
Minutes

Regular Meeting of the San Marcos Parks & Recreation Commission

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

GoToMeeting – Link in City Calendar

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Jay Franklin called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chairperson Jay Franklin

ROLL CALL:

Commissioners Present

FRANKLIN	(3/3) 100%
HERNANDEZ	(2/3) 67%
LINDSAY	(3/3) 100%
MOCKUS-VALENZUELA	(3/3) 100%
ROBLES	(2/3) 67%
SENSMEIER	(3/3) 100%
SMITH	(3/3) 100%

Commissioners Absent

PRESTININZI (ALT)	(2/3) 67%
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ALSO PRESENT:

Director Buck Martin, Assistant Director Andrea Gonzalez, Commission Secretary Cheryl Salazar.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Volunteer recognition awards – there were none recommended.

CONSENT CALENDAR

COMMISSIONER MOCKUS-VALENZUELA MOVED TO APPROVE CONSENT CALENDAR ITEM 1 WITH THE DATE CORRECTION OF THE MEETING, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SMITH AND CARRIED TO APPROVE. COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ ABSTAINED.

COMMISSIONER SENSMEIER MOVED TO APPROVE CONSENT CALENDAR ITEM 2 AS PRESENTED, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SMITH AND CARRIED TO APPROVE.

REPORTS AND OTHER BUSINESS

3. Trails Advisory Committee Applications

COMMISSIONER MOCKUS-VALENZUELA MOVED TO APPROVE APPOINTMENT OF NATHAN HATFIELD AS A REGULAR MEMBER AND JOHN DEBEVOISE AS AN ALTERNATE TO THE TRAILS ADVISORY COMMITTEE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SENSMEIER AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Park Naming Subcommittee Recommendation

Commissioners Lindsay, Mockus-Valenzuela and Robles would like to request additional time to analyze and consider the names. The Park Naming is tabled to the next meeting so the subcommittee can further analyze the many names submitted.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Parks & Recreation Director Buck Martin provided an update on the following items:

- Pop-Up Rec was hosted and participants built Leprechan traps.
- Woodland Park Middle School tennis courts have been opened to the public.
- The Prop-68 competitive grant was submitted on March 12 by Andrea Gonzalez for \$5.5 million for an inclusionary playground, an additional playground and a dog park at Bradley Park.
- The Department is still having challenges with the Stone Canyon community with complaints from homeowners regarding trail users.
- Suggestions for socially distant activities can be forwarded to City staff.
- Aquatics programming is going to be enhanced and Cheryl Salazar will be giving up duties of the Parks & Rec Commission. Krystal Mainprize-Sawyer will be taking over.
- Cheryl Salazar reported that collaboration efforts are underway with the Respect Project program to increase our service delivery for teens in San Marcos.
- Senior Centers may not open again until the Pandemic as a whole is mostly over. SAC staff is trying to be proactive to create programming to reconnect seniors through the end of the pandemic.
- With San Diego moving into the Red Tier, City staff will be back at the Community Center which will now be open.
- The Gym will be open up to 10% so pickleballers may move back inside.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

- Chair Franklin recognized the efforts to reach out to the Spanish-speaking community.
- Chair Franklin thanked Commissioner Hernandez regarding the drone policy recommendations and is interested in seeing what City Staff recommends.
- Director Martin explained the situation regarding the pickleball community and the residential community around Innovation Park. He also addressed the fact that we have increased the Ranger patrols to try to educate park visitors regarding the dog park and kid's playground.
- A. Director Gonzalez addressed the concern regarding signs at Sunset Park Disc Golf park tee pad signs and update the map in the kiosk within the park.
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COMMISSIONER COMMENTARY

- Chair Franklin would like to request information about each Tier and what services are being prioritized.
- Commissioner Hernandez sent a written communication about some conflicts in the policy regarding drones. Chair Franklin looks forward to City Staff obtaining answers and placing the item on the agenda.
- Commissioner Sensmeier would like to congratulate City Staff for being recognized by Mayor Rebecca Jones for the City SMILE award.

- Commissioner Mockus-Valenzuela would like to remind staff about Mental Health Month in May and would be interested in seeing the City align a social campaign to bring awareness to the issue.
- Commissioner Robles wanted to emphasize her excitement about the City Hikes coming back. There were plenty of goodies to be had for participants and participants were able to keep to themselves and remain physically distant.
- Vice-Chair Lindsay wanted to mention that the City's CERT team was activated as part of the vaccination clinic of Operation Collaboration to expand access for vaccinations. Maybe the Commission could recommend the CERT members of our community to be recognized as volunteers.

ADJOURNMENT

CHAIRPERSON FRANKLIN ADJOURNED THE MARCH 17, 2021 SAN MARCOS PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING AT 7:13 P.M.

