

Parks, Recreation and Open Space Committee (PROS)

REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, November 7, 2023 - 10:00 AM

MINUTES

1. OPENING

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

B. ESTABLISH QUORUM

A quorum was established with Chairman Michael Thomas, and Committee members Jim Bahringer, Kermit Johansson, Steve Kniffen, Shannon Sutherland, and Jeff Wilson present.

Staff attending: Facilities & Resources Manager David Aguirre attended in person, and General Manager Matt McElhenie attended on Zoom. Confidential Administrative Assistant Haley Dodson attended the first portion of the meeting in person.

Public attending: Crosby Swartz, Laura Swartz, Shelley Becker, Kitty Connolly, Director Harry Farmer, and 2 gentlemen from the Cambria Lawn Bowling Association joined midway. Elizabeth Bettenhausen and President Karen Dean joined by Zoom.

C. CHAIR REPORT

Chairman Michael Thomas welcomed new Committee Member Jeff Wilson, encouraged attendance at the upcoming CCSD Board meeting to learn about a Zonehaven update, corrected an erroneous statement he made at the October 3 meeting, and reminded everyone as a Legislative Body we need to adhere to Rosenberg's Rules of Order, including 1 speaker at a time and speakers need to be recognized by the Chair before speaking.

D. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

Committee Member Johansson reported on an update on the Brambles project from the NCAC meeting and the potential for greater community benefit from other projects in collaboration with NCAC. Member Sutherland suggested she and Member Johansson track NCAC land use opportunity synergies. Member Johansson suggested possible use of CCSD open space as fire breaks.

2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairman Thomas asked for volunteers for the Vice Chair position. Member Sutherland volunteered and was unanimously elected.

Chairman Thomas asked for volunteers for the Secretary position. Member Wilson volunteered and was unanimously elected.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT NOT ON THE AGENDA

Shelley Becker provided an update on the Dog Park, including the establishment of a new non-profit group The Central Coast Dog Park Association. There was brief discussion about fundraising and the need for improved signage around safety and open/close hours.

4. FACILITIES AND RESOURCES MANAGER

Facilities & Resources Manager David Aguirre discussed progress on identifying all 194 CCSD owned parcels, including 141 under some kind of Conservation Easement.

Discussion took place regarding need for better, consistent signage and development of a style guide for across all properties, including the Community Park. An ad hoc committee was suggested and Mr. Aguirre agreed that would be helpful. Member Sutherland agreed to lead this, working in collaboration with Mr. Aguirre, Kitty Connolly and Shelley Becker.

5. CONSENT AGENDA (Estimated time: 15 Minutes)

A. Consideration to Approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting Held on October 3, 2023

Kermit Johansson moved to approve the minutes.

Jim Bahringer provided a second.

All were in favor; Member Wilson abstained as he was not on the Committee at this time.

6. REGULAR BUSINESS

A. Discussion Regarding Proposed 2024 PROS Committee Meeting Dates

Discussion regarding various options and Member needs and limitations. Agreement reached on the Third Tuesday of every month from 2pm-4pm.

Shannon Sutherland moved to approve.

Kermit Johansson provided a second.

All were in favor.

B. Discussion Regarding proposed PROS Committee Action Tracker and Project Maturity System

General agreement that some kind of formal framework is needed for establishing and tracking 2024 Committee Goals, Objectives, Projects, and Action Items.

Chairman took feedback on ideas and will formulate some options for the December meeting.

C. Discussion Regarding the Community Park Plan, and forming an East Ranch Community Park Plan Ad Hoc Committee

Lengthy discussion about the Community Park and various historical iterations, including the 2012 version with SLO County CDP issuance, and activities/uses specified in it.

Chairperson Thomas recommended establishment of an ad hoc committee to refine the

Community Park Plan to reflect current intentions. Chairperson Thomas and Members Sutherland and Wilson will comprise this committee.

D. Discuss and Consider a Standing Agenda Topic, Brief Reports from Groups and Individuals with Roles and Responsibilities Related to Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces within CCSD Jurisdictional Boundaries

Committee agreed to establish this as a standing agenda topic and invite targeted list organization's representatives to join, limiting reports to 3 minutes each followed by brief Committee discussion.

E. Discussion Regarding a PROS Development Fund

The Committee discussed the possibility of using a **CCSD PROS Development Fund** as an account to accumulate grant funding and donations to fund future PROS projects. Two of the committee members expressed skepticism regarding this concept, expressing a preference to channel funds through the Cambria Community Council. This concept may be considered further.

F. Discuss and Consider Forming an Open Space and Connecting Trails Ad Hoc Committee

Member Johansson recommended establishing an ad hoc committee to address this subject. The subject is a worthwhile one, but given what is likely a very long, ongoing process it does not lend itself to an ad hoc committee, which has a finite time frame. Agreed to park this for now and likely address with specific open space and connecting trail projects.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chairman Thomas asked for any future agenda items. No future agenda items proposed.

8. ADJOURN

Chairman Thomas adjourned the meeting at 12:03 p.m.