

CITY OF PLACERVILLE
RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION
April 21, 2025
MINUTES

PRESENT:

Recreation & Parks Commission: Chair Tony Windle, Vice-Chair Lynne Spencer, Commissioners Larissa Lujan, Michael Potter, and Andre Pichly.

Recreation & Parks Staff: Denis Nishihara - Director of Community Services, Tyler Jilbert - Parks and Facilities Maintenance Superintendent, and Matt Lishman - Recreation Superintendent.

ABSENT: None

GUESTS: None

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Commissioner Potter made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Pichly seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

Lions Park Phased Renovation Plan Developments – Mr. Nishihara reported that the purpose for tonight is to receive feedback from the Commissioners as well as the public in regards to our softball fields. Mr. Nishihara shared with Commission that rather than work with contractors we have some inhouse staff who can manage this project. One of the big things that needs to take place is a water ressure audit before we start digging up the turf. Since softball is starting soon we need to get started on the turf.

Commissioner Lujan asked if the \$25,000-\$30,000 would be coming out of the original \$185,000.00. Mr. Nishihara stated that this would be coming out of the original budget amount. Commissioner Lujan stated she felt we have heard from the public on what the community wants and asked if we could do our own plan to save the City money. Mr. Nishihara stated we could do that but we would like to expand our boundaries and be intentional with the neighbors who live directly around the park. Commissioner suggested putting a newsletter in the water bill promoting meeting times.

Commissioner Spencer asked staff if we have selected someone to do the audit at this time. Mr. Nishihara stated we have not put an RFP out for the audit at this time. Commissioner Spencer stated she felt the audit should be done before we start any work. Mr. Nishihara stated that is why we are here tonight. Commissioner Potter asked if a time frame has been put on any of this. Mr. Nishihara stated primarily the turf repairs that need to be done prior to the start of the current season.

Commissioner Pichly stated the cost of a Park Master Plan could be very costly to a small City with not a lot of funding as it. Mr. Pichly suggested saving the money on a Master Plan.

Mark Stringfellow shared with Commission that he worked for the High School District in 2008 and work in St. George and has been doing this work for 30 years including high level fields. Mr. Stringfellow would like to give back to the City and help out by maintaining the fields. The first thing Mr. Stringfellow would like to do is introduce Bermuda grass since the current cool season grass grows in clumps and dies off in the summer. Mr. Stringfellow stated that this will also address some of our irrigation problems since Bermuda is a drought tolerant grass. Commissioner Spencer asked how the gophers are going to be addressed. Mr. Stringfellow and Mr. Jilbert shared that we are currently baiting and staff are also looking at birds of prey to address the issue. Commissioner Lujan commended Mr. Stringfellow and Mr. Nishihara for bring this inhouse to save the City money.

Mr. Jilbert shared with the Commission that as far as equipment goes staff is purchasing an aerator, top dresser and detacher will be included within the \$25,000-\$30,000.

Public Comment – Wayne Hopkins has a solution to fixing the fields at Lions Park.

Craig Lorenzi stated that he started a non-profit for the Park. He also stated he is not a big fan of turn fields and that they cause a lot of staff infections.

Placerville Aquatics Center – Mr. Nishihara reported on operations of Placerville Aquatics Center no actions taken, information provided by staff.

Commissioner Spencer is in favor of raising fees and charging more for non-residents. Commissioner Spencer also suggested putting a bubble over the pool so it can be used year round.

Commissioner Lujan stated all the ideas she was in favor of.

Recreation and Parks Commission Meeting Start Time - Mr. Nishihara requested to change the meeting start time from 5:30 pm to 5:00 pm.

Commissioner Wendle made a motion, Commissioner Spencer 2nd the motion. Motion approved Unanimously.

Open Forum – Community Services Director and (Q&A) – Mr. Nishihara suggested having a question and answer time during each meeting.

Commissioner Pichly made a motion to adjourn at 7:45 pm. Commissioner Spencer Meeting adjourned at PM.