ATTEST:

Jay Franklin, Chairperson
Parks & Recreation Commission
City of San Marcos

Cheryl Salazar, Comm. Secretary
Parks & Recreation Commission
City of San Marcos

AGENDA

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 2021
VIRTUAL MEETING

CALL TO ORDER
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
ROLL CALL

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Volunteer recognition awards

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

CHAIR & VICE-CHAIR ELECTION

Parks & Recreation Chairperson & Vice Chairperson Election

VOTE

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commission meeting held on March 17, 2021

APPROVE

2. GENERAL FACILITY SCHEDULING

Consider outdoor facility use requests for April 22 – May 19, 2021

APPROVE

REPORTS AND OTHER BUSINESS

3. Trails Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

NOTE & FILE

4. E-Bike Recommendation to Council

VOTE

5. Park Naming Subcommittee Recommendation to Council

VOTE

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Report from the Parks & Recreation Director

NOTE & FILE

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Senior Center Meals- Andrea Gonzalez

NOTE & FILE

Woodland Park Duck Pond Email- Jen Monotya

NOTE & FILE

Park Naming Next Steps Email- Joanne Harris

NOTE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)


AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO) ss.

CITY OF SAN MARCOS)

Agenda packets are available for public inspection 72 hours prior to scheduled meetings at City Hall: 1 Civic Center Drive, San Marcos, CA 92069. Any agenda-related writings or documents provided to a majority of the commission after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection at the time of distribution in the Council Chambers. I, Krystal Mainprize, Parks & Recreation Commission Secretary, City of San Marcos, hereby certify that I caused the posting of this agenda at the entrance of City Hall Council Chambers on Thursday, April 15, 2021.

Date: April 15, 2021



Krystal Mainprize, Commission Secretary

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Date	Day	Start - End Time	Facility	Event	Event Type	Permit #	Attend
Apr 23, 2021	Friday	09:15 AM - 10:15 AM	San Elijo Park Open Area	Stroller Strides	Commercial Park Use	R7674	12
Apr 24, 2021	Saturday	07:00 AM - 08:00 AM	San Elijo Park Open Area	Stroller Strides	Commercial Park Use	R7674	14
Apr 24, 2021	Saturday	01:30 PM - 05:30 PM	Walnut Grove Park South	Fitzgerald Birthday	Park Shelter	R7722	15
Apr 24, 2021	Saturday	09:00 AM - 05:30 PM	Woodland Park Pepper Shelter	Family Gathering	Park Shelter	R7701	20
Apr 24, 2021	Saturday	09:00 AM - 05:30 PM	Woodland Park Schoolside	Kid's Birthday	Park Shelter	R7732	25
Apr 24, 2021	Saturday	09:00 AM - 05:30 PM	Woodland Park West Shelter	Family Gathering	Park Shelter	R7701	20
Apr 25, 2021	Sunday	01:30 PM - 05:30 PM	Jack's Pond Park East	Morgan Birthday	Park Shelter	R7739	30
Apr 25, 2021	Sunday	09:00 AM - 05:30 PM	Sunset Park West Shelter	SD Church of Christ	Park Shelter	R7680	75
Apr 25, 2021	Sunday	09:00 AM - 01:00 PM	Woodland Park East Shelter	Bridge Church	Park Shelter	R7675	50
Apr 26, 2021	Monday	09:15 AM - 10:15 AM	San Elijo Park Open Area	Stroller Strides	Commercial Park Use	R7674	12
Apr 28, 2021	Wednesday	09:15 AM - 10:15 AM	San Elijo Park Open Area	Stroller Strides	Commercial Park Use	R7674	12
Apr 30, 2021	Friday	09:15 AM - 10:15 AM	San Elijo Park Open Area	Stroller Strides	Commercial Park Use	R7674	12
May 1, 2021	Saturday	09:00 AM - 05:30 PM	San Elijo Park Gazebo	College Graduation	Park Shelter	R7697	20
May 1, 2021	Saturday	07:00 AM - 08:00 AM	San Elijo Park Open Area	Stroller Strides	Commercial Park Use	R7674	14
May 1, 2021	Saturday	09:00 AM - 05:30 PM	Woodland Park West Shelter	Birthday Party	Park Shelter	R7727	25
May 2, 2021	Sunday	01:30 PM - 05:30 PM	Lakeview/Disco very Park	Nunez Birthday	Park Shelter	R7737	10
May 3, 2021	Monday	09:15 AM - 10:15 AM	San Elijo Park Open Area	Stroller Strides	Commercial Park Use	R7674	12
May 5, 2021	Wednesday	09:15 AM - 10:15 AM	San Elijo Park Open Area	Stroller Strides	Commercial Park Use	R7674	12
May 7, 2021	Friday	09:15 AM - 10:15 AM	San Elijo Park Open Area	Stroller Strides	Commercial Park Use	R7674	12
May 8, 2021	Saturday	09:00 AM - 05:30 PM	Jack's Pond Park East	Javier Birthday	Park Shelter	R7729	50
May 8, 2021	Saturday	07:00 AM - 08:00 AM	San Elijo Park Open Area	Stroller Strides	Commercial Park Use	R7674	14
May 8, 2021	Saturday	09:00 AM - 05:30 PM	Sunset Park West Shelter	Manzano Baby Shower	Park Shelter	R7716	30

