



**Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting
Minutes**

**October 14, 2024 5:30 PM
Council Chambers
400 N. Douty St.**

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Commissioner Blackwell called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

ROLL CALL:

Present:	Absent:
Parks and Recreation Commissioner Joseph Castaneda Parks and Recreation Commissioner Carolyn Hudgins Parks and Recreation Commissioner Gregory Kelley Parks and Recreation Commissioner Judy Scott Parks and Recreation Commissioner Sheldon Blackwell Parks and Recreation Commissioner (Alternate) Santiago Rodriguez	

INVOCATION:

No invocation was provided for this meeting.

FLAG SALUTE:

Flag salute led by Chair Commissioner Blackwell.

A. Richard Douglas Representing the Elks Club-Presentation of American Flags

Mr. Douglas presented 3 new flags for the department. He suggested that Lacey Park would be a good place to place one.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

This is the time for citizens to comment on subject matters not on the agenda and that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. This is also the public's opportunity to request an item from the Consent Calendar be pulled for discussion purposes or to comment on any item on the agenda. A maximum of three minutes is allowed for each speaker. Please begin your comments by stating your name and providing your city of residence

No public comments were provided during the meeting.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Consent Calendar items are considered routine and will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these matters unless a request is made and then the item will be removed from the Consent Calendar to be discussed and voted upon by a separate motion.

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes for: September 9th, 2024.

Motion to Approve

RESULT:	Passed (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Parks and Recreation Commissioner Carolyn Hudgins
SECONDER:	Parks and Recreation Commissioner Judy Scott
AYES:	Joseph Castaneda, Carolyn Hudgins, Gregory Kelley , Judy Scott, Sheldon Blackwell

DIVISION UPDATES:

A. Programs and Events Updates

Staff informed members that Haunted House has been canceled due to safety concerns at the Courthouse in Civic Park. Did state that the Halloween Bash, which is being led by separate vendor, will still host their event in the Courthouse patio. Presented that trunk or treat will happen at Longfield and that 15 trunks are confirmed. Staff also mentioned that Tour of Lights is scheduled to go live on 10-21-24 and great interest is present from community. Presented information for the Renaissance Faire that 3,850 tickets were sold and received positive feedback from vendors and community.

Questions from Commission:

Hudgins: asked what the route for the tour of lights is and what is included with the ride? Staff answered that the route is preselected by the driver, it's a safe route, lasts an hour, and can fit 12 people.

Kelley: mentioned that he asked community attending the event of their experience and they stated that it was a good feedback and the cost wasn't hindering the community.

Castaneda: inquired about the homeless issue, regarding the haunted house. Director Albert went into detail on the closure of the haunted house and how the homeless entering the area led the closure.

B. Parks Updates

Staff presented helping hands event and what was completed. Staff also stated that the splash pads were officially closed for the season. Staff presented what they did for the Ren Fair, responsible for setting up fencing, and mentioned that softball complex was cleaned up: trees trimmed and preparation for the Green Latinos USDA Forestry event.

Questions/Comments from Commissioners:

Hudgins: asked where independence park was located, staff updated her on its location.

Castaneda: asked about the basketball netting missing and status of them at Lacey Park, asked about the wiring netting. Staff responded that the wire nets were not allowing the ball to pass through and balls would get stuck, made choice to remove. He also asked about the water fountain at Civic Park. Staff stated that filtration systems restrict water flow.

C. Directors' Updates

Director reviewed: Hanford goes green media event being held on 10/16/24 at the Hanford Softball Complex. Updated members on Hero's Park and the community outreach that has been completed and upcoming for pickleball and community garden. Updated members on Active Transportation Plan, and that they are in the 2nd round of community engagement, plans on having a draft plan to commission in December. Updated members on Winter Wonderland: prep dates were provided, arrival dates of ice rink provided, and online tickets go on sale 11-1-24, did also mention Santa Experience is under construction.

Commission Questions/Comments:

Hudgins: stated she is excited about the ATP plan and where the trails will be going.

Scott: asked about the YAC Restrooms. Director Albert stated that project is delayed due to a switchgear, SOCAL Edison is heading that project, 8-9 month lead time.

Castaneda: asked about partnerships with Amtrak, Director Albert stated that he is open to all partnerships for Winter Wonderland and is in discussions with them.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

A. Approval of Tree Removal Permit for 510 Grangeville Blvd, Hanford CA 93230.

Motion was made by Greg Kelley to approve the tree removal request, no 2nd motion was presented, did not go to role call vote. Approval request failed.

B. Park of the Month-Quail Park

Staff presented the park of the month, provided detail on staff who care for park as well as the size and amenities in the park.

Commissioners Questions/Comments:

Castaneda: asked if we have soccer teams who use the park as fields? Staff responded that no formal permitting has been requested by community for field permit use, informally organizing use of the space.

C. Boys and Girls Club Annual Update- Presented by Unit Director

Director Galvan presented the Boys and Girls Club annual update: provided programming, attendance, highlights, and photos.

Commission Questions/Comments:

Kelley: asked if club has special hours during breaks for children/teens? Galvan responded that they do have special hours for the breaks and summers. Also asked about outreach to middle schools? Galvan responded that most of their members are in high school 14-16 but they do have partnerships with those middle schools to table during their lunches and other events.

Castaneda: asked what the attendance numbers are looking like? Galvan responded that they average 12-15 kids daily. Blackwell: asked why attendance is low? Galvan responded that having issues getting into the schools to increase notice of club as well as retention issues from members. Informed members that a retention plan and outreach plan is developed and currently being used.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

No future items to report.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting ended at 7:06pm.