

City of Gilroy
Parks and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 18, 2025 | 6:00 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order by Vice Chair Graham at 6:02 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Attendance	Attendee Name
Present	Theresa Graham, Vice Chair Luis Ramirez, Commissioner Salvatore Bozzo, Commissioner Emily Miller, Commissioner Javier Martinez, Commissioner Jesse Jimenez, Commissioner Jorge Vargas, Commissioner
Absent	None

3. **FLAG SALUTE**

4. **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

The meeting agenda was posted on February 13, 2025.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

5.1. January 21, 2025

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Luis Ramirez, Commissioner

SECONDER Sam Bozzo, Commissioner

AYES: Commissioner Graham, Commissioner Ramirez, Commissioner Bozzo, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Martinez, Commissioner Jimenez, Commissioner Vargas

6. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Luis Ramirez, Commissioner

SECONDER Jorge Vargas, Commissioner

AYES: Commissioner Graham, Commissioner Ramirez, Commissioner Bozzo, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Martinez, Commissioner Jimenez, Commissioner Vargas

7. **INTRODUCTIONS**

7.1. Jesse Jimenez
Emily Miller
Javier Martinez
Jorge Vargas

Each of the new commissioners introduced themselves and spoke about why they were interested in serving on the Parks and Recreation Commission.

8. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

None.

9. **COMMISSIONER ORIENTATION**

Staff liaison Henig reviewed the orientation for new commissioners as described in the meeting packet.

10. 10.1. **Selection of Chair and Vice-Chair of Parks and Recreation Commission**

Henig presented the staff report. Commissioner Vargas nominated Commissioner Ramirez to become Chair. Ramirez accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations. Vargas motioned to select Ramirez to serve as chair for the 2025 term. Commissioner Miller seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Jorge Vargas, Commissioner

SECONDER Emily Miller, Commissioner

AYES: Commissioner Graham, Commissioner Ramirez, Commissioner Bozzo, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Martinez, Commissioner Jimenez, Commissioner Vargas

Commissioner Vargas nominated Commissioner Martinez to become Vice Chair. Martinez accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations. Vargas motioned to select Martinez to serve as vice chair for the 2025 term. Commissioner Jimenez seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Jorge Vargas, Commissioner

SECONDER Jesse Jimenez, Commissioner

AYES: Commissioner Graham, Commissioner Ramirez, Commissioner Bozzo, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Martinez, Commissioner Jimenez, Commissioner Vargas

10.2. City of Gilroy's Fiscal Year 2026 and 2027 Budget Development

Henig presented the staff report. There were eleven public comments made by the following persons on this item:

- Cheryl Ellemberg – spoke about pickleball.
- Kadie Zollinger – spoke about pickleball.
- Keri Loesch – spoke about pickleball.
- Vijaya Bandavu – spoke about pickleball.
- Rob Rocha – spoke about pickleball.
- Matt Bell – spoke about pickleball.
- Carol Gonzalez – spoke about pickleball.
- Linda Clark – spoke about pickleball.
- Delores Tanaka – spoke about pickleball.
- Rob Rocha (#2) – time was yielded to speaker. spoke about pickleball.
- Vita – spoke about pickleball.

Following discussion, commissioners voiced their support to recommend these items for the next budget cycle (per guidelines set forth in the City Administrator's letter):

- Martinez – funding for park safety
- Vargas – funding for all-weather turf for soccer; park safety; and pickleball court
- Bozzo – funding for staff to facilitated access at South Valley Middle School's pickleball courts
- Ramirez – funding for pickleball court; park safety; better lighting at parks
- Miller – funding for pickleball court; a park master plan (including language about Economic Development); pickleball study
- Jimenez – funding for pickleball court; infrastructure improvements to Christmas Hill, Las Animas, San Ysidro

Commissioner Vargas motioned to table the budget development recommendation until the next regular meeting, which will be held in March. Martinez seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Jorge Vargas, Commissioner

SECONDER Javier Martinez, Commissioner

AYES: Commissioner Graham, Commissioner Ramirez, Commissioner Bozzo, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Martinez, Commissioner Jimenez, Commissioner Vargas

Staff Liaison Henig requested a short break at 7:53 p.m. Vice Chair Graham approved.

Graham reconvened at 8:01 p.m.

10.3. Parks and Recreation Commission Workplan for Fiscal Years 2026 and 2027

Henig presented the staff report. There was one public comment by Jan Guffey, who provided an update about the Earth Day event Christmas Hill Park in April. Commissioners proposed the following items be adopted to their next work plan:

- Ramirez – Arbor Day, Monitor park assignments, participate in citywide events, raise commission profile by hosting “Coffee in the Park,L” and better communication with other commissions.
- Miller – Monitor park assignments, participate in citywide events, establish a pickleball court, assess joint use agreements, and the beautification of parks and recreation
- Graham – Monitor park assignments,
- Bozzo – A second storywalk, raising money for youth scholarships, and establishing a pickleball court
- Vargas – Studying funding options for recreation services and supporting ongoing items such as monitor park assignments and Arbor Day
- Jimenez – Sponsoring Arbor Day, identifying park improvement possibilities, and studying funding options for parks and recreation.

Vargas motioned to table the adoption of the work plan for the next budget cycle until the next regular meeting, which will be in March. Martinez seconded. Motion pass 7-0-0.

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Jorge Vargas, Commissioner

SECONDER Javier Martinez, Commissioner

AYES: Commissioner Graham, Commissioner Ramirez, Commissioner Bozzo, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Martinez, Commissioner Jimenez, Commissioner Vargas

Due to time constraints, Ramirez motioned to skip items 11 and 12 and proceed to item 13. Martinez seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Luis Ramirez, Commissioner

SECONDER Javier Martinez, Commissioner

AYES: Commissioner Graham, Commissioner Ramirez, Commissioner Bozzo, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Martinez, Commissioner Jimenez, Commissioner Vargas

11. OLD BUSINESS

11.1. Review of FY24 and FY25 Parks and Recreation Commission Work Plan

12. DEPARTMENT UPDATES

12.1. Recreation Division Updates

12.2. Status of City Parks

13. **COMMISSIONER PARK REPORTS & COMMENTS**

13.1. **Park Assignments**

Commissioners assigned themselves the following park locations, where they will report back at each meeting on what they observe.

- Butcher – Ramirez
- Carriage Hills – Bozzo
- Christmas Hill Park & Ranch Site – Vargas
- Cydney Casper – Miller
- Del Rey – Miller
- El Roble – Ramirez
- Farrell – Jimenz
- Forest – Jimenz
- Gateway – Bozzo
- Gilroy Sports – Graham, Miller
- Hecker Pass – Vargas
- Las Animas – Vargas
- Los Arroyos – Martinez
- Miller – Bozzo
- Rainbow – Martinez, Graham
- Renz – Ramirez
- San Ysidro – Jimenez
- Sunrise – Ramirez

14. **STAFF COMMENTS**

15. **FUTURE COMMISSIONER INITIATED ITEMS**

16. **ADJOURNMENT**

Graham adjourned the meeting at 8:58 p.m.

AH

Adam Henig, Recreation Division
Recording Secretary