May 9, 2021	Sunday	09:00 AM - 05:30 PM	Sunset Park West Shelter	SD Church of Christ	Park Shelter	R7680	75
May 10, 2021	Monday	09:15 AM - 10:15 AM	San Elijo Park Open Area	Stroller Strides	Commercial Park Use	R7674	12
May 12, 2021	Wednesday	09:15 AM - 10:15 AM	San Elijo Park Open Area	Stroller Strides	Commercial Park Use	R7674	12
May 14, 2021	Friday	09:15 AM - 10:15 AM	San Elijo Park Open Area	Stroller Strides	Commercial Park Use	R7674	12
May 15, 2021	Saturday	07:00 AM - 08:00 AM	San Elijo Park Open Area	Stroller Strides	Commercial Park Use	R7674	14
May 15, 2021	Saturday	01:30 PM - 05:30 PM	Woodland Park Schoolside	DeGuzman Birthday	Park Shelter	R7718	20
May 17, 2021	Monday	09:15 AM - 10:15 AM	San Elijo Park Open Area	Stroller Strides	Commercial Park Use	R7674	12
May 19, 2021	Wednesday	09:15 AM - 10:15 AM	San Elijo Park Open Area	Stroller Strides	Commercial Park Use	R7674	12

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the Trails Advisory Committee

Wednesday, April 14, 2021 6:00 pm

3 Civic Center Drive San Marcos, CA 92069 – Meeting held remotely via GoToMeeting.com

CALL TO ORDER: Parks & Recreation - Recreation Supervisor, Taylor Oshinski, called the meeting to order at 6:04pm.

ROLL CALL:

TAC Members: Adam Watkins (Chair), Torrey Olson (Vice Chair), David Simpson, John Walsh, Mary Stanford & Nate Hatfield.

