

TUOLUMNE RIVER REGIONAL PARK COMMISSION

Wednesday, February 14, 2018 – 12:00 p.m.

Tenth Street Place, Room 2005
1010 Tenth Street, Modesto, California

MINUTES

- I. **CALL TO ORDER – Meeting called to order at 12:02 by Chair Kenoyer**
Commissioners Attending: Chair Kenoyer, Kristi Ah You, Dick Monteith
Commissioners Absent/Excused: Kristen Olsen, Brett Durossette
Staff Attending: Nathan Houx, Joanne Azevedo, Jami Aggers, Michael Brinton
Guests Attending: Edgar Garibay, Meg Gonzalez, Rebecca Harrington, Rylee Silva, DeAnna Christensen, Mark Loeser, Denny Ferreira
- II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 11, 2017 – Motion to accept Minutes of October as recorded by Dick Monteith, seconded by Kristi Ah You, Motion passed**
- III. **PUBLIC COMMENT - None**
- IV. **CORRESPONDENCE - None**
- V. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. **TRRP Gateway Ph. 2 Update** – Staff reported that the construction of Phase 2 between 7th Street and Highway 99 is moving along well during the nice weather, and should be completed in the next couple of months. The trails should be done; the bridge over the backwater channel should be delivered in the next couple of weeks. Staff was asked to give a presentation to the South Modesto MAC regarding the Gateway Parcel and what is being done there. Staff will do that presentation when invited.
 - B. **Dennett Dam Update** – Staff reported that an item just went to the City of Modesto's Safety and Communities Committee which was forwarded to the full Council for some of the funding to remove the Remnant Dennett Dam. Project is out to bid right now. Bids are due back February 27th. Hope to receive a bid that we can afford. With a bid award, construction should start Mid-June and be completed by September 15th. It is looking good for low water levels this summer.
 - C. **Tree Trimming at Airport Update**- Staff reviewed that the Airport Tree project was broken into 5 phases, with the first phase (clear cutting) completed and seed has been put down to rehabilitate the area with wildflowers and low growing native plants. The second phase which is mostly trimming and very few removals should be completed in the next two weekends. The third phase will begin in the fall of 2018, the fourth phase would be done fall of 2019 and the final phase would be done fall of 2020. The FAA has been out and is satisfied with the progress being made on removing/trimming the trees.
 - D. **Grant Awards Updates** – Staff advised that a Boat Launch Grant Acceptance went to City of Modesto's Safety and Communities Committee this week and will be forwarded on to the full Council to accept the grant of \$780,000 for the Boat Launch at Neece Drive. There are also some additional grants for Dennett Dam Removal that will be coming from the Tuolumne River Trust. Staff is working on a

Memorandum of Understanding with the Tuolumne River Trust to accept those funds into the CIP Project. There is a River Overlook Grant for \$500,000 to create an elevated trail near the amphi-meadow and Ninth Street to keep people out of the natural habitat and allow access closer to the river. Staff is working to get that contract together and get it to Council. Finally, there is a Grant out for an Outdoor Education Facility and River Pavilion along Legion Park. Those are the Grants currently out and in process.

A discussion was held on the possibility of a bridge to connect the Legion Park area to the South Side of the river and the security measures planned to make Legion Park more secure and safe to increase family usage. Also a discussion of the trailer parks along the south side of the river and what could be done about those. County Planning Staff who was guests at the meeting said that Trailer parks are State Housing and community Development jurisdiction and not County regulated, County does not permit the mobile homes, they do not inspect the mobile homes. County Staff are currently trying to inventory the mobile home areas in the flood zone and contacting the state to have the mobile homes removed.

- E. **Auto Dismantlers Update** – Staff asked County Planning Staff to come to see what can be done about the Auto Dismantlers near or in the flood plain since it has been a point of discussion for both the Citizen's Advisory Committee and previous Commission meetings. County Planning Staff Mark Loeser and Denny Ferriera spoke to the Auto Dismantler issue. They advised that Department of Environmental Resources Code Enforcement officers had contacted the Auto Dismantlers near Legion Hall and successfully had the cars removed from County Property and now they are insuring that the vehicles are out of the flood zone. The County has some leverage in the fact that the Dismantler by Legion is in a flood zone. The lot is zoned properly to allow for the Dismantler so they cannot require the vehicles to be removed entirely. Discussion was also held about Gustavo's' Auto Dismantler along 9th Street. County staff stated that the Department of Water Resources is actively addressing issues in the flood zone and have gone as far as the Mitchell Road Bridge at this time, but will continue moving downstream.

VI. **NEW BUSINESS – Action Items**

- A. **Mancini Park – KaBoom Grant** – Current master plan for Mancini Park was done in 2009. The current playground is in the back of the park, sheltered from public view and currently has only swings. Nefarious activities are common there due to the location. The Master plan calls for the moving of the playground to the front of the park closer to the road to increase visibility. Grants have been requested in the past without results, however KaBoom, who does grants for Playgrounds worked on a playground in the County and asked for recommendations for another playground which fit the criteria of underserved and socio-economic need. Mancini Park was recommended. Staff will be preparing a request at the Modesto City Council to apply for the Grant. The Grant requires a 20 – 25% match from the community. Rebecca Harrington stated she has already received \$2,000 previously, which is in the Stanislaus Community Foundation for the project and recently met with Turlock Irrigation District who pledged \$5,000 to the project. Rebecca has pledged to raise \$20,000 for the project. By moving the playground closer to the existing parking lots, it will be more accessible for use by the school a couple of blocks away and Church activities in the neighborhood. The Soccer fields are used and bring in minimal revenue but Rebecca sees the park as a major step to increasing positive

community use of the park. **Action: Recommend Staff request permission to apply for a KaBoom Grant for Mancini Park, motioned by Kristi Ah You, seconded by Dick Monteith, Motion passed.**

