

**Parks, Recreation and Open Space Commission  
(PROS)**

**REGULAR MEETING**  
Tuesday, October 6, 2020 - 10:00 AM

**MINUTES**

**1. OPENING**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**B. ESTABLISH QUORUM**

A quorum was established.

Commissioners present – Commissioners Atencio, Kniffen, Cooper, Renshaw Bahringer, and Johansson. Lord was absent.

Staff present – General Manager John Weigold and Deputy District Clerk Haley Dodson.

**C. CHAIR REPORT: none**

**2. EX - OFFICIO REPORTS**

**A. Friends of the Fiscalini Ranch Report: Director Kitty Connolly report is as follows:**

Brochure holder at Dog Park

I delivered the holder to Alberto and Martin.

### Wednesday Weeders

Worked throughout the month removing ice plant, amaryllis, and a last bits of mustard and thistle. Seventeen people showed up to remove ice plant – thank you! West Coast Tree Service will pick up the ice plant piles from the Bluff Trail today.

### Weeders transition to Trail Crew

Tipton and Trenton trails prepped for rain with water bars, grade dips, and outflows. A bit of repair was done on the pedestrian bridge on the Trenton Trail. Alberto has supplied chips near the small monarch grove for trail maintenance.

### Monarch overwintering management plan

Haley and I have been working with Xerces Society to lay groundwork for a grant-funded management plan to enhance and protect the overwintering sites on the Ranch. Counts of butterflies have been extremely low in recent years but we want to be ready for any recovery and to protect the few butterflies that have returned.

### Encroachment

CCSD has very responsive and helpful with addressing the encroachment of a private landowner onto the Ranch. Thank you. We hope to have this issue fully addressed when the property changes hands.

### Shop reopened to public

Volunteer staffing the shop Th-Sat from 11-2 or so. Most questions during shut down have been if Ranch is open, how much is costs, and can you camp. These calls were clearly from new, out of area visitors. We continue to get questions about horse rental.

### 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Planning an online fundraiser with musical performances, November 7<sup>th</sup>

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT NOT ON THE AGENDA: None**

**4. CONSENT AGENDA (Estimated time: 15 Minutes)**

- A. Consideration to Approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting held on September 1, 2020

Commissioner Bahringer moved to approve the September 1, 2020 meeting minutes.

Commissioner Atencio seconded the motion.

All approved.

**5. REGULAR BUSINESS**

- A. Discussion Regarding the San Luis Obispo County Beautification and Infrastructure Grant (BIG) A lengthy discussion was held, Here are a few of the major points that were made. Chair Kniffen will attend the board meeting on October 8, to answer questions.

1. A question was asked if we had permission as PROS to go ahead with the design process for the bathroom with the \$20,000 that was allocated for the Project from the County. General Manager Weigold reported that we could use an ad hoc committee to do the reporting to CCSD, thus saving some time at the regular CCSD board meetings. Chair Kniffen appointed Commissioner Johansson and Commissioner Bahringer to be the members of the ad hoc Committee from PROS. It appears that we can go

ahead but we will know more after the CCSD board meeting on Thursday.

2. There is still the question of the use of water on the East Ranch. The EIR says dry toilets and then it says use of water for health and safety is also desired?? We appointed Monty Soto from Civil Design to go to the County and find out the answer to that pressing question. We need to know before we waste any more time talking about the design of the toilet. The board approved the updated East Ranch Plan in 2009, so we need to get started. There is also the question: Do we need to amend the EIR to have water in the toilet or must we go with the dry toilet design. Commissioner Bahringer said he talked to planner Steve McMasters and his opinion was that if the toilet was super efficient it would comply with the EIR. We need answers to this eternal question.

Director Farmer gave his plug for waterless toilets; as something that is needed by our world today. He suggested the compost be used for a Community Garden. Commissioner Cooper applauded the idea.

3. There is also still the question of sending out the bathroom for bids, or if we can use Civil Design since they have been involved in this project since the beginning? General Manager Weigold said he will check with Counsel for a definite answer. We need to know this so we can proceed. Monty Soto presented a proposal a year ago to continue with the project of the bathroom. In the proposal he said that he would do the research for the bathroom and would charge for time and materials up to 20,000. This did not include permitting.

B. Discussion Regarding Parks, Recreation and Open Space Projects, Priorities and Costs This too required a long discussion. Some of the points that were made were as follows:

Julie Amodei who is chair of the Skate Park Initiative showed a visual of how the new skate Park might look. It was a lovely visual down by Evergreen SkateParks in Portland Oregon. She suggested we look at the Skate Parks website/ SkateCambria.com and Evergreen Skateparks website./ Her message was :

Skate Cambria is looking to build a skatepark that has a mix of street and transition features that will support skaters with a range of interests and abilities. The park needs to be a modern concrete skatepark that requires little maintenance, and will last for generations to come. Beyond a skatepark, this will be a space that encourages event gatherings and captures the uniqueness of our beautiful community. To ensure the end result fulfills this vision, Skate Cambria is dedicated to ensuring that skaters of all ages and that the wider community input is considered throughout the project. We welcome you to email us your ideas or questions to Juli@skatecambria.com or [shara@skatecambria.com](mailto:shara@skatecambria.com) please check back to our website often, to stay up to date on our progress. WE WANT TO SKATE! They are looking for donations, grants and CCSD help in funding the project which will cost approximately \$300,000. They plan to use Evergreen SkateParks to build the facility. So far they have 1500 petition signatures and have raised \$2500. PROS has 17,000 and 3,000 for a grant writer which might help on this project? One of the first things that needs to be done is to have the site surveyed. Julie feels that CCSD should be responsible for the survey. Monte Soto from Civil Design offered to

help with the survey and drainage and will present a proposal to that effect. Commissioner Johansson moved that we use the \$ 20,000 in PROS budget to find the answers that are needed to proceed with the Skate Park eg. survey. It was seconded by Commissioner Renshaw. It was passed and will be taken to the CCSD board on Thursday by Chair Kniffen.

**6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** Continue with items discussed today

**7. ADJOURN**

Chair Commissioner Kniffen adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.