Parks & Recreation Commissioner: Jay Franklin & Travis Lindsay

City of San Marcos Staff: Buck Martin, Taylor Oshinski and Hugh McMenamin

Not Present: John DeBevoise

OLD BUSINESS

1. Taylor welcomed all in attendance to the April 14, 2021 TAC meeting. All members were present with the exception of new member, John DeBevoise. Taylor notified the TAC that if guests join, they would be muted during the meeting and would only be approved to be on the meeting to listen in. He also requested that members of the group keep their microphones muted until speaking so there are as few interruptions as possible. Taylor also explained that he would be looking down at his notepad while members are speaking so he can accurately document their statements for meeting minutes. He also wanted to ensure that new members don't hesitate to ask questions if they have them.
2. Taylor notified the TAC members that an email will be sent prior to each meeting. He requested to receive feedback if you are unable to attend the meeting. All meetings for 2021 have already been scheduled and are available on the first page of the agenda. Meetings will be held remotely on GoToMeeting until in-person meetings are approved. Taylor is hopeful that the July meeting will be held in person.
3. The TAC members spoke about the heavy trail usage since COVID began in March 2020. Taylor let the TAC know to please contact him with any trail concerns and he will forward to the proper agency for clean up or repairs. Taylor explained that the trails are still in good shape even with the heavy use. Mary Stanford brought up the issue of adding a couple trash receptacles around the Walnut Grove area. Taylor explained that San Marcos Public Works plans to add two additional receptacles in the area by the end of the fiscal year. However, if she has additional recommendations after these are placed, please don't hesitate to reach out. John Walsh commented that he returned as a Reserve Park Ranger on April 1 and was intrigued to see how well the parks have been maintained. Taylor reminded the group that this is the "Trails" Advisory Committee but to please reach out to him if you notice any issues in the parks as well.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Taylor asked if there were any questions regarding the January Minutes. There were no questions or concerns so he asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Adam Watkins motioned to approve and John Walsh seconded.
2. Taylor spoke about the City hike series returning in March. He notified the group that the March hike was an easy-moderate hike that drew over 70+ hikers split up between two groups. Taylor explained the excitement for the return and how various city swag items were offered as a “welcome back” to the participants. The April hike was a more difficult and strenuous hike that drew over 30+ in attendance. Taylor notified the group that the City is always looking for additional hike assistance, so if you are interested in joining, please contact to him.
3. The majority of the meeting was spent discussing e-bikes and the measure proposed by the TAC to allow Class 1&2 e-bikes on trails. Taylor talked about the history of the proposal to the new members and how this proposal has been in the works for roughly eight months. Taylor notified the group that a total of 120+ comments were received from members of all trail user groups. He reminded the group to keep these public comments in mind when considering the proposal moving forward. Taylor discussed the City staff’s recommended proposal for allowing e-bikes on various trails. He explained that he met with Lead Rangers Hugh McMEnamin and Cortney Pache to discuss potential trails where e-bikes would not be permitted. He notified the group that the three staff rangers represent all trail users so this was an unbiased proposal of trails that are already quite busy with hikers, pedal bikers and equestrian riders. Adam Watkins began the dialogue explaining AB1096 that had been passed by the State of California. He does not feel that it is the duty of the TAC to discriminate certain trails based on this ruling. Taylor explained that the City Attorney reviewed the current San Marcos Municipal Code and AB1096 does not represent or override San Marcos’ Municipal Code so this measure would need to be passed by City Council to officially allow e-bikes on the trails. Adam also reminded the TAC of JPIA’s assessment of e-bikes. Taylor then stated that Adam is correct and JPIA does not have any issues with allowing e-bikes as long as the measure is passed through the proper channels. JPIA provides insurance to a number of California municipalities and as of six months ago did not have a single claim related to e-bikes. Travis Lindsay asked why certain classes of e-bikes are different than mechanical bikes for trail use limitations. He remarked the danger of each for equestrian encounters. Adam stated the County of San Diego has documentation of success and no major conflicts with e-bike use in their region. Nate Hatfield asked if there is documentation of e-bike conflicts in this area. Taylor explained that there have been few incidents reported to the City. Nate explained that IMBA does a resource study that can be helpful to review regarding speed of e-bikes and how they do or do not contribute to conflicts with other trail users. Taylor then replied to Nate’s comments above and John Walsh questioned various aspects of e-bikes. Adam replied to John’s concerns and clarified Class 1 and 2 e-bikes as it

refers to their speed and classifications. He also commented he was in favor of speed limits for e-bikes. Nate said they are also limited by wattage output and a governor limiting their speed. Travis clarified his question was about what are the dangers to equestrians for each e-bike classification as opposed to mechanical bikes. Adam commented speed cannot be sustained on e-bikes which means he doesn't think the speed becomes dangerous. John asked what criteria was used to select limited trails for e-bike use. Taylor explained that the Parks and Recreation Commission gave guidance to consider equestrian and heavy pedestrian use trails. Class variations have already been voted on and Class 1 and 2 e-bikes were approved at the January TAC meeting. The issue on the table is to confirm, add or subtract the recommended trails for non-usage. Mary Stanford, an equestrian and e-bike user in the Walnut Grove and Twin Oaks areas, said e-bikes are on the rise and here to stay. She has more conflicts with regular bikers and joggers who go too fast and don't have trail courtesy or etiquette. She is in favor of e-bikes used respectfully and enjoys seeing seniors using them on the trails. She suggested more public education as a remedy to those who don't respect others on the trails. Jay had a question about shared trails in the City of Poway. Taylor explained that the City of Poway and City of Encinitas also have shared use trails and encounter similar trail usage concerns. Taylor explained that the City of Encinitas is going through the same discussion as we currently are with enforcement. Taylor said our current enforcement is by staff Park Rangers using verbal education and provided some quick background about the Ranger Program being responsible for patrolling 38 parks and 70.5 miles of trails.

Mary asked what is the main issue regarding e-bikes on the trails. Taylor said equestrians generally stated in their public comments that they are opposed to e-bikes on trails. Adam questioned the opinion of equestrians since he has seen very few equestrian riders on these trails being recommended for non-use. Mary, even being a member of the equestrian community, doesn't want to see current e-bike users eliminated from using trails. Again, she is in favor of them as she has not witnessed major conflicts. John Walsh stated the spirit of these discussions is for safety for all when using the trails. He brought attention to the trail triangle signs that define courtesies that should be followed and gave a few personal examples of encounters with speeding mechanical bikes. Travis stated heaviest equestrian use is in the north part of the City where Mary lives and echoed fears of equestrians in that area. He suggested a test period to see how interactions between equestrians and e-bike riders would actually occur. Adam recognized trail etiquette importance. He sided with what the County of San Diego is doing with e-bike use and education which he feels is working successfully. He is concerned about limiting trail use due to connectivity corridors. Torrey stated similar views as Adam's. Adam believed San Marcos is in a position to take the lead on this issue especially highlighting trail education to the public. Mary concurred with both Torrey and Adam, especially on education and safety. Adam asked where the guidance came from for limiting certain trail uses. Jay stated that from the Parks & Recreation Commission they wanted all voices to be heard and gave the Commission's reasoning. Mary spoke about the difficult issue surrounding excluding certain users from trails. Travis responded to Adam's state legislation reference and said

we had freedom to exercise the safety we deem necessary. The legislation has more to do with traffic patterns and safety. Our task is to strike a balance between trail usage and safety. The European model discussed is noteworthy but not a bulletproof idea according to Adam's firsthand experience in Europe. Adam believes the trails can be shared without the conflict.

