



CITY OF MERCED

Merced Civic Center
678 W. 18th Street
Merced, CA 95340

Minutes Recreation & Parks Commission

Monday, July 22, 2024

5:30 PM

A. CALL TO ORDER

Clerk's Note: Chair HUITRON called the Meeting to order at 5:32 PM.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Clerk's Note: Chair HUITRON led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. ROLL CALL

Present: 4 - Member Walter Smith, Member Joseph Bauer, Member Valente Huitron, and Member Lehuanani Rodriguez

Excused: 1 - Member April Holloway

Absent: 1 - Member Abraham Lopez

D. PUBLIC COMMENT

Clerk's Note: There was no public comment.

E. CONSENT CALENDAR

E.1. **SUBJECT:** Recreation and Parks Commission Minutes of June 24, 2024

REPORT IN BRIEF

Recreation and Parks Commission Minutes from the meeting of June 24, 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a motion approving and filing Recreation and Parks Commission Minutes of June 24, 2024.

A motion was made by Member Bauer, seconded by Member Rodriguez, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Member Smith, Member Bauer, Member Huitron, and Member Rodriguez

No: 0

Excused: 1 - Member Holloway

Absent: 1 - Member Lopez

F. PUBLIC HEARING

- F.1. **SUBJECT Public Hearing: Considers Application Requesting to Name the Merced Police South Station after Joe Cortez**

REPORT IN BRIEF

Public Hearing to consider naming application for Merced Police South Station as Joe Cortez South Station.

RECOMMENDATION

Recreation and Parks Commission- Adopt a motion approving naming application and make the recommendation to City Council for consideration on August 19th at 6:00pm.

Regina CORTEZ, daughter of Joe Cortez, spoke on her father's involvement with the community and his public service.

Police Chief Steven STANFIELD informed the commission that Joe CORTEZ served in the police department for 32 years and climbed the ranks. Chief STANFIELD also spoke on Mr. CORTEZ' civil service and his efforts to help build the Merced Police South Station. Chief STANFIELD informed the commission that Police Department staff support the name change.

Councilman Ron DEANDA, informed the commission that he grew up with Joe CORTEZ, and would love to have the name change happen.

Commissioner Walter SMITH informed the commission that Mr. CORTEZ had supported McNamara Park.

A motion was made by Member Rodriguez, seconded by Member Smith, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Member Smith, Member Bauer, Member Huitron, and Member Rodriguez

No: 0

Excused: 1 - Member Holloway

Absent: 1 - Member Lopez

G. REPORTS

- G.1. **SUBJECT: Youth Service Provider Updates**

REPORT IN BRIEF

Youth Service Providers will provide updates.

RECOMMENDATION

Information only-no action required

No Youth Service Providers were present.

Parks and Community Services Director Christopher JENSEN informed the commission that all service agreements were approved. Mr. JENSEN also informed the commission that in Spring of 2025 that requests for interest for facility use will open.

G.2.**SUBJECT: Merced Senior Inc. Board Updates****REPORT IN BRIEF**

Merced Senior Inc. Board will provide board updates.

RECOMMENDATION

Information only-no action required

Merced Senior Inc. Board President, Terri RADLEY updated the commission on matters regarding High Speed Rail and the Senior Center. Ms. RADLEY also informed the commission that the board would be at the National Night Out event.

G.3.**SUBJECT: High Speed Rail Updates****REPORT IN BRIEF**

Parks & Community Services Director Christopher Jensen will provide ongoing updates as available on High Speed Rail as it relates to the acquisition of the Merced Senior Community Center and the McCombs Youth Center.

RECOMMENDATION

Information only-no action required

Parks and Community Services Director Christopher JENSEN informed the commission that the High Speed Rail Authority had toured both the McCombs Youth Center and the Senior Center and that relocation assistance was being provided to both vendors by HSR.

G.4.**SUBJECT: Parks and Recreation Department Updates****REPORT IN BRIEF**

Director Jensen will provide department updates on the budget, services, events, Capital Improvement Projects (CIP's), Contracts and Facilities, and Community Services to the Commission.

RECOMMENDATION

Information only-no action required

Parks and Community Services Director Christopher JENSEN informed the commission that July was Parks and Recreation Month and had received a proclamation from Mayor Matthew SERRATO. Mr. JENSEN updated the commission on the current Requests for Proposals, Movies in the Park, aquatics program, flag football registrations, and art installations.

G.5. SUBJECT: Update on Park Murals**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Director Jensen will present and provide an update on park murals throughout the City.

RECOMMENDATION

Information only-no action required

Parks and Community Services Director Christopher JENSEN gave a presentation on the art throughout the City, and provided background on art grants and the arts commission. Mr. JENSEN also commented that art and murals address and prevent graffiti.

H. BUSINESS**H.1. SUBJECT: Request to Add Item to Future Agenda****REPORT IN BRIEF**

Provides members of the Boards/Commissions to request that an item be placed on a future Boards/Commissions agenda for initial consideration by the Boards/Commissions.

Clerk's Note: There was no requests.

H.2. SUBJECT: Commission Comments**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Provides an opportunity for the Chair and/or Member(s) to make a brief announcement on any activity(ies) she/he has attended on behalf of the Commission and to make a brief announcement on future community events and/or activities. The Brown Act does not allow discussion or action by the legislative body under this section.

Commissioner Walter SMITH thanks Parks and Community Services Director Christopher JENSEN.

I. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Member Bauer, seconded by Member Smith, to adjourn the Recreation and Parks Commission. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Member Smith, Member Bauer, Member Huitron, and Member Rodriguez

No: 0

Excused: 1 - Member Holloway

Absent: 1 - Member Lopez