

Parks, Recreation and Open Space Commission

(PROS)

REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, April 6, 2021 - 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.

Present – Commissioners Johansson, Atencio, Kniffen, Renshaw, Bahringer /Lord and Cooper absent.

Staff Present – General Manager John Weigold, Facilities and Resources Supervisor Carlos Mendoza, Board Secretary Ossana Terterian.

C. CHAIR REPORT: None

2. EX - OFFICIO REPORTS

A. Friends of the Fiscalini Ranch Report Kitty Connolly was as follows:

Spring is here. There are few wildflowers, but tons of weeds. Volunteers have spent 120 hours weeding the area between the Bluff trail and the Marine Terrace trail.

1. The Trails Committee has been helping Carlos restore the Santa Rosa Trail.
2. The Wallbridge bridge is being replaced with volunteer help. Twenty Four volunteers worked on planting 480 pots with Monterey pine trees seeds. They are being taken care of by many Foster Parents.
3. A discussion was then held about Bikes on the Ranch and especially the pedal powered bikes which are allowed on the Ranch. The brochure tells what kinds of bikes are allowed on the Ranch, but it is hard when you are already on the Ranch on your bike, to stop and read the brochure. Therefore, Mark Larsen has taken on the job of Bike Educator. He will be going to the Bike establishments that rent out the Bikes to explain FFRP's position on Bikes on the Ranch. He will also be going to the motels that have Bikes to use for their patrons to explain our policy. Commissioner Johansson stressed that PROS really should work on a comprehensive bike plan.
4. FFRP is working on an ADA Boardwalk to connect the current Boardwalk with the Marine Terrace Trail. A Liaison from California State Parks will help FFRP apply for a grant to accomplish this expensive venture.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT NOT ON THE AGENDA:** None now: later in meeting

4. FACILITIES AND RESOURCES SUPERVISOR:

Carlos Mendoza gave his report which included:

1. The Santa Rosa Trail restoration is a very costly venture. It is the only trail officially closed(although people are still using it in spite of the signs) The 3C's estimated the cost of labor at \$46,000 to repair it without the cost of materials. This money is not in the budget. With materials the cost will be around \$55,000. There is a very big safety issue involved with the trail remaining damaged and not repaired. The sewer facility needs to maintain its man holes along this trail. It cannot get its trucks on the trail because of the damage.

2. Firebreaks and weed abatement is also being done on the Ranch.

3. A big tree was taken down as it was endangering a nearby house. It was chipped. Some of the chips are being used at the dog park. Others are in piles waiting for volunteers to spread them.

4. French Broom with Fire Safe Council's financial help is being removed from the East Ranch.

5. The Trash containers have now been returned to the East Village. Beautify Cambria paid from a Grant for these containers to be sanded, varnished and replanted.

6. The homeless are no longer on the Ranch, but are now outside the Ranch on Cal Trans property. Cal Trans can do nothing about removing them. A state law says during a Pandemic they are not to be moved.

7. However, the homeless are still being moved at the pocket park at Center Street.

8. A jacuzzi hot tub fell down the hill onto the skate park. No one was hurt as the skate park was empty. A truck soon appeared and the jacuzzi was removed promptly and taken away.

At this point the General Manager, John Weigold, gave his report as follows:

The Santa Rosa Trail's destruction from the storm has put financial pressure on the CCSD and the Budget. A meeting is being held with the Finance Manager for a budget adjustment. Safety is a high priority . There is no help coming from the State or Federal level. The question is how do we pay for this? Insurance is another cost issue.

At this point , Carlos said that he will present the case for doing the repair in house as they have the equipment to do the job. It will still be expensive.

CONSENT AGENDA (Estimated time: 15 Minutes)

- A. Consideration to Approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting Held on March 2, 2021, and the Special Meeting Held on March 16, 2021

Commissioner Bahringer moved to approve as corrected the March 2, 2021 regular meeting minutes and March 16, 2021 special meeting minutes.

Commissioner Atencio seconded the motion.

All approved.

5. REGULAR BUSINESS

A. Receive Update on Dog Park

Some of the points made were as follows:

1. There is no money budgeted for the dog park and it has costs. Maintenance is the highest cost. There is no dog park organization at this point. There are only two people on the board left, so more and more of the maintenance work falls on Carlos and his crew. The original agreement was that the Dog Park Organization would take care of the maintenance. That has never really happened. The funds for Maintenance are coming out of the Ranch Budget .
2. In 2003, the Cambria Community Park Master Plan was presented. The plan said the budget for the Park should be between 170,000-204,000. Every year, you should add 3% to that cost. There is no budget funding to maintain the East Ranch.
3. General manager added, that maybe fees might be charged?
4. Taxes from County do not cover the Ranch! We get only 8% from the County of the tax money collected.
5. When the County gave us the 500,000 to buy the Ranch the agreement was that the District would maintain the upkeep on the Ranch. (Elizabeth Bettenhausen/ she also added that the question be posed to the board, how do you expect to maintain the Ranch?)

6. We have a huge impact from Tourists. There is no money to cover that cost of that impact.

- B. Receive Update on the Cambria

- Skatepark and Evaluation of Timeline:

- The Contract is signed. The General Manager has talked to California State Project manager for Prop 68. The good news is that we do not need to have a contract signed with the Construction Crew to apply for the Grant. John Weigold believes it can be done in house without a Grant writer.

7. Julie Amodei then talked about the timeline that was put together by the Skate Park group. It seemed to please people on the Commission. She reported that they collected \$8,000 on Friday's Fund raiser. They now have \$160,000 ready cash. Community meetings have been put off for a couple of weeks; so we are not following time line exactly.

- C. Discuss Budget Preparation for Fiscal Year 2021/2022

- A discussion was held about the 2021-2022 budget for PROS and what we would like to ask for. Two suggestions were made: First that we ask for money to hire a grant writer. Second that we go ahead and order tables etc for the dog park area that can be used in the picnic area . The commissioners were not prepared for this

discussion. A suggestion was made that our Chair Steve Kniffen and General Manager John Weigold hold a meeting to discuss it.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Commissioner Kniffen did not ask for any future agenda items.

7. ADJOURN

Chair Commissioner Kniffen adjourned the meeting at 11:30