4. Taylor said the list of recommended non-use trails will most likely not be favorable to the TAC Commission due to the discussion this evening. He clarified the graphic map for Mary and that this was the recommendation from City staff but ultimately the TAC will make the recommendation to the Parks & Recreation Commission. John repeated his concern for speed of bikes causing conflicts. He felt the equestrian representation on the Commission is underrepresented. David Simpson didn't believe the danger in our City is that extreme. Taylor acknowledged Adam's comments about some folks needing to use e-bikes due to physical limitations preventing them from riding a pedal bike.

Taylor asked about moving ahead or not on recommended trail non-use by Commission. Adam doesn't believe we have the right to limit e-bike use. Taylor clarified City legal has given the Commission approval to make recommendations. Torrey asked if these trails are currently restricted to bikes or not; if so the same would be for e-bikes. Taylor explained that the trails are not restricted to pedal bikes. Mary recommended a trial use on the trails. Buck Martin commented that if you restrict one bike type all bike types would have to be restricted. Adam asked if there are stats on representation of equestrians in the City. Taylor said there is not any official data. Mary said equestrians have different restrictions than bike users have in San Marcos that must be considered and would like to see San Marcos keep equestrian presence strong especially in the Walnut Grove Park area. Taylor was in favor of a trial use period to test trail usage. Adam reinforced education for common trail use. The discussion then moved to the group recommending to scrap the City staff recommended trails and approve all trails in San Marcos for Class 1 & 2 e-bike use.

Taylor asked for a motion to approve Class 1 and 2 e-bikes on all trails and remove the staff's recommended trails for non-use. Adam motioned and Torrey seconded. The vote then took place and was called for by each member to give their vote. The results were 5 yes votes and 1 no vote. Taylor notified the group that he will prepare the Minutes the following day and provide the recommendation to the Commission at their meeting on April 21st. Taylor ensured that he would keep the TAC members up to speed on the process and emails will be sent each step along the way. He also let the group know that members of the public will be able to provide public comments as this measure moves forward.

5. Buck and Taylor thanked everyone for their time and a very productive meeting. We hope to resume in-person meetings soon!

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Trails Advisory Committee

January 2021 TAC meeting minutes were approved. Adam Watkins motioned to approve and John Walsh seconded.

2. E-BIKE VOTE– Trails Advisory Committee

The TAC voted 5 yes votes and 1 no vote to recommend to the Parks & Recreation Commission to allow Class 1 and 2 e-bikes on all City of San Marcos trails.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

1. No additional information was presented or requests made.

TAC MEMBER COMMENTARY

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 14, 2021 at 6:00pm

ADJOURNMENT

Taylor Oshinski adjourned the April 14, 2021 San Marcos Trails Advisory Committee meeting at 8:06PM.

ATTEST:

TAYLOR OSHINSKI, RECORDING SECRETARY
CITY OF SAN MARCOS
TRAILS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

City of San Marcos Parks and Recreation Commission
Park Naming Committee Naming Recommendations
March 21, 2021

1. Paseo del Arroyo

This recommendation came from a community member who gave the following narrative as reasoning for the nomination:

- a. *"This means "Creek Walk" in Spanish. I think it's a good idea to bring a bit of the area's Spanish heritage in the name."*

This name represents best the structure and location of the park, emphasizing the access by walking to the park and its position proximal to the San Marcos Creek. We agree with the recommendation, also as the Spanish name "Paseo del Arroyo ", reflects the second most spoken language by our community members, many who have contributed to the development of the city since its inception. Various parks in San Marcos have been recently named after individuals who have contributed to the quality of life of our community, all represented by our Caucasian community. Our Hispanic community has also provided significant contributions to our city's thriving economy. We feel it is prudent that this park's name be in Spanish as an opportunity to reflect, to our city's shared heritage and represents the people that live in the heart of the city. No other parks are named as such in our North County neighboring cities.

