apply to the current declared COVID-19 state of emergency?

A: No. AB 361 does apply to emergencies arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, but it also specifically references Government Code section 8558, which contains a broad definition of emergency including, among others, fire, flood, storm, epidemic and earthquake.

Q: If a public agency has not resumed in-person meetings, are there any specific actions to take to continue holding virtual meetings after September 30, 2021?

A: Yes. To continue holding virtual meetings after September 30, a public agency will need to:

- Confirm that they can meet the AB 361 technical requirements for public attendance and real-time comment.
- Develop a plan in the event of a technical disruption during a virtual meeting.
- Unless the public agency is located in a region where state or local officials require or recommend social distancing, the governing body will need to determine, by majority vote, that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.
 - This determination meeting should be held before any other special or regular October meetings.

- This determination meeting – even if held during September – should be in compliance with the AB 361 virtual meeting requirements.

Q: Can a public agency conduct a “hybrid” meeting with the governing body and staff in person and the public participating remotely?

Yes. However, if the in-person meeting is not open to in-person attendance by members of the public, the meeting must meet the requirements of AB 361.

Q: Are there differences in how a public agency may conduct virtual meetings under AB 361 compared to the March 17, 2020 Executive Order N-29-20?

A: Yes. As more fully detailed below, AB 361 imposes additional requirements for virtual meetings, including, among others, that:

- Public agencies may not require public comments be submitted in advance (this is still a permissible option, but cannot be a requirement);
- Members of the public must be allowed to address the board in real-time during the meeting; and,
- In the event of a technical disruption, the public agency cannot take any further action on the agenda until the issue is resolved.

Q: Once the initial AB 361 finding is made, does a public agency have to do anything further to continue with virtual meetings?

A: Yes. To continue with AB 361 virtual meetings, the public agency must reconsider the circumstances of the emergency **every 30 days** and determine that either the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person; or, state or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing. These findings must be made by majority vote. Gov. Code § 54953(e)(3).

State of California

GOVERNMENT CODE

Section 54953

54953. (a) All meetings of the legislative body of a local agency shall be open and public, and all persons shall be permitted to attend any meeting of the legislative body of a local agency, except as otherwise provided in this chapter.

(b) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the legislative body of a local agency may use teleconferencing for the benefit of the public and the legislative body of a local agency in connection with any meeting or proceeding authorized by law. The teleconferenced meeting or proceeding shall comply with all otherwise applicable requirements of this chapter and all otherwise applicable provisions of law relating to a specific type of meeting or proceeding.

(2) Teleconferencing, as authorized by this section, may be used for all purposes in connection with any meeting within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body. All votes taken during a teleconferenced meeting shall be by rollcall.

(3) If the legislative body of a local agency elects to use teleconferencing, it shall post agendas at all teleconference locations and conduct teleconference meetings in a manner that protects the statutory and constitutional rights of the parties or the public appearing before the legislative body of a local agency. Each teleconference location shall be identified in the notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, and each teleconference location shall be accessible to the public. During the teleconference, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body shall participate from locations within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, except as provided in subdivisions (d) and (e). The agenda shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to address the legislative body directly pursuant to Section 54954.3 at each teleconference location.

(4) For the purposes of this section, “teleconference” means a meeting of a legislative body, the members of which are in different locations, connected by electronic means, through either audio or video, or both. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a local agency from providing the public with additional teleconference locations.

(c) (1) No legislative body shall take action by secret ballot, whether preliminary or final.

(2) The legislative body of a local agency shall publicly report any action taken and the vote or abstention on that action of each member present for the action.

(3) Prior to taking final action, the legislative body shall orally report a summary of a recommendation for a final action on the salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits of a local agency executive, as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 3511.1, during the open meeting in which the final action

is to be taken. This paragraph shall not affect the public's right under the California Public Records Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 6250) of Division 7 of Title 1) to inspect or copy records created or received in the process of developing the recommendation.

(d) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions relating to a quorum in paragraph (3) of subdivision (b), if a health authority conducts a teleconference meeting, members who are outside the jurisdiction of the authority may be counted toward the establishment of a quorum when participating in the teleconference if at least 50 percent of the number of members that would establish a quorum are present within the boundaries of the territory over which the authority exercises jurisdiction, and the health authority provides a teleconference number, and associated access codes, if any, that allows any person to call in to participate in the meeting and the number and access codes are identified in the notice and agenda of the meeting.

(2) Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed as discouraging health authority members from regularly meeting at a common physical site within the jurisdiction of the authority or from using teleconference locations within or near the jurisdiction of the authority. A teleconference meeting for which a quorum is established pursuant to this subdivision shall be subject to all other requirements of this section.

