
City of Hollister Parks and Recreation Commission

MEETING MINUTES
January 27, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Jason Ballew called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson Jason Ballew, Commissioners Laura Miller and Marlene Medina

Absent: Commissioner Robert Kutz

Also Absent: Recreation Supervisor Tina Garza (excused)

Also Present: Recreation Supervisor Tina Garza, Recreation Coordinator Trisha Lee, City Manager Bill Avera, Acting Community Services Director Mike Chambless

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairperson Jason Ballew led the Commission in the pledge of Allegiance.

VERIFICATION OF AGENDA POSTING

Recreation Supervisor Tina Garza informed the Commission that the agenda for the January 27, 2015 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was posted at both the Hollister Community Center and City Hall on January 22, 2015 per Government Code Section 54954.2.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Chairperson Jason Ballew reminded the Commission that there were no previous meeting minutes to approve since there was no quorum from the previous meeting of October 28, 2014.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Robin Pollard, a resident of Hill Street, informed the Commission that was a dead pine tree at Park Hill and would like to have the wood chips from the tree dropped in the Park Hill Community Garden, if possible. Also, REACH voted to go forward with the stairs project at Vista Park Hill, on the South end. Robin, and REACH, are soliciting support for the project. There needs to be discussion on whether the stairs are handicapped exempt due to steepness. There are a lot of questions that need to be answered before applying for the grant. Robin has asked that the Vista Park Hill stair project be put on the next agenda for February.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Veterans Memorial Skate Park update** –
City Manager Bill Avera informed the Commission held off on giving an update on the skate park until the reports section of the Parks and Recreation meeting in order to avoid repeating information.
2. **Breakfast with Santa 30th Anniversary; December 6, 2014** -
Recreation Coordinator Trisha Lee informed the Commission that the 30th Annual Breakfast with Santa was a huge hit. The event fed about 520 individuals, including volunteers. There was a constant line for pictures with Santa and the Arts and Crafts tables were also very busy. Some additional activities for the anniversary was a jump house, face painting, Mrs. Clause and each child got a toy, as well as bean-bag-toss. There were a lot of great comments about the event from community members.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Parks and Recreation Commission Expectations, Roles, Policy and Order** –
City Manager Bill Avera provided the Commission with a PowerPoint that highlighted what to expect and how to properly act as a Commissioner and as a representative of the City of Hollister. City Manager Bill Avera wanted to make sure that everyone started off the New Year on the right foot.
2. **Skate Spots** –
City Manager Bill Avera provided the Commission with a Resolution for the City Council recommending the addition of two new skate spots at Dunne Park and Tony Aguirre Memorial Park. The Commission, as well as a few attending community members, thought the skate spots were a great idea and the resolution was adopted.

Commissioner Laura Miller made a motion to adopt Resolution PRC2015-1 which recommends the addition of two new skate parks to City of Hollister Parks. Commissioner Marlene Medina second the motion and all were in favor. The Motion passed 3-0-1.
3. **Park Improvements** –
Acting Community Services Director Mike Chambless informed the Commission of the replacements/additions of parks to the City of Hollister parks. Las Brisas Park was in the process of being replaced by a much safer (physically and visually) park structure. The next park that was going to be added to the park list was at the Airport Dog Park. Once that park play structure was completed, the large Vista Park Hill play structure and

the additions to the Valley View (Whale) Park would be completed. Mike hopes the Vista Park Hill structure will be a 2015 Christmas present to the City, while Valley View Park's improvements and additions need to be completed by July 1, 2015 as part of the CIP program.

4. PAL Activities –

Recreation Coordinator Trisha Lee informed the Commission of the current and upcoming PAL Activities. Hollister Recreation and PAL have been accepted to the Jr. Giants T-Ball/Baseball league sponsored by the Giants Community Foundation. It is a free program that participants ages 5-13 are invited to sign up for. The program has a learning/education component that helps lead each participant to be a successful, contributing community member. PAL is also sponsoring a PAL vs. Retired NFL/NBA Players basketball game on February 20th with all proceeds going to San Benito County PAL activities.

REPORTS

- 1. Veteran's Memorial Skate Park Plans-** City Manager Bill Avera provided the Commission with a PowerPoint that entailed different configurations of a Pump Track. The slides showed the different ways the track could be set up in order to please all the different track users (BMX, skate boarders, scooters, etc.) City Manager Bill Avera let the Commission know that there is a current Lease Agreement with the County, but will need to take any approved plans to the County Veteran's Commission, as well as the County Public Works Department.

There were a few community members who had comments regarding the Pump Track. Gail Hernandez, Kidz Crew/Social Vocational Club, said that she didn't think the Pump Track would be a good addition since it would cater to the younger population. Gail said that it's more of a race track than to perform tricks on, which is what the kids are looking for. Gail's vision is for a skate park facility with half pipes, spines, etc.

Andrew Casarez and Nathan Parra let the Commission know that as avid skate park users, they would like to see a box jump, a half pipe and a spine added to the existing structure.

Paul Casarez let the Commission know that he didn't know the Pump Track would be beneficial at all and that a half pipe is a necessity.

Chairperson Ballew mentioned that he grew up skating and his favorite structure was the half pipe. He would like to see one added.

Commissioner Miller would like to see more community input before making a decision on what structure(s) to add. Commissioner Miller said that with all the time and effort that has gone into researching what would be the best addition, if the kids don't get what they want it will all have been for nothing.

The Veteran's Memorial Skate Park Plans were tabled with the idea that more research will go into finding a structure that works for everyone.

City Manager Bill Avera mentioned that a special meeting inviting the community and the kids that use the skate park would be a good idea in order to get ideas of what everyone is looking for.

Lastly, Lisa Casarez let the Commission know that she thinks the parks need to be better mowed, kept up and maintained. She said that there is no use in putting more money into a park if it's going to "continue to look as bad."

2. **San Benito County Parks and Recreation Commission Update** - Sara Fontanos provided the Commission with an update on the recent activities of the San Benito County Parks and Recreation Commission.
3. **Recreation Program Review** - Recreation Supervisor Tina Garza provided the Commission with a brief review of the month's Recreation Division activities.
4. **Parks Division Review** - Executive Secretary provided the Commission with a monthly report of the Parks Division's activities

Next Meeting – Recreation Coordinator Trisha Lee informed the Commission that the next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission would be held on Tuesday, February 23, 2015.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Parks and Recreation Commission. Chairperson Ballew made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m. Second was by Commissioner Miller. Motion passed 3-0 with Commissioner Kutz absent.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trisha Lee, Recreation Coordinator
Parks and Recreation Commission