- B. County Parcel Presentation** – Mark Loeser and Denny Ferriera reported that there are a couple of parcels of land along South Santa Cruz Avenue in the Legion area that are either owned jointly by the County, Modesto and Ceres, or by the County solely that County has been approached to sell. County wanted to ask the Commission if they were interested in assuming maintenance of the parcels as part of TRRP. Ownership would remain with the current owners and TRRP would only be responsible for the maintenance. Should TRRP dissolve, ownership would revert to the current owner. If the TRRP Commission recommends these parcels become part of the TRRP JPA staff will bring an amendment to the TRRP JPA agreement to the three JPA members elected boards/councils to take action on said amendment. **Action: Recommend TRRP assume maintenance of the two parcels in question (Parcel #035-024-010 and #035-024-011) and an amendment be prepared for execution by TRRP JPA partners, motioned by Dick Monteith, seconded by Kristi Ah You, Motion passed**
- C. TRRP Audit – 2017** – Modesto City Finance Staff members DeAnna Christensen and Rylee Silva reported on the 2016-2017 Audit of TRRP. A copy of the Audit report was provided to all participants. The Audit revealed that all accounting practices had been followed and fairly represented. 2017 revenues were slightly up and expenses were slightly down resulting in a budget surplus of \$47,400. Following previous years practice any operating fund surplus has been moved to the TRRP CIP Fund Reserve (Fund 6710) for use in the park or use as match funds for Grants. **Action: Recommend moving operating surplus from FY 2016-2017 of \$47,400 to the TRRP CIP Fund Reserve, motioned by Dick Monteith, seconded by Kristi Ah You. Motion Passed.**
- D. 2018/19 Budget Discussion** – Staff brought the mid-year budget for review with a few requests for adjustments, the largest being moving money from Real Property Repair and Maintenance to Vandalism Repair and Maintenance to cover costs which were caused due to vandalism and flood related costs of maintenance and repair. There was also an adjustment for the Tree trimming which was performed by Forestry Staff rather than going outside for those services. **Action: Recommend approval of the mid-year budget adjustments requested by Staff for the 2017-18 operating budget, motioned by Kristi Ah You, seconded by Dick Monteith. Motion Passed.**

Additionally, a first look at the 2018-19 Budget was presented. Staff is asking for a 2% increase in contributions from the JPA Partners. Ceres Staff advised that Ceres is once again unable to fulfill their financial obligation this year but will take the 2018-19 Budgets to their Council for confirmation. **Action: Recommend considering increasing partner contributions by 2% for the 2018-19 Fiscal Year and presenting to Partner Councils/Board for inclusion in the 2018-19 Budget Year, motioned by Kristi Ah You, seconded by Jenny Kenoyer. Motion passed.**

- E. RecFest 2018** – Tuolumne River Trust Staff proposed an event that they and Operation 9-2-99 are planning at the Gateway Parcel for March 17th. The goal is to provide a free event to bring families to the Gateway, introduce them to the many

outdoor activities that are available and positive use of the park. They plan to have paddling, bicycle trail rides, kite flying, orienteering, trail running, youth fishing, disc golf, nature walks, birding, live music and lunch. The event is being hosted by Tuolumne River Trust; Operation 9-2-99; City of Modesto Parks, Recreation and Neighborhoods; ShadowChase Running Club; Stanislaus Audubon Society; and many others. The City of Modesto has agreed to open the Beard Brook Park parking lot for parking. PGE is creating a dog park at Beard Brook and it is possible it may be completed about this same time. **Action: Staff needs to check to insure that Morton Blvd will be open for the event as a sign was posted saying that Morton Blvd would be closed for a period of time.** TRT Staff are asking the Commission to assist with the permitting fees required to host the event including: \$20 Miscellaneous Park Rental, \$100 Special Event Itinerant Fee, and \$392 for Port-a-potties. **Action: Recommend waiving the \$20 Miscellaneous Park Rental, as the revenue would come back to the TRRP operating budget anyway, motioned by Kristi Ah You, seconded by Dick Monteith, Motion passed.** Jenny Kenoyer volunteered to pay the \$100 Event Itinerant Fee personally. **Action: Recommend TRRP support the event and rent the port-a-potties for the event, motioned by Kristi Ah You, seconded by Dick Monteith, Motion passed.**

VII. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

A. Tuolumne River Trust Report – TRT Staff reported there will be an Operation 9-2-99 clean-up this Saturday, February 17th at Beard Brook Park and the week prior to RecFest, March 10th, there will be a clean-up of the remainder of the Gateway Parcel to have it looking as nice as possible for the event. The last few clean-ups have been very successful with approximately 75 people at the January Clean-up. The November Clean-up had more than 100 volunteers. Also, TRT is conducting Airport Neighborhood biking opportunities.

B. 9-2-99 Clean-ups – Included above

VIII. MATTERS TOO LATE FOR THE AGENDA - None

IX. ADJOURNMENT – at 1:35 pm by Chair Kenoyer, Next meeting April 11.