

**Visalia Parks & Recreation Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
April 8, 2025**

**Call to Order/Roll Call**

The Visalia Parks & Recreation Commission met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 8, 2025, at City Hall West located at 707 W. Acequia Avenue, in Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Samantha Wagner at 5:30pm.

**Members Present:** Samantha Wagner, Janelle Hickey, Nancy Hawkins, and Kaitlyn Lusk

**City Staff Present:** Jason Glick, Alvin Dias, Laurissa Roggenkamp, Holly Ellis, Emily Scarborough, Candace Harrington, and Kathleen Machado

**1. Public Comment:**

- Joyce Reed (Visalia, CA) on behalf of Pickleball Visalia
  - Spoke, sharing a social media post from someone expressing their appreciation for the Visalia Senior Games Pickleball events and activities.
  - Expressed her gratitude to City staff and City Council for their presence and participation at the Visalia Senior Games events and activities.
  - Expressed gratitude to Jason Glick for the opportunities for public input at the public meetings for new parks. They will continue to support the potential for more pickleball courts in public parks, and hope that more courts will be added to Plaza Park and create a pickleball complex.

**2. Review and Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 11, 2025**

**MOTION:** Motion to approve the minutes as presented, Hawkins/Hickey; Motion carried 4-0

**3. Recreation Division Winter 2024/2025 Recap Presentation** – Power Point presentation by Laurissa Roggenkamp, Recreation Manager, Holly Ellis, Recreation Supervisor, and Emily Scarborough, Recreation Coordinator

- Commissioner Hickey – Will the Recreation Division be partnering with the new owners of Adventure Park?
  - Holly Ellis – We'll reach out to them once they get settled.

**4. Reports and Announcements**

- **Recreation Programs and Special Events** – Laurissa Roggenkamp, Recreation Manager
  - Events Calendar
    - 4/12/25 - 4/13/25 - Tulare County Renaissance Festival at Plaza Park
    - Spring Break programs: Spring Day Camp at the Anthony Community Center and The Manuel Spring Break Edition at the Manuel F. Hernandez Community Center
    - 4/18/25 – Visalia Senior Center Eggstravaganza Luncheon
    - 4/19/25 – Police Activities League Egg Hunt, Lincoln Oval Park
    - 4/25/25 – Party for the Planet, Stonebrook Park
    - 4/26/25 – Dia de los Ninos, Summers Park
    - 5/3/25 – Park #2 Public Meeting, Kiwanis Park (10:00am – 11:00am)
    - 5/8/25 - Park #2 Public Meeting, Kiwanis Park (5:30pm – 6:30pm)
    - 5/12/25 – Summer Season registration opens
    - 5/13/25 – Parks & Recreation Commission meeting and third Park public meeting
  - Visalia Senior Games update

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- **Parks, Urban Forestry, Facilities and Trails** – Alvin Dias, Parks & Facilities Manager
  - ARPA Projects Update
    - Pinkham, John Combs, Jefferson Parks play structures and shade sails are in process; Woodland Park play structure renovation is scheduled to start next week
  - Park Projects
    - Recreation Park shade structure poles installed
    - Houk Park play structure and shade sail installation completed
    - Sunset, Village and other park footings installed, waiting on equipment. When finished, shade sails for the Whitendale Park play structure will be next.
    - Riverway Sports Park Fencing Project was submitted to Purchasing
    - Installing Greenway Trail landscape in Basin G
  - Trails Division
    - Trail Maintenance Staff started 3/24/25
    - Weekend maintenance program starts this coming weekend
    - Four of seven replacement vehicles have been delivered
    - St. John's river island clean-up starts next week
    - Trails Supervisor starts 4/28/25
  - Techs have been fixing irrigation
  - Booster Pump Project taking place at Blain, Burke, Riverbend, Pinkham, and Summers Parks
  - City of Visalia awarded Tree City USA for the 40<sup>th</sup> consecutive year
  - Rawhide batting cages construction
  - Mid-year CIP requests approved by City Council
    - Riverway Sports Park soccer goals replacement
    - Facility improvements for Trails Staff
  - Plaza Park Shoreline project has been completed
- **Animal Care Center** – Candace Harrington, Animal Services Manager
  - Animal intake update since March 11<sup>th</sup> – 243 animals taken in (86 cats, 157 dogs)
    - 5 adopted
    - 25 reclaimed
    - 38 cats trapped, neutered and released
    - 73 rescued
  - Adoption event at Party for the Planet
  - Microchip stations parts have arrived; hoping to have systems up and running within the next two weeks
- **Administrative Items** – Jason Glick, Parks & Recreation Director
  - Visalia Senior Games Update
    - Enrollment numbers
    - Potential for future events, expanding age groups for some events
    - Hosting the next event over one weekend
  - Mid-year Budget
    - Visalia Senior Center – replacement oven
    - Visalia Senior Center – Bingo equipment
    - Anthony Community Center – new volleyball nets and upright poles
    - Riverway Sports Park - new soccer goals

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- **Administrative Items** – Jason Glick, Parks & Recreation Director (continued)
  - Park Public Meetings
    - Elliott Property public meetings attendance has increased
    - Pearl Woods is next park topic for public meetings
    - Meeting internally tomorrow about Elliott Property, then will meet with the design team from the Urban Tree Foundation who will create 3 conceptual designs based on the public meeting feedback. Schematics and conceptual drawing are anticipated to be received June/July, to be timed with the Pearl Woods conceptual design to present to the Parks & Recreation Commission for Recommendation to City Council.
    - Victory Oaks Park public meetings start in June
  - Another new 10-acre park is on the 4/21/25 City Council agenda
  - Parks & Recreation Master Plan coming hopefully July/August
    - Needs assessment component included
  - Community Garden concept at Wittman Center

**5. Commission Requests and Comments:**

- Commissioner Wagner –What is the timeline of the Inclusive Park?
  - Alvin Dias – The construction plans are almost completed. Will be going out to bid and awarded in 4-6 months
- Commissioner Lusk – Will additional parking be added to East Side Regional Park?
  - Alvin Dias – Basin D construction plans are almost completed. Trying to maximize parking in that location. We're pushing for more parking as the park is being designed. There are not currently plans for additional parking in Basin G.
- Commissioner Lusk complimented the Youth Baseball program
- Commissioner Hickey – Excited for the July 4<sup>th</sup> event details
  - Laurissa Roggenkamp – Plans for this event have started

**6. Adjournment -**

- Meeting adjourned at 6:20pm

**MOTION:** Motion to adjourn, Hickey/ Hawkins; Motion carried 4-0

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