

APPROVED

**Visalia Parks & Recreation Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
January 13, 2026**

**Call to Order/Roll Call**

The Visalia Parks & Recreation Commission met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 13, 2026, 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, and Nancy Hawkins

**Absent:** Kaitlyn Lusk

**City Staff Present:** Jason Glick, Laurissa Roggenkamp, Ivan Nicar, Candace Harrington, Holly Ellis, Eric Ferreira, and Kathleen Machado

**1. Public Comment:**

- None

**2. Review and Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 9, 2025**

**MOTION:** Motion to approve the minutes as presented, Hawkins/Hickey; Motion carried 3-0

**3. Recreation Division Fall 2025 Recap Presentation** – Presentation by Recreation Manager Laurissa Roggenkamp, Recreation Supervisor Holly Ellis, and Recreation Supervisor Eric Ferreira

**4. Reports and Announcements**

- **Recreation Programs and Special Events** – Laurissa Roggenkamp, Recreation Manager
  - Special Events
    - Jingle Jamboree, 60 attended
    - Holly Jolly Jingle; 300 attended
    - Visalia Senior Center Christmas Luncheon; 140 served
    - Indoor Golf at Mulligans
    - Visalia Senior Center Galentines Brunch
    - Fishing Derby
    - 2/14/26 Father-Daughter Dance, 4:00-7:00pm
  - Spring Work Plans
  - Budgets
  - Athletic Field User Agreements
  - Hosted interview for vacant Parks & Recreation Commissioner position
- **Parks, Urban Forestry, Facilities and Trails** – Ivan Nicar, Parks & Facilities Manager
  - Highlighted operation numbers for the Parks, Buildings, Urban Forestry and Trails Maintenance divisions
  - Parks Maintenance Division Update
    - Riverway Sports Park – repaired vandalized restroom walls
    - Plaza Park – tree roots in sewer lines
  - Buildings Maintenance Division Update
    - Parking structure elevators
    - IS Department at City Hall West - electrical work
    - Moving forward with ACC HVAC project

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- Urban Forestry Division Update
  - Processed Valley Oak trees Intent to Remove permits for Redwood High School and Highland Elementary School
  - Conducted final walk-through inspection of River Island Ranch subdivision across from Riverway Sports Park
  - Reviewed and approved landscape and irrigation plans for Carlton Acres, off Shirk
- Trails Division Update
  - Moving forward with irrigation upgrade project at the St John's Botanical Garden, the Riverway Park and the Packwood Trail
- Working with the Division supervisors on the 2026/2027 and 2027/2028 capital outlays, CIPs and annual budget
  
- **Animal Care Center** – Candace Harrington, Animal Services Manager
  - Animal intake update:
    - 318 animals taken in
    - 9 adopted
    - 21 reclaimed
    - 51 cats trapped, spayed/neutered, released
    - 111 sent to non-profit rescue groups
  - Lions Club presentation in February
  - Working on applying for a Petco grant
  
- **Administrative Items** – Jason Glick, Parks & Recreation Director
  - The Parks and Recreation Master Plan consultant will give a presentation at the February 10<sup>th</sup> Parks & Recreation Commission meeting
  - Giving the second Aquatics Facility presentation at next week's City Council meeting
  - Neighborhood Park (Elliott and Pearl Wood properties) conceptual designs are going before City Council on January 20<sup>th</sup>
  - Budgets
  - Rawhide Baseball Stadium new owners are doing a ribbon cutting and re-grand opening tomorrow at 4:30pm
  - East Side Regional Park, Basin G will be officially turned over to the City of Visalia on January 15<sup>th</sup>

**5. Commission Requests and Comments:**

- Commissioner Hawkins
  - Amazed at the large number people who visit East Side Regional Park, not enough parking
  - Would like to see more City of Visalia trails and walking paths publicity
- Commissioner Hickey
  - The Plaza Park pond is beautiful
  - Graffiti and sunshades missing at Alejandro Ruiz Park
  - Seven Oaks Park has old playground equipment and without a sunshade, and not a walker friendly park

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- Commissioner Wagner
  - Appreciates the opportunity to participate on the interview panel for the Parks & Recreation Commission vacant seat, and enjoyed the Senior Center atmosphere while they were there for the interviews
  
- **6. Adjournment -**
  - Meeting adjourned at 6:22pm

**MOTION:** Motion to adjourn, Hickey/Hawkins; Motion carried 3-0

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