

**MINUTES
HANFORD PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

**SPECIAL MEETING
APRIL 4, 2016**

Parks and Recreation Commissioner WILLIS called the Regular Meeting to order in the Hanford Council Chambers, 400 N. Douty Street, Hanford, California at 4:01 p.m.

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

FORTE, SCHWARTZ, SHOOP, STODDARD, WILLIS

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT

NONE

ADVISORY MEMBERS PRESENT

Parks and Recreation Director Miller
Park Superintendent Dias

ADVISORY MEMBERS ABSENT

Council Member Ramirez

STAFF PRESENT

Recreation Supervisor daSilva, Recreation Supervisor Chavez, Administrative Technician Venegas

PUBLIC COMMENT

Any person may directly address the Commission at this time on any item on the agenda, or on any item that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. A maximum of five (5) minutes are allowed for each speaker.

Commissioner WILLIS opened the floor for any public comment. There were none.

CONSENT CALENDAR

All Items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion. For discussion on any item on the Consent Calendar, it will be removed at the request of any member of the Commission or any person in the audience and made a part of the regular agenda.

There were none.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Arbor Day 2016 – Discussion

Parks Superintendent Dias gave a brief update of Arbor Day 2016. He stated Arbor Day is scheduled for April 14, 2016 at 1:15 pm and the location to plant the trees this year is the Hanford Municipal Airport. He stated John F. Kennedy Elementary School students are scheduled to come out and participate in planting Red Oak trees at the Airport.

2. Freedom Park Fall Surfacing Options

Parks and Recreation Director Miller gave a history of Freedom Park. He stated Freedom Park began land acquisition and design in FY 04/05 and was completed in FY- 07 for a total cost of \$3,965,662.14. The playground cost for the park was \$330,040.81 with \$97,551.25 being contributed for the playground through the Endless Dreams Trust Account to help with costs to the city. Over time the city has made repairs to the rubber surface with one of the repairs being done under warranty; where the seams were splitting and some minor holes to the surface where it had been picked apart or vandalized. With the rubber surfacing failing and becoming noncompliant for falls, staff started looking into repairing or replacing the rubber surface. During the review of the Capital Improvement Project Plan (CIP) in 2014 staff looked at it from a cost issue and a maintenance issue. The cost for resurfacing the pour in place were much higher and would be an ongoing cost every 7 - 10 years to resurface. One option was the removal of the pour in place and install wood fiber which would still offer the ADA accessibility, greater fall rating and less ongoing costs to the city. The wood fiber was presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission with the Parks and Recreation Capital Improvement Projects and later approved by City Council with the FY-17 CIP Budget. Staff began work on the project on March 9, 2016 and work was halted on March 11, 2016 for review after residents voiced concerns over the project. The playground is temporarily closed until a decision can be made as to the fall surfacing that will be installed. He stated there are two possible fiscal impacts both from the "ACO" Accumulated Capital Outlay fund: Option one would be \$35,000 which is currently budgeted in the FY-17 Capital Improvement Project to install the wood fiber, and Option two would be a budget appropriation of \$115,000 to include a 10% construction contingency for replacement of the pour in place rubber surfacing. Staff recommends that the Parks and Recreation Commission, by motion make a recommendation on one of the playground surfacing options for Freedom Park Playground.

- * Council Member Ramirez arrived at the Parks and Recreation Commission Special Meeting at 5:16 p.m.

Commissioner SCHWARTZ stated he visited Freedom Park to walk on the Rubber Surface material; and for comparison visited a park that contained the Wood Fiber material and informed commission that he believes the Wood Fiber material would soften his fall.

Motion was made by Commissioner FORTE, seconded by Commissioner WILLIS to recommend to city council to reinstall the Rubber material to Freedom Park Playground surface with Rubber material.

AYES:	FORTE, WILLIS, SHOOP, STODDARD
NOES:	SCHWARTZ
NOES:	NONE
ABSTAIN:	NONE

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Parks Superintendent Dias gave an update of the Courthouse brick project that was presented to commission approximately one year ago. He stated bids proposals were submitted for this project; bids received from contractors were much higher than expected. The Courthouse brick project is currently pending due to the Bastille renovation project. These two project were incorporated and after the Bastille project begins and Edison has completed trenching to include power to the Bastille then the Courthouse brick project will commence.

Parks and Recreation Director Miller stated our regular scheduled monthly meeting is next Monday, April 11, 2016, currently staff has no agenda items to include for discussion on the agenda; and asked commission desired to hold the scheduled meeting or cancel. He informed commission that he is scheduled to be out of town at a conference on that date.

Commissioners unanimously agreed to cancel the April 11, 2016 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

Parks Superintendent Dias gave commission an update of the donated shelter and bench from Paws and Claws. He stated the group began the project and are in the process of installing the shelter which will include a bench within the dog park section.

COMMISSIONERS ITEMS OF INTEREST

Commissioner STODDARD thanked staff for replacing the benches at Coe Park.

Commissioner FORTE stated her daughter uses the dog park at Freedom Park and stated that visitors walking their dog would like the city to consider placing a water faucet within the enclosure to the dog park area. She stated currently dog owners are exiting the dog park area to retrieve water for their pets.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4:35 p.m., Commissioner WILLIS adjourned the Hanford Parks and Recreation Commission Special meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betty A. Venegas
Administrative Technician