

City of Gilroy
Parks and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 20, 2023 | 6:00 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

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

2. **ROLL CALL**

Attendance	Attendee Name
Present	Ermelindo Puente, Commissioner Luis Ramirez, Chair Pat Bentson, Vice Chair Terence Fugazzi, Commissioner Vince Sasso, Commissioner
Absent	Theresa Graham, Commissioner

3. **FLAG SALUTE**

4. **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

The Parks and Recreation Commission agenda was posted online and posted in the City Hall kiosk on June 15, 2023.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

5.1. May 16, 2023

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Luis Ramirez, Chair

SECONDER Ermelindo Puente, Commissioner

AYES: Commissioner Bentson, Commissioner Fugazzi, Commissioner Puente, Chair Ramirez, Commissioner Saso

ABSENT: Commissioner Graham

6. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Pat Bentson, Commissioner

SECONDER Ermelindo Puente, Commissioner

AYES: Commissioner Bentson, Commissioner Fugazzi, Commissioner Puente, Chair Ramirez, Commissioner Saso

ABSENT: Commissioner Graham

7. **INTRODUCTIONS**

None.

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

Morgan Hill resident Terry Nemoff discussed the need for Gilroy to build more pickleball courts given the sport's increased popularity in recent years.

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

9.1. **Proposed 2016 VTA Measure B Encouragement and Education for Fiscal Year 2024.**

As part of the funding requirements for the 2016 VTA Measure B Education and Encouragement Fund, the Commission needed to approve an annual list of proposed bicycle and pedestrian projects for fiscal year 2024. Henig explained how the projects slightly differed from the previous year. For example, the City wants to support more than just the Bike to Wherever Day; wants to support or create multiple events to encourage bicycle and pedestrian activities.

There were questions about the background of the program and why these two projects were taken. Henig recommended the Commission support the proposed projects.

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Luis Ramirez, Chair

SECONDER Pat Bentson, Commissioner

AYES: Commissioner Bentson, Commissioner Fugazzi, Commissioner Puente, Chair Ramirez, Commissioner Saso

ABSENT: Commissioner Graham

10. **OLD BUSINESS**

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

Here are the following updates to the work plan:

- **Coffee in the Park** – The committee, comprised of Chair Ramirez and Commissioner Puente, met with Staff Henig to discuss the details of the event. Since the meeting occurred one week before the scheduled date of June 24, it was agreed upon to postpone Coffee in the Park to Saturday, July 29. Everything else will stay the same—having a police officer present, translator, and event format. Also, the location will be in the Oaks/playground area.
- **Participate in Citywide events** – Commissioners Puente, Saso, and Fugazzi volunteered for Bike to Wherever Day at the Commission's booth on the levee on May 18. Fugazzi also assisted with the May 20 creek clean-up. Puente was involved in the County's Public Health Department's public active transportation campaign.
- **Study Dog Parks** – The Council agreed to fund the proposed dog park project at Third Street Park, however, a specific dollar amount was not provided. Council agreed to allocate \$100,000 for general park improvements. The Commission has requested that it would like to be engaged on how the monies will be spent. They are requesting the Public Works Department provide a list of potential projects that would be considered, including the Commission's dog park proposal. Bentson asked if current hazards (i.e. uneven pavement issues at Del Rey Park) would be considered for this funding too. The Commission would like to review the list and provide a recommendation.
- **Monitor City Parks** – Commissioners requested to submit a brief write-up about a different city park each month to be featured in the city's

weekly e-newsletter. Henig will discuss with the City's Communication Engagement Manager.

11. **DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

11.1. Recreation Division Updates

Henig reviewed the report enclosed in the meeting packet.

11.2. Status of City Parks

Henig provided an update about the ongoing Gilroy Sports Park playground resurfacing project, which began on June 12.

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

No update.

13. **COMMISSIONER PARK REPORTS & COMMENTS**

The commissioners provided the following updates:

- Puente –
 - Renz and San Ysidro Park – look good. SYP was busy
 - Miller Park – Street lamp is out at park.
 - Other utility issues
 - St. Mary's Church – street light lamp is out; alley has potholes.
 - Luchessa (near Automall) – sidewalk is blocked to pedestrian
- Fugazzi
 - Carriage Hills
 - Tripping hazard inside pergola
 - Playground foam is torn (needs to be addressed)
 - Sunrise
 - Broken sprinklers causing leak near tennis court and southside of park; leaving puddles
 - Noticed there's a sidewalk tripping hazard.
 - Cydney Casper
 - Tress lifting sidewalk
 - Las Animas
 - Trash enclosure should be replaced with new one (it's not in good shape and being used for possible illegal activity)
- Saso
 - Los Arroyos – walked around; looks good
 - Forest – Northeast side of park the light is always on
- Bentson
 - Cydney Casper – park looks good; hop scotch is faded; sidewalk tripping hazard
 - Del Rey – Fix cerement that is uneven. surrounding playground area needs mulch
 - Christmas Hill – Evidence of homeless cooking/using fire on new trail at Glen Loma side (leads to Miller Road). Concerned it could ignite a fire. There's a Redwood tree that appears to be dead on Miller Road, standing on the Ranch Site.
- Ramirez

- Las Animas – no update
- Sports Park – Looks good.

14. STAFF COMMENTS

Henig reminded the Commission about the Commission's presentation to Council on August 7.

15. FUTURE COMMISSIONER INITIATED ITEMS

Fugazzi requested two items be brought up at a future Commission meeting:

1. Requesting the Commission be involved with reviewing the proposed improvements that were recently awarded by Congress through Representative Zoe Lofgren's office. Henig explained the grant is tied to a project that had already been reviewed by not only the Commission, but community groups and city staff. The original plan was submitting for funding through the Proposition 68 grant program (it was denied). Henig will provide a status update at the next meeting.
2. Requesting to have the Parks and Recreation Commission involved with the Downtown Committee's Pop-up Park project on Seventh and Monterey. The Commission has not been involved in the planning of the site. Henig explained that it's under the Downtown Committee's jurisdiction (not the Commission's).

16. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Ramirez adjourned the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

AH

Adam Henig, Recreation Division
Recording Secretary