

City of Tulare
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Tuesday, May 10, 2022 6:30 a.m.
MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Tulare Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at 6:36 a.m. by Chairperson Craig Hancock at the Claude Meitzenheimer Community Center.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Craig Hancock, Eric Farrenkopf, Lori Fishbough, Nick Sherwood, Mike Jamaica, Armando DaSilva

STAFF PRESENT: Jason Glick, Ivan Nicar, Brian Beck, Diana Smith

CITIZENS PRESENT: None

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Lori Fishbough.

III. CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS

None.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR

(1) Approve Commission minutes of February 08, 2022 regular meeting

It was motioned by Commissioner Farrenkopf, seconded by Commissioner Sherwood, and unanimously carried that the minutes of March 8, 2022 be approved as presented.

VI. SCHEDULED CITIZEN OR GROUP PRESENTATIONS

None.

VII. GENERAL BUSINESS

(1) Review and recommend approval of Master Fees and Charges Schedule and Salary Rates for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Recreation Manager Brian Beck went over the changes in Master Fees and Charges as follows: Prosperity Sports Park will be first come, first serve, general park use fees were changed to be more consistent, Splash ball replaced Water Polo, and the Golf program was removed. The B.E.S.T. program is still \$300 for fall semester and \$300 for spring semester but will be funded by the school district. The school district will reimburse us at the end of the semester. There will be a meeting tomorrow about registration. The commission discussed this change, and Brian informed them it will not affect the way we run the program and funding will still go into the B.E.S.T. account. The school district does want education requirements to be met by our part-time staff and will work with us on that. Craig spoke about why B.E.S.T. is a great program.

It was motioned by Chairperson Hancock, seconded by Commissioner Fishbough, and unanimously carried that the Master Fees and Charges Schedule for fiscal year 2022-2023 be approved as presented.

Brian gave an overview of changes to salary rates. There have been changes to make each step a 50 cents difference. As for the Youth/Senior Youth Recreation Leader, those were increased to be competitive with the HEART program.

It was motioned by Commission Sherwood, seconded by Commissioner Jamaica and unanimously carried that the Part-time and Seasonal Employee Wage Rates for fiscal year 2022-2023 be approved as presented.

(2) **Administrative items – Jason Glick**

City staff has been putting the budget together. Next fiscal year's budget reflects a non-pandemic year. There will be a presentation of the budget on Tuesday, June 7, 2022.

The survey for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan is out. The next special meeting will be on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 5 p.m. at the Library. The first part of the meeting will be about Zumwalt Park and the City Manager will do a presentation on what the public wants. Chairperson Hancock speaks on this subject and expresses his belief that there are better ways of spending that money. Director Jason Glick continues speaking about the special meeting and explains that the second part of the meeting will be the about the Master Plan and will discuss the results of the survey, the dog park, pickleball courts as well as other park amenities.

(3) **Recreation reports for March and April, and Upcoming Events – Brian**

B.E.S.T. went up by 10 between March and April. This year's Spring Carnival was one of the best we have had, as we had 1200 participants. Dance has

been going well. Both Little Sluggers and Little Tumblers had an increase in numbers. Tumbling has high cost recovery but Hollie will be needing to buy more supplies. Staff has been working on aquatics, which will ramp up on the 13th of June.

Bingo and dance just started at the senior center and it was great. There was a great turn out for Bingo where over 100 meals were given out. Ashlee has been doing great with that program.

(4) Staff report on Park Maintenance Operations & Projects – Ivan

In March, the department completed a transient encampment cleanup at Centennial Park and Bardsley Underpass and Bardsley Landscape. Vandalized trash receptacles and mitt dispensers were repaired at the Santa Fe trail. Palm trees were pruned at Prosperity Sports Park as well as Palm Ranch, Woodside, and Cambridge. A white plastic fence line was removed at Valley Estates, Montecito, and Sherwood area and was replaced with a black chain-link fence. There was a tree removal project completed at Blackstone Greenway and Blackstone Parkway in March. Trees were pruned along Bardsley Avenue at Cesar Chavez Park and around the building and parking lot at Tulare Public Library.

In April, trees were pruned on Avenue 200, Elk Bayou Park. Vandalized playground equipment was replaced at Sunrise park. The southeast side of Del Lago Park by the lake was cleaned up and 15 trees were planted on Arbor Day. At Parkwood Meadows, overgrown pine trees on the southwest corner were pruned. The department removed graffiti by pavilion at Zumwalt Park and also replaced BBQ grills at Live Oak, Blain, and Bender Park. Though it was listed as upcoming projects, the tree pruning at Blackstone Parkway along Sonora to Bardsley was just completed. For upcoming projects, there will be tree pruning at California Ranchos, Cottonwood Estates District, Valley Estates, Montecito, and Sherwood North District. After a two-month delay, we received the approved encroachment permit and will be doing tree pruning on Tulare Avenue Street Median.

VIII. ITEMS OF COMMISSION INTEREST

Commissioner Farrenkopf acknowledged and gave a shout out to the City Parks and Recreation staff in preparing for the Tulare Band and Orchestra event that happened in March. He stated it went so great that Superintendent Hollingshead from Tulare City School District would like to expand it in the future to include a lunch time concert series with their jazz band. There were about 50 parents that came out to listen to their kids. It was an incredible event and thanks the department. Commissioner Farrenkopf gave an update on concerts in the park. Eager Studios will underwrite four concerts this year which will include Brass Band, Community Band, Stage Band, and the Portuguese

Philharmonic and will start next Wednesday. Flyers will be going out soon.

Commissioner Sherwood expressed concern and requested a report on the Park Ranger activities so we are able to see what activities he is doing. Jason and Ivan explain that some of his biggest duties are to communicate with transients and also other departments. He also assists in some park maintenance and is very skilled in that. It was requested he come to the next regular meeting to be introduced to everyone. He will also soon be patrolling the Tower Square Building as well as Cal Ripken ballpark.

Chairperson Hancock inquired as to how the project at Zumwalt Park came about. Jason answered that it was originally brought up during AARPA fund projects and the idea was to focus on revitalizing downtown and create economic impact to the city at Zumwalt Park. Chairperson stated he has some concerns as to whether anything needs to be changed there. He stated there was originally an amphitheater there that was taken out, so feels it would not benefit the community to put one in again. He states he does not see the need for any changes at that particular park. He continued stating that the funding could help with other areas and will need to be convinced on how putting it in to Zumwalt Park will benefit the community.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Hancock at 7:33 a.m.