

**City of Gilroy**  
**Parks and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, May 16, 2023 | 6:00 PM**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order by Chair Ramirez at 6:00 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

| <b>Attendance</b> | <b>Attendee Name</b>                                                                                                                                                           |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Present           | Ermelindo Puente, Commissioner<br>Luis Ramirez, Chair<br>Pat Bentson, Vice Chair<br>Theresa Graham, Commissioner<br>Terence Fugazzi, Commissioner<br>Vince Sasso, Commissioner |
| Absent            | None                                                                                                                                                                           |

3. **FLAG SALUTE**

4. **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

The Parks and Recreation Commission agenda was posted online and posted in the City Hall kiosk on May 11, 2023.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

5.1. April 18, 2023

**RESULT: Pass**

**MOVER:** Pat Bentson, Vice Chair

**SECONDER** Ermelindo Puente, Commissioner

**AYES:** Vice Chair Bentson, Commissioner Fugazzi, Commissioner Graham, Commissioner Puente, Chair Ramirez, Commissioner Saso

6. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**RESULT: Pass**

**MOVER:** Pat Bentson, Vice Chair

**SECONDER** Ermelindo Puente, Commissioner

**AYES:** Vice Chair Bentson, Commissioner Fugazzi, Commissioner Graham, Commissioner Puente, Chair Ramirez, Commissioner Saso

7. **INTRODUCTIONS**

7.1. Angela Reinert, outgoing Parks & Recreation Commissioner (2020-2022)

Former Commissioner Angela Reinert was presented with a certificate of appreciation for her public service on the commission, 2020-2022.

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

None

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

9.1. **Appointment of a Representative to the Sourcewise Advisory Council with a Term Ending June 30, 2026.**

The candidates, Dyanne Hofstad and Carmel Trela, were introduced. Commissioners Ramirez, Fugazzi, Puente, Bentson, and Graham asked questions such as describing their professional background; what is their motivation for serving on the advisory council; and their experience with Gilroy's senior population. Both candidates were asked the same questions and each responded to them.

Chair Ramirez motioned to support Hofstad. Puente seconded. Motion passed unanimously to recommend Hofstad to Council, who will make the final decision on the appointment.

**RESULT: Pass**

**MOVER:** Luis Ramirez, Chair

**SECONDER** Ermelindo Puente, Commissioner

**AYES:** Vice Chair Bentson, Commissioner Fugazzi, Commissioner Graham, Commissioner Puente, Chair Ramirez, Commissioner Saso

10. **OLD BUSINESS**

10.1. **Review of 2023 Parks & Recreation Commission Work Plan**

Here are the following updates to the work plan:

- **Training opportunities:** Bentson and Ramirez participated in the Volunteer Leader Roundtable workshop offered through the National Association of Park Foundations.
- **Coffee in the Park:** The Thursday evening event has been rescheduled for June 22. The Saturday event will remain in the same (6/24 at 11am). Henig spoke with Gilroy PD and they will be able to provide an officer.
- **Participate in Citywide Events:** Bentson participated in the Day of the Child event on April 29. Puente assisted Santa Clara County Public Health with their active transportation grant.
- **VTA Measure B** – Fugazzi, Puente, and Sasso have offered to assist tabling at the annual Bike to Wherever Day event on May 18 at the levee at Christmas Hill Park.
- **Study dog parks:** The dog park committee (Fugazzi, Graham, and Puente) met and made recommendations to the Council for budget consideration. A memo was drafted by Henig that was based on their recommendations and was submitted to the City Administrator. The recommendations included the following:
  - Three 20-foot-tall specimen trees (\$6k each) = \$18,000
  - Three 6-foot long, steel seat cast bench (\$2k each) = \$6,000

- One 46-inch 4-person picnic table with umbrella insert = \$2,000
- Concrete pad to provide foundation for additional seating = \$24,000

## 11. **DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

### 11.1. Recreation Division Updates

Henig reviewed the report enclosed in the meeting packet.

### 11.2. Status of City Parks

Henig reviewed the parks and recreation-related Capital Improvement Projects that were included in the City's proposed budget that will likely be approved.

## 12. **BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ENCOURAGEMENT & EDUCATION**

Bernosky is preparing for the Bike to Wherever Day event at Gilroy Gardens.

## 13. **COMMISSIONER PARK REPORTS & COMMENTS**

Bentson –

- Del Rey – uneven cement issues along the walkway along Calle Del Rey
- Cydney Casper – looks good; lots of activity; hopscotch printed.

Fugazzi

- Carriage Hills – Good shape. Rubber surface at playground is worn; chipped paint; tripping hazard by pergola
- Sunrise – noticed a sprinkler problem by the tennis courts; inquired if a poop can be installed near the poop bags for dog owners
- Recommended a recycle can be installed at every park

Graham

- Hecker Pass – well maintained; plants need more water.
- El Roble – Looks fine
- Rainbow – noticed a leak; trees on Mantelli look like they were torched
- Sports Park – impressive

Puente

- El Roble – motorcycle riders on grass
- Butcher, Miller, Renz – look good
- Las Animas – flag was replaced but light is still out. Graffiti
- Christmas Hill Park – camping/homeless near Milas area

Sasso

- Forest – looks nice; noticed exposed wires
- Los Arroyos – clean

## 14. **STAFF COMMENTS**

### 14.1. Park Concessionaire – Update

Henig informed Commission that this topic is tabled until Council approves new ordinance.

15. **FUTURE COMMISSIONER INITIATED ITEMS**

16. **ADJOURNMENT**

Ramirez adjourned meeting at 7:16 p.m.

**AH**

Adam Henig, Recreation Division  
Recording Secretary