2. Creekside Park

The city received various nominations to name the park "Creekside Park". Reasoning narratives provided by community members included the following:

- a. *"It's simple and goes with the 'Creekside Marketplace.' "*
- b. *"It's been known as 'the creek' forever and with it all new to fix the flooding problems, we can all enjoy the creekside."*
- c. *"It is the creekside marketplace development project. Makes sense to keep the name for the adjacent park."*

The committee agrees that this name is simple and goes with the overall development theme of the Creek District. The park follows the meandering San Marcos Creek, and many will come to enjoy the views along the creek. It is probable that the community will refer to this area as the creekside, regardless of what we name it.

3. Additional Note

The city received many recommendations to name the park after Desi Herrera, a long time and clearly beloved SMHS baseball coach and teacher who recently passed away. Although we feel Desi Herrera made significant contributions to many generations of students here in San Marcos, we don't feel this type of park is appropriate to be named after him. We do feel it should be considered for future ballparks and or parks adjoining a local school in line with his contributions to schools and youth sports.

Letty Robles, Travis Lindsay and Danyte Mockus
City of San Marcos Park and Rec Commissioners
San Marcos Creek Project Park Naming Subcommittee

In July 2016 a park naming opportunity came to the Commission for what is now Innovation Park. This prompted the discussion about park naming and the application.

December 21, 2016-

Park Naming Report

Conversation ensued regarding the eight park name recommendations for the new park on Armorlite Drive between Bingham Drive and North Las Posas Road. After much consideration, with a focus on gathering public feedback and formalizing the application process, the Commission narrowed their top selections to present to City Council on Jan. 10, 2017 to *Wind Spirit Park* or *Innovation Park* with the pickle ball court amenity named after Lionel "Doc" Burton.

COMMISSIONER CRAIN MOVED TO FORMALIZE FUTURE PARK NAME SELECTION WITH A 3 STAGE PROCESS:
1. CITY STAFF PROVIDES PUBLIC NOTIFICATION 2.SUBMISSION OF A WRITTEN APPLICATION
3.COMMISSION SUBCOMMITTEE TO REVIEW AND FORWARD SELECTIONS TO CITY COUNCIL. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SMITH AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. ABSTENTIONS: NONE

City staff to create a Council Report for presentation at Jan. 10, 2017 meeting

January 18, 2017-

Park Naming, Armorlite Drive

A. Chairperson Jay Franklin gave a report about his attendance and public speaking opportunity at the City Council meeting on January 10, 2017 regarding the park naming policy. Formal policy indicates that all park names presented to council are filtered through and presented by the CS Commission. Chairperson Franklin mentioned public and social representation, the specific role of the commission with regard to park naming, making adjustments to the process of naming parks moving forward, and incorporating the rich history and heritage of the San Marcos Community. With feedback from the City Council, the name selected was Innovation Park.

B. The sample park naming application drafted by CS Department staff was reviewed. Commissioner recommendations include dedicating a webpage specifically to park naming, an online application with digital storage, specific criteria such as deadlines and specifying the type of components within the park that may also be named, and an update of the formal Council Policy regarding park naming.

March 15, 2017-

Park Naming Process and Application. Holly Malan presented a Park Naming application, which will be available online for members of the public to nominate names for new parks. Commissioners recommended edits and will review again at the next meeting.

April 19, 2017-

Park Naming Process and Application.

Holly Malan, Program Manager noted the application was updated per the commission's request. Commissioner's appreciated that this process is now in place.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER TOWSLEY, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER SMITH AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE PARK NAMING PROCESS AND APPLICATION AS PRESENTED.

Parks and Recreation Commission – Park and Amenity Naming History (2010 Forward)

March 2010

Park Names for Future Parks

Staff noted the Council has requested the Commission provide three names for each park in priority order. The three parks that need names immediately are the Civic Center area, the park next to San Marcos Elementary, and the park off Richmar by the post office.

Commissioner Apolo through email suggested San Marcos Elementary park be named Boulevard Park, Richmar park suggested using Richmar Park as it is in the Richmar neighborhood, and for Civic Center park he suggested Centro Park. Commissioner Franklin liked the name Centro Park for the Civic Center area.

Commissioner Perrine suggested Civic Center Park for the Civic Center area.

A City staff member suggested Schoolhouse Park for San Marcos Elementary park.

Chair Kildoo suggested La Plazuela for the Richmar park as it means little plaza which matches the theme of the park with having the plaza area.

Commissioner Franklin suggested naming one of the parks Merriam Park because this was the name of the first permanent settler in San Marcos. Staff noted the master park plan has a park in the sphere of influence that is called Merriam Park.

September 2010

Park Names for Future Parks

Park names need to be suggested to the Council for South Lake, Richmar site and San Marcos Boulevard site. The sooner the park name is chosen the fewer documents have to be changed along the way. Staff handed out the list of previously discussed park names for Commissioners to review.

