

**Visalia Parks & Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2023**

Call to Order/Roll Call

The Visalia Parks & Recreation Commission met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at City Hall West located at 707 W. Acequia Avenue, in Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Lisa Walsh at 5:30pm.

Members Present: Lisa Walsh, Samantha Wagner and Edgardo Monroy

City Staff: Kelli Kincaid, Laurissa Roggenkamp, Alvin Dias and Kathleen Machado

1. Public Comment:

- Susan Nunes (Visalia, CA) – Wants to address the feral cat problems in Visalia and asks the City to revisit Animal Services policies that pertain to capturing, spaying/neutering, and releasing the cats

2. Review and Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 11, 2023

MOTION: Motion to approve the minutes as presented, Wagner/Monroy; Motion carried 3-0

3. Reports and Announcements

- **Recreation Programs and Special Events** – *Laurissa Roggenkamp, Recreation Manager*
 - Summer season registration started 5/1/23.
 - Dia de Los Ninos event, in conjunction with Earth Day, on 4/29/23 at Summers Park
 - Swim Team tryouts 4/29/23; 266 participants
 - Swim Team practices began 5/8/23; 65 additional participants tried out
 - Looking to hire more coaches to add space for more participants
 - Recreation Coordinator Sandra Leyva resigned: we were able to use the recruitment list from which Sandra was hired to extend a conditional offer to another candidate
 - Received approval to open recruitment for vacant Recreation Supervisor position
 - Developing program proposal to collaborate with Visalia Police Department and PAL non-profit board for programs at the Wittman Community Center and Manuel Hernandez Community Center; looking at police department STEAM based careers where staff can present demonstrations at the after-school programs
 - 3/25/23 the subcommittee interviewed four candidates for the Parks and Recreation Commission. Two candidates that didn't make the 3/25/23 meeting will be interviewed later
 - Working on implementing QR codes in parks for rental spaces that includes reservation information
 - Submitted a request for an agenda item for the 5/15/23 Council meeting for the reappointment of Commissioners Wagner and Monroy
- **Parks & Urban Forestry Projects, Programs and Special Events** – *Alvin Dias, Facilities Manager*
 - Weed control throughout the city
 - New median contractor
 - Working on irrigation systems
 - Working with contractor to put the well back in at Riverway Sports Park
 - Trails Division has worked on the underpass under Dinuba Boulevard cleared for race event
 - Working with contractor on repairing trail access gates
 - Building Maintenance has been working on installing an internet pole at Lincoln Oval building for the Arts Consortium
 - City facility roofing projects
 - Urban Forestry has been working with developers on Highland and River Island pocket parks
 - Working on cost analysis to bring back Trails and Urban Forestry staff for inspections and maintenance

Approved 9/12/23

- Cleaning up storm damage
- Extended conditional offer for Park Ranger
- **Administrative Items – Kelli Kincaid, Parks & Recreation Director**
 - Community Services staff compliment
 - Working on getting first-hand public perspectives
 - Extended conditional offer for Animal Services Manager

4. Commission Requests and Comments:

- **Visalia Community Enhancement Foundation Report – Lisa Walsh, Commission Chair**
 - Steve Woods will be planning the Foundation meeting for the last Thursday of this month
- Commissioners Wagner and Walsh will not be available to attend the next regularly scheduled Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on June 13, 2023.

5. Adjournment -

- Meeting adjourned at 5:49pm

MOTION: Motion to adjourn, Monroy/Wagner; Motion carried 3-0

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Machado
Senior Administrative Assistant
City of Visalia, Parks & Recreation Department