

**CITY OF CAMPBELL
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
CAMPBELL, CALIFORNIA
February 1, 2023
MINUTES**

The Parks and Recreation Commission convened for its regular meeting on Wednesday, February 1, 2023, at 7:00 pm, Council Chambers.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Beitz, Doherty, Fidrych, Ishibashi, Mitchell (via zoom)

ABSENT:

STAFF: Recreation and Community Services Director Natasha Bissell, Public Works Director Todd Capurso, Recording Secretary Rebekah Rodriguez

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MSC: Ishibashi/Doherty to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission of November 2, 2022.

AYES: Beitz, Doherty, Fidrych, Ishibashi, Mitchell

ABSTAIN: None

NOES: None

Presentations:

NONE.

Oral Requests:

Alan Zisser, Ex-Civic Improvement Commissioner, spoke about his concerns regarding the Canadian geese population at Campbell Park.

Unfinished Business:

NONE.

New Business:

- A. Virginia Park Playground Improvement** – Public Works Director, Todd Capurso mentioned that the playground structure has failed and there is a need to replace the equipment at this park sooner rather than later since the community is without their neighborhood park. He then introduced Ron Taormina, Acting Superintendent. Ron gave a quick background of the park and showed a power point presentation of what the current conditions are and what is proposed for the new play structure. He also talked about the play structure theme and all the different accessories that could be included. Approval from the Commission was requested prior to moving forward to Council for their approval as well to begin work on the improvement of the playground. The warranty of the proposed structure is 100 years. The work would be done in-house to remove the structure, the fiber and the footings. It is a small park but it's in a nice neighborhood and used regularly.

Comments by the public were introduced. Members of the community came to say that they use the park all the time as they have a three-year-old and another baby on the way and they are very excited by the proposed new improvements. They like the area and are always there but

now they are going to the John D Morgan Park in the meantime. They do like the park improvements that were shown this evening.

Commissioners all had favorable comments about the proposed new play structure/improvements and how it is a good idea to move forward in a timely manner; and they all agree that it is an appropriate time to improve this park.

MSC: Ishibashi/Doherty to support staff recommendation of the Virginia Improvement Project.

AYES: Beitz, Doherty, Fidrych, Ishibashi, Mitchell

ABSTAIN: None

NOES: None

- B. Special Event Policy** – Recreation and Community Services Director, Natasha Bissell brought to the commissioners the special event policy to make improvements to the policy. She highlighted the parks that would be used as potential locations for special events.

Commissioner Doherty brought to the attention that John D. Morgan Park was not on the list and Natasha responded that due to the heavy use of the park for regular activities it will not be added to the list.

Alan Zisser did mention that after reviewing the draft, notices the chart that shows what is allowed and not allowed and noticed the food sales at parks. He mentioned that food trucks would not seem unreasonable in the parking lots and would like to see if it would be possible to have food trucks under certain conditions. Natasha mentioned that food sales bring issues with the health department. This is monitored by the Community Development Department, and it will be reviewed as it is constantly being requested.

Commissioner Beitz did ask about the parking lot at John D Morgan on the Budd side. He stated that there are many vehicles always parked there and would like to know what is happening in that parking lot and says that no one knows why but is concerned about it. Natasha responded that it could be all the park users who do use it and it could also be the residents across the street park there even though there are no overnight parking signs and should be monitored by the Police Department.

- C. Valentine Fun Run** – Natasha Bissell mentioned that the Fun Run will be on Saturday, February 11, 2023. There have received over 400 runners registered and are expecting to have 550 and extended the invite to the commissioners to assist.

Commissioner Ishibashi asked if there will be a 5K and 10K and a kid's dash.

Committee Reports:

- A. Parks and Creek Trail – Commissioner Doherty has not been out to the parks due to the weather. Commissioner Ishibashi did mention that a few trees did come down during the storm. Commissioner Beitz noticed the lawn drying out but now they look awesome at John D Morgan. Commissioner Fidrych noticed the new Campbell Park playground was full and looks great.

- B. Trees – Commissioner Fidrych would like to know what the damage of trees due to the storm was.
- C. Special Events – No events to report.

Staff Reports:

A. Parks – Acting Parks Superintendent Ron Taormina

- Storm impact: Parks and Street maintenance divisions responded to multiple tree removals and picked up downed limbs. Both public owned and private owned trees which fell into the right-of-way were addressed.
- The storm sewer drain at John D Morgan Park Budd side playground failed due to a disconnect of the fittings. Repairs were made to the storm drain. Staff confirmed storm drain is working properly.
- Volunteer work on the corral fence at Edith Morley Park. Volunteers worked on December 18 and January 15 to complete another large section of fencing.
- Parks staff with help of volunteers planted 8 new trees at John D Morgan Park on Sunday, January 29; 1 – Celtis Trees; 2 – River Birch; 5 – Purple flowering plum.
- Parks staff is now aerating turf at all City parks. Application of fertilizer and soil conditioners will be applied over the next couple of weeks.

Commissioner Ishibashi asked if there were any flooding along the creek trail. There was signage put up, but no flooding occurred and no damage to the creek trail.

Chair Fidrych had a question that if a City tree falls on private property due to the storm, it was answered that the resident can call it into the city to file a claim. Since it is a city tree, it is our responsibility to clean it up.

- Turf conversion project at the Community Center between classroom wings and it will be done with funds from a grant through Valley Water.
- Dog park at the Los Gatos County Park has come to an end of its useful life so staff will return for discussion to see what the next steps will be.
- Geese issue will return next month for further discussion. Commissioner Beitz did comment that the Goosinator did work effectively. Any facility that has turf is where they are seen so it is an open space problem not just a Campbell problem. The coyote cut-outs have worked at the Edith Morley Park so different measures will be addressed.

B. Recreation & Community Services –Recreation and Community Services Director Natasha Bissell

- Heritage Theater hosted a full house for the Marshall Tucker Band on Saturday, January 28. The next season show will be at the Highwaymen Show on Saturday, February 25 at 8 pm. Tickets for this show are still available at www.heritagetheatre.org.
- The Ainsley House had a successful holiday season and is currently closed until early March. Both the Ainsley House and the Historical Museum will reopen at that time. This will be the first opening for the Historical Museum in 3 years.
- The Youth Basketball League has returned and is doing great with approximately 150 kids participating which is the first time since Covid.
- Summer planning is underway and the team is planning an Open House event on Saturday, March 4 from 9am to 12 pm. It will be a great opportunity to meet staff, meet instructors, learn about a

variety of classes and programs there are to offer. They will also be doing swim assessments to help parents identify which level their child should be in for summer swim lessons. Early registration for swim lessons and day camps will begin on March 14 for residents and open on March 15 for everyone else.

- New recreation supervisor has been hired.
- James Redmond is retiring – his last day is Monday, February 13. Liz Simonovich will be his replacement.
- Annual Valentine Fun Run is Saturday, February 11.

Good of the Game

Commissioner Ishibashi mentioned the skate park for renovation but not to spend too much money on it and Chair Fidrych liked that idea as well and would like to have it come back to the commission for further discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm. The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 1, 2023.

Respectfully submitted:

Rebekah Rodriguez

Rebekah Rodriguez, Recording Secretary