Suggested park names for South Lake site include South Lake Park, Gittings Recreation Area at South Lake Park, Vallecitos Park, Lago Del Sur Park, Shelter Cove Park and Robinson Crusoe Park.

Commissioner Barrett asked if Gittings is in reference to Rick Gittings the previous City Manager? Staff said that is correct and the name suggestion came from some of the City Council members.

Commissioner Perrine suggested adding Twin Oaks Park to the list of names for the South Lake site. Staff noted there is an open space area north of Borden on the west side of Twin Oaks Valley Road that has that name listed for a future park. South Lake site could still be named Twin Oaks Park as the park at the future area could end up being named something different.

Commissioners discussed the names for South Lake site and asked staff if Gittings Recreation Area at South Lake Park could be named just Gittings Park. Staff told Commissioners about an ordinance that was adopted and approved by a previous City Council outlining how parks should be named.

The ordinance states that park features and components of parks can be named after individuals but the main park itself needs to be named after geographic features or after local areas/neighborhoods. This is why the recommended name for the park is listed that way. Staff also stated that the Council does have the option to make an exception to the ordinance.

Commissioner Bettencourt commented that if it wasn't for Rick Gittings the City would not be in the place it is today. Gittings did so much in his tenure of twenty plus years with the City it is only fitting to name something in his honor.

Commissioner Perrine suggested naming the park South Lake Park and then naming the lake Gittings Lake or Gittings Recreation area for the lake area. Staff noted Vallecitos Water District does own the lake but the City is leasing it so we can technically name it what we want for 75 years.

Commissioners voted for the top three names for each of the parks. Staff tallied the votes.

The Richmar site received four votes for Park Plaza and Park Place, Richmar Park received three votes. These three names will be forwarded to the City Council.

The South Lake site received five votes for South Lake Park, Gittings Recreation Area at South Lake Park received four votes, and Shelter Cove Park got three votes so these three will get forwarded to the City Council.

The San Marcos Boulevard site received five votes for Schoolhouse Park, three for Boulevard Park, and Village Park, Pueblo Park and La Plaza De Vecino received two votes each. A decision between the three names that received two votes each needs to be made. Commissioners voted and Village Park will be the third name recommendation forwarded to the City Council.

January 2011

San Marcos Park Report and Park Naming

Staff noted San Marcos Park has had some progress as the Council and the SMUSD approved the amendment to the use agreement. The state wanted the park to have land tenure of 50 years so the use agreement with the SMUSD will stay in affect and the documents will be sent to the state. The RFP has been sent out and is on the City's website.

Staff received an email from the Principal of San Marcos Elementary School saying they have some ideas of what the name of the park should be and they would like to do a contest with the school. The names they suggested were Tiger Park, Memory Park, San Marcos Park, Community Park, and Pawsitive Park. The names the Commission chose were sent to the City Council.

The City Council in briefings asked the Commission to look at the policy on how parks are named to see if there are any modifications we would like to make to that. The last resolution went to the City Council in 1990 and states park features can be named after a person but not an entire park.

Staff will email Commissioners the 1990 resolution and if Commissioners want to be involved with updating the resolution or have suggestions let staff know.

When we name South Lake the Council would like to have the resolution redone.

The City Council would like some type of response from the Commission whether the names given by the school principal would change the names previously given to them.

Commissioner Franklin asked how were the names chosen that were given to us by the Principal? Staff said the names on the email were just suggestions from her and people she had talked to. They did not hold a school contest yet.

Commissioner Rios noted the three names we picked were suggestions from many people and we narrowed it down to the three names and they are just fine.

Chair Kildoo also like the three names we suggested to the Council but we could consider the school naming one of the park features.

February 2011

Staff gave Commissioners a flyer for the 1st Annual K9 Cancer Walk that the Commission approved. Staff gave each Commissioner a green binder with Commission information including information on the Brown Act and the park naming policy and other related information

April 2014

Rancho Coronado Park (place holder name)

Staff noted the name is just a place holder and is not necessarily going to be the name of the project or the park. When it is time for the Commission to recommend a name for the park it is their call. Engineering uses this name because it is in the Rancho Coronado Community.

Commissioner Mockus asked if we should consider naming of the park now and not wait for the Community to be built. Staff noted the Commission can make a recommendation to the Council if they choose. Commissioner Mockus suggested adding possible names for the park to the survey so we can start collecting names.

May 2014

Commissioner Walter was hoping to address and finalize a name for this park rather than using the place holder name. Walter would like staff to put the naming of Rancho Coronado Park on the next agenda to have a definitive name for the park to bring forward to the City Council.

