

Parks, Recreation and Open Space Commission
(PROS)

REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, May 2, 2023 - 10:00 AM

MINUTES

1. OPENING

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kniffen called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

B. ESTABLISH QUORUM

A quorum was established.

Commissioners present: Commissioners Steve Kniffen, Adolph Atencio, Jim Bahringer and Kermit Johansson.

Juli Amodei, Ad Hoc Member, also present.

Staff present: General Manager Matthew McElhenie.

C. CHAIR REPORT

Chairman Kniffen stated we need someone to be the PROS Commission Secretary to take minutes.

D. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

There were no Committee Member communications.

2. EX - OFFICIO REPORTS

A. Friends of the Fiscalini Ranch Report

Kitty Connolly provided an update on the Friends of the Fiscalini Ranch. The Fiscalini Volunteers were very active in Ice Plant removal, presentation of the Apr. 30 spectacular Native Wild Flower Display at the Vets Hall, Volunteer Workdays, Fire safe Counsel, and Docent Wildflower walks through the Preserve.

B. Skate Cambria

Juli Amodei provided an update on Skate Cambria which included: Meeting the match of the 1.2 million by preparation of a Grant application due June 1 which meets the estimated costs of the County approved plan requirements although the County is still reviewing the setbacks. Meanwhile fund raising continues. May 18 is the meeting day for the CCSD for final approval of grant submission. Local Cambria skaters are successfully competing in skateboard competitions in the County area.

3. PRESENTATIONS

A. Disk Golf Course Presentation

A review of the Site Assessment of the East Fiscalini Ranch (dated 04/25/2023) by Whirlwind Disc Golf Company written by Leonard Musie.

Juli lead off with of summary of how, why when Whirlwind Disk Golf was contracted and paid by private donations for the purpose of determining what the assets we have available would be suited for Disc Golf and what the expected character would be.

Mark Garman explained that the course proposed with the existing constraints would be somewhat mediocre because the goals would be uninteresting without obstacles/challenges/flat terrain. Some interest could be gained by adding trees and constructed obstacles such as benches. Also, there is no need for 9 holes at this time but a more limited number of units until the value and interest increased.

Kermit added the resulting land base to be used was a result of constraints that are placed on the land by the plan made in 2014, the 3rd phase of limiting of the Cambria Community Park. In his opinion, many constraints of adjacent homeowners for privacy far exceeded reasonable evaluation expected impacts on Disc Golf, it represented a “taking” of public land for benefit of a few private homeowners. The County needs to be consulted to determine what the constraints are really required. The environment documents alluded to did not seem to back up the need or value of the constraints.

Jim Bahringer made a motion to arrange a meeting with the appropriate county staff to see how they interpret the constraints that are in the 2023 plan. After discussion, Johansson seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Carlos Mendoza, Ranch Manager did ask what the maintenance demands would be for the for the proposed action of a Disc Golf course after construction and where would the maintenance dollars come from? There was no response to the question because it is not known: There could be volunteers who would maintain the course or CCSD would have to appropriate extra funding, a new tax base or a private foundation to run the park similar to the Fiscalini Ranch board.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT NOT ON THE AGENDA

Public Comment:

Linda Prentiss, Cool (Mr. Kniffen read the written comment into the record)

Laura Swartz called in twice and made the following statements:

1. Need to respect the environmental easements contained in the existing environmental documents.
2. PROS Commission needs to recognize and take maintenance care of existing parcels outside of the Fiscalini Ranch boundary.

5. FACILITIES AND RESOURCES MANAGER

Mr. Mendoza reported on:

1. Maintenance and restoration of the Santa Rosa Creek trail was beginning. They will be adding a wood fence to keep people out of the creek bed.
2. An update of the parcel maps is occurring and will be received soon.
3. About 150 trees will be added on Fiscalini open spaces.

6. CONSENT AGENDA (Estimated time: 15 Minutes)

- A. Consideration to Approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting Held on April 4, 2023

Commissioner Bahringer moved to approve the minutes with no changes.

Commissioner Atencio seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chairman Kniffen asked for any future agenda items.

1. Discussion of PROS submitted Goals rejected and rewritten by CCSD Board- what are they?
2. Results of meeting with the County on restrictions and definitions for East Ranch.
3. Continuation of East Ranch Disc Golf review with consideration of County meeting information and guidance.

8. ADJOURN

Chairman Kniffen adjourned the meeting at 11:08 a.m.