(3) For purposes of this subdivision, a health authority means any entity created pursuant to Sections 14018.7, 14087.31, 14087.35, 14087.36, 14087.38, and 14087.9605 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, any joint powers authority created pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 6500) of Chapter 5 of Division 7 for the purpose of contracting pursuant to Section 14087.3 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, and any advisory committee to a county-sponsored health plan licensed pursuant to Chapter 2.2 (commencing with Section 1340) of Division 2 of the Health and Safety Code if the advisory committee has 12 or more members.

(e) (1) A local agency may use teleconferencing without complying with the requirements of paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) if the legislative body complies with the requirements of paragraph (2) of this subdivision in any of the following circumstances:

(A) The legislative body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency, and state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing.

(B) The legislative body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency for the purpose of determining, by majority vote, whether as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

(C) The legislative body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency and has determined, by majority vote, pursuant to subparagraph (B), that, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

(2) A legislative body that holds a meeting pursuant to this subdivision shall do all of the following:

(A) The legislative body shall give notice of the meeting and post agendas as otherwise required by this chapter.

(B) The legislative body shall allow members of the public to access the meeting and the agenda shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to address the legislative body directly pursuant to Section 54954.3. In each instance in which notice of the time of the teleconferenced meeting is otherwise given or the agenda for the meeting is otherwise posted, the legislative body shall also give notice of the means by which members of the public may access the meeting and offer public comment. The agenda shall identify and include an opportunity for all persons to attend via a call-in option or an internet-based service option. This subparagraph shall not be construed to require the legislative body to provide a physical location from which the public may attend or comment.

(C) The legislative body shall conduct teleconference meetings in a manner that protects the statutory and constitutional rights of the parties and the public appearing before the legislative body of a local agency.

(D) In the event of a disruption which prevents the public agency from broadcasting the meeting to members of the public using the call-in option or internet-based service option, or in the event of a disruption within the local agency's control which prevents members of the public from offering public comments using the call-in option or internet-based service option, the body shall take no further action on items appearing on the meeting agenda until public access to the meeting via the call-in option or internet-based service option is restored. Actions taken on agenda items during a disruption which prevents the public agency from broadcasting the meeting may be challenged pursuant to Section 54960.1.

(E) The legislative body shall not require public comments to be submitted in advance of the meeting and must provide an opportunity for the public to address the legislative body and offer comment in real time. This subparagraph shall not be construed to require the legislative body to provide a physical location from which the public may attend or comment.

(F) Notwithstanding Section 54953.3, an individual desiring to provide public comment through the use of an internet website, or other online platform, not under the control of the local legislative body, that requires registration to log in to a teleconference may be required to register as required by the third-party internet website or online platform to participate.

(G) (i) A legislative body that provides a timed public comment period for each agenda item shall not close the public comment period for the agenda item, or the opportunity to register, pursuant to subparagraph (F), to provide public comment until that timed public comment period has elapsed.

(ii) A legislative body that does not provide a timed public comment period, but takes public comment separately on each agenda item, shall allow a reasonable amount of time per agenda item to allow public members the opportunity to provide public comment, including time for members of the public to register pursuant to subparagraph (F), or otherwise be recognized for the purpose of providing public comment.

(iii) A legislative body that provides a timed general public comment period that does not correspond to a specific agenda item shall not close the public comment

period or the opportunity to register, pursuant to subparagraph (F), until the timed general public comment period has elapsed.

(3) If a state of emergency remains active, or state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, in order to continue to teleconference without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b), the legislative body shall, not later than 30 days after teleconferencing for the first time pursuant to subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of paragraph (1), and every 30 days thereafter, make the following findings by majority vote:

(A) The legislative body has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency.

(B) Any of the following circumstances exist:

(i) The state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person.

(ii) State or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

(4) For the purposes of this subdivision, “state of emergency” means a state of emergency proclaimed pursuant to Section 8625 of the California Emergency Services Act (Article 1 (commencing with Section 8550) of Chapter 7 of Division 1 of Title 2).

(f) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2024, and as of that date is repealed.

(Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 165, Sec. 3. (AB 361) Effective September 16, 2021. Repealed as of January 1, 2024, by its own provisions. See later operative version added by Sec. 4 of Stats. 2021, Ch. 165.)

