

Parks, Recreation and Open Space Commission
(PROS)

REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, December 6, 2022 - 10:00 AM

MINUTES

1. OPENING

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kniffen called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

B. ESTABLISH QUORUM

A quorum was established.

Commissioners present: – Commissioners Kniffen, Atencio, Johansson, Bahringer and Lord were absent.

Staff present: Acting General Manager Ray Dienzo and Administrative Analyst – HR & IT Haley Dodson.

C. CHAIR REPORT

Chairman Kniffen had no report

D. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Johansson reported that he felt PROS needed to reorganize. He said he felt we had no purpose. Commissioner Bahringer disagreed.

2. EX - OFFICIO REPORTS

A. Friends of the Fiscalini Ranch Report

Director Kitty Connolly reported as follows:

We had a fantastic **tree planting** on Saturday, November 26. More than 75 people turned out in perfect weather to plant around 350 Monterey pine seedlings in two hours. This was a record turnout for us with many children taking part. The trees were started by volunteers and grown on in our restoration nursery on the East Ranch. Thanks to Carlos Mendoza and Martin Garcia for helping out with augering holes and supplying water. West Coast Tree Service also provided a large water tank, so the trees started out well. The last couple of weeks of rain have been a substantial help for the little trees.

Hospitality Night last night was really fun with another record turnout for us, especially considering we have no hot dogs or flowing wine!

The new **leash law signs** have been ordered. We'll keep you posted about their roll out.

FFRP volunteers will be continuing their stewardship of **Main Street** on December 15. Volunteers will pick up trash on Main St between Mechanics Bank all the way south to Highway 1. FFRP adopted this portion of Main Street in 2003: nearly 20 years of keeping Cambria beautiful!

Upcoming free docent walks

Christmas Berries and Seasonal Discoveries in the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve Forest -- Dec 17, 10am - 12pm – with Brian Morgan

A Forest Walk of Discovery on the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve -- Jan 7, 1:30-3:30 -- Al Normandin, a certified California Naturalist

Marvelous Mushrooms! -- Jan 14, 10-1 pm -- David Krause of the California Native Plant Society.

Linking Boardwalk

Planning continues as we work with an engineering firm out of San Luis Obispo. A detailed site survey was made, and the route and construction details are being worked out before we apply for a construction permit.

B. Skate Cambria

Juli Amodei reported their last fund raiser on November 15 raised \$900. However, the best outcome was that it let surrounding communities know what is happening with Cambria and the skate park. February will be the next fund raiser. They are in the planning stage. The skate permit is at the County and the design is being looked at by the Staff. CCSD will ask for exemptions and if all goes well, it will then go to the planning department. If given the green light, they might start construction in the fall.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT NOT ON THE AGENDA

Public Comment:
Claudia Harmon Worthen, Cambria

4. FACILITIES AND RESOURCES MANAGER

Facilities and Resources Manager, Carlos Mendoza, reported on the following:

1. The Vet's hall is now fumigated. It took cooperation from all the parties involved.
2. Forest Restoration took place on two acres on the Fiscalini Ranch near the Midden. Work was done by hand crews. It was paid for by FFRP.
3. Thank you, letters were written to Harvey's Honey hut, for their free restroom by the dog park and also for the upkeep of the hut. A thank you was also sent to FFRP for their contribution of 65,000 so far for this year for work on the Ranch. The pulling of the ice plant was a contribution of 56,000.
4. Two lots were received by CCSD that will join 60 other lots that belong to CCSD on Camborne Place. They have value in they back a trail that runs along in front of them.

5. CONSENT AGENDA (Estimated time: 15 Minutes)

- A. Consideration to Approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting Held on November 1, 2022

Commissioner Johansson moved to approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting Held on November 1, 2022.

Commissioner Atencio seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

6. REGULAR BUSINESS

A. Discussion and Consideration of 2023 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Commission Meeting Dates

Commissioner Renshaw moved to approve the 2023 PROS Commission meeting dates with the exception of July 4. We will cancel our meeting on that date.

Commissioner Bahringer seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

B. Discussion Regarding Procurement of a Grant Writer

Before we got to that discussion, the terms of Commissioner Lord and Johansson were discussed as their terms are up. There seems to be no clear way new Commissioners are picked. Director Farmer will pursue this issue with CCSD. Our acting General Manager Ray Dienzo said it was his understanding under the code that they could continue if the Directors approved. It was suggested that Commissioner Lord's term be terminated as she has missed far too many meetings and seems not to be interested any more. Now to the issue on the agenda of the procurement of a Grant Writer, A very long and rather disjointed discussion was held. The idea was presented that our money for a grant writer if obtained should work on a grant to help restore the vet's hall to its former glory. Over \$350,000 in repairs is needed. However, the East Ranch could use some grant money to pursue things that will enhance it for the people in our community.

Commissioner Renshaw moved that we table this issue until we get clearer direction.

It was seconded by Commissioner Bahringer and passed unanimously.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chairman Kniffen asked for any future agenda items: Julie Amodei reported on the Saturday meeting held with the public on the East Ranch on November 17th. Fifteen people were in attendance. A discussion was held as to what the public would like on the East Ranch. These three things were decided as worthy of pursuing. 1. trail development 2. exercise circuit 3. Frisbee golf circuit 4. other. The ad hoc committee has decided to write up a petition to see what the general public wants. They will stand with it at Farmer's market and other locations. Our Chair then read two letters from the general public with their ideas for the East Ranch. They were from Dave and Kathy Pearson and Mark and Susan Garman. We will pursue these suggestions at our next meeting.

We need direction from CCSD about how we are to fill vacancies. What is the procedure?

8. ADJOURN

Chairman Kniffen adjourned the meeting at 12:00 pm.