BEFORE THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

RESOLUTION NO. 21-1

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION'S
FINDINGS PURSUANT TO ASSEMBLY BILL 361 AUTHORIZING TELECONFERENCE
MEETINGS AS A RESULT OF THE CONTINUING COVID-19 PANDEMIC STATE OF
EMERGENCY AND HEALTH OFFICER RECOMMENDATION FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING**

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Commission is a legislative body under the Brown Act as defined under Cal. Gov. Code section 54952(b) and Santa Cruz County Code Section 2.38.110; and

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 361 ("AB 361"), urgency legislation effective immediately, that amended Government Code section 54953 to permit legislative bodies subject to the Brown Act to continue to meet under modified teleconferencing rules provided that they comply with specific requirements set forth in the statute; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to AB 361 and Cal. Gov. Code section 54953(e)(1)(A), a legislative body may meet under the modified teleconferencing rules during a proclaimed state of emergency, and where local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a Proclamation of State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and which remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, on September 30, 2021, Santa Cruz County Public Health Officer Dr. Gail Newel strongly recommended that legislative bodies in Santa Cruz County continue to engage in physical/social distancing by meeting via teleconference as allowed by AB 361 and confirmed that she will regularly review and reconsider this recommendation and notify the public when it is no longer recommended; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to AB 361 and Cal. Gov. Code section 54953(e)(3), within 30 days of the date the legislative body first holding a teleconferenced meeting under the modified rules, and every 30 days thereafter, a legislative body can continue to hold such teleconference meetings provided it has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and determined either that the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person or that local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing; and

WHEREAS, on December 6, 2021, the Parks and Recreation Commission held initial teleconference meeting under AB 361; and

WHEREAS, this Commission has reconsidered the circumstances of the current state of emergency and finds that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to directly impact the ability of members of the public to participate safely in person and further finds that the Santa Cruz County Public Health Officer continues to recommend measures to promote social distancing; and

WHEREAS, in the interest of public health and safety, and due to the emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, the Parks and Recreation Commission deems it necessary to utilize the modified teleconferencing rules set forth in AB 361;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parks and Recreation Commission makings the following findings by a majority vote:

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct, and adopted as findings of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Section 2. Effective immediately, and for the next 30 days, the Parks and Recreation Commission will meet via teleconference as authorized under AB 361 and Government Code section 54953(e)(3).

Section 3. No later than thirty (30) days from making today’s findings, or at the next scheduled meeting, the Commission will reconsider the circumstances of the COVID-19 state of emergency and, if necessary, adopt subsequent findings to continue holding teleconference meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3).

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Parks and Recreation Commission in Santa Cruz, State of California, this ____ day of _____, 20__, by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

Chair, Parks and Recreation Commission

ATTEST: _____
Department Staff

Approved as to Form:

Office of the County Counsel

BEFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE OPAL CLIFFS RECREATION DISTRICT

RESOLUTION 21-1

A RESOLUTION TO INITIATE APPLICATION BY THE OPAL CLIFFS RECREATION DISTRICT REQUESTING THE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY TO PURSUE PROCEEDINGS FOR THE DISSOLUTION OF OPAL CLIFFS RECREATION DISTRICT AND CONCURRENT ANNEXATION OF THE DISSOLVED AREA INTO COUNTY SERVICE AREA 11

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Opal Cliffs Recreation District (“District”) desires to initiate proceedings pursuant to the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000, California Government Code Section 56000 et. seq. (“CKH Act”), and

WHEREAS, notice of intent to adopt this Resolution of Initiation has been given to each interested and affected local agency, including but not limited to County Service Area 11 (“Successor Agency”); and

WHEREAS, the affected territory proposed to be dissolved and concurrently annex into the Successor Agency is inhabited, and is constituted by the respective boundaries of the Opal Cliffs Community; and

WHEREAS, the reasons for the proposed dissolution and concurrent annexation are as follows:

- 1) It will facilitate the efficient delivery of park and recreation services to individuals and property owners within the affected territory; and
- 2) It will facilitate the continued provision of the current levels of service through the County.

WHEREAS, this Board anticipates that the proposed dissolution and concurrent annexation is categorically exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15320, which exempts the reorganization of local government agencies where the proposal does not change the geographical area in which previously existing powers are exercised; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Resolution of Initiation of reorganization proceedings as described is adopted and approved by the Board of Directors of the Opal Cliffs Recreation District.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Opal Cliffs Recreation District at a regular meeting thereof held on 17th of August 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: Replogle, Springbett, Irving

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:
Jenae Replogle

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JENAE REPLOGLE, BOARD CHAIR

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DocuSigned by:
Jenae Replogle

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JENAE REPLOGLE, BOARD CHAIR

WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE LISTING:

The Written Correspondence Listing is established to act as a report of materials received by the Commission as a whole, but may also include items requested for inclusion by individual Commissioners.

The Parks and Recreation Commission has received the following items of correspondence which require no official action by the Commission at this time:

1. Email and report from Jean Brocklebank, dated November 19, 2021 with research about signage at Scott Creek beach regarding dogs