June 2014

Rancho Coronado Park (place holder name)

Staff spoke with Dr. Holt and he was going to connect staff with the local elementary school staff near the park to hopefully create an opportunity for the local children to provide park naming suggestions. Staff also reached out to Tanis Brown with the Historical Society to possibly create a partnership between the two groups. Staff asked Commissioners if they have any ideas of names they want to recommend to the Council.

Staff noted there is certain criteria the applicant of this project needs to meet to be eligible to proceed with the project. Staff met with Engineering and the project got way ahead of itself and is on hold at this time. The Engineering Department is working on a report that they can share with the Commission but it will take a couple of months to get finalized. Engineering asked staff to share the agenda report from the Council Report that did get approved on May 13th. Staff also included the approved CIP budget numbers for both Rancho Coronado and Southlake projects and how the monies could potentially be spent.

Commissioner Walter noted there were community workshops held and were in the works of holding the last and final workshop and asked if the park plan will be redone. Staff noted the park has some environmental issues, lack of secondary road access to the park and other alternatives for acquiring additional funding for the park including the waterway. Staff suggested asking the people attending the community workshops to suggest names for the park. Commissioner Walter noted he is fine with holding off on the park naming.

October 2016

Park Naming

Buck Martin asked the Commissioners for additional time to provide a formal presentation for park name options.

Chairperson Franklin requested staff to provide historical data of possible park names that were identified in 2011.

December 2016

Park Naming Report

Conversation ensued regarding the eight park name recommendations for the new park on Armorlite Drive between Bingham Drive and North Las Posas Road. After much consideration, with a focus on gathering public feedback and formalizing the application process, the Commission narrowed their top selections to present to City Council on Jan. 10, 2017 to *Wind Spirit Park* or *Innovation Park* with the pickle ball court amenity named after Lionel "Doc" Burton.

September 2018

Senior Activity Center Fitness Zone Park Naming Application

Program Manager Holly Malan re-presented the Park naming report for the Fitness Zone and reviewed notes from the December 16, 2017 Commission meeting.

She presented the completed park naming application with the proposed name, Mark J. Noy, Jr Adult Fitness Zone. The nomination was based on the fact that the estate of Mr. Noy Jr. made a significant monetary donation to the San Marcos Senior Activity Center.

The application had limited information on the individual since he had passed away in 2011.

Vice Chair Lindsay shared additional information he found on Ancestry.com

Commissioners agreed to have the proposed name go through the Park Naming Process steps since an area is being named after an individual.

Commissioner Hernandez asked if a criminal background check is part of the park naming process.

Director Buck Martin will speak to the Sheriff's Department and will follow up with the commission regarding criminal background checks on individuals.

This item will be brought back in October to have the Commissioners vote on the proposed name.

October 2018

Senior Activity Center Fitness Zone Park Naming Application - Vote

Chair Franklin read the application details out loud and asked Commissioners for additional questions and comments.

Commissioner Mockus thanked staff for putting the information in this format and for adding details of this individual.

Commissioner Lindsay requested to change the application details to say, "he retired in San Marcos", and to remove, "his family was in San Marcos at least since the 1970's".

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER MOCKUS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SENSMEIER TO RECOMMEND TO CITY COUNCIL THE NAMING OF THE SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER ADULT FITNESS ZONE AS MARK J. NOY JR. ADULT FITNESS ZONE. COMMISSIONERS VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

December 2019

Chair Franklin commented our Commission usually makes park naming recommendations to City Council and when the recommendation comes from the City Council he welcomes it.

January 2020

Chair Franklin noted at last month's meeting the Commission discussed and agreed on the recommendation by the City Council to name the gymnasium after Mayor Corky Smith and name an urban trail segment along the south side of Barham Drive from Twin Oaks Valley Road to Campus Way after Mayor Lee Thibadeau. This item was not formally voted on and agendaized so Franklin asked to follow the proper protocol and place it on the agenda.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER SENSMEIRER, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADD THE RESOLUTION FOR NAMING THE SAN MARCOS GYMNASIUM FACILITY AND A TRAIL SEGMENT ON BARHAM DRIVE AFTER FORMER MAYORS ON THE AGENDA.

Chair Franklin read the naming resolution to the Commission.

SAC Meal Delivery Update

I just wanted to follow up about the meals that are being delivered to seniors in San Marcos that I wanted more information on at the last Commission meeting when my audio wasn't working.

We are averaging about 55-60 a day. We upped the numbers by 5 about 2 months ago to be able to incorporate our waiting list. We currently have no waiting list. We are usually able to find a meal delivery system for folks that call to inquire, whether that is because someone drops off our list or a referral to another agency. We work closely with all these inquiries and follow up to make sure their needs are being met. I am confident in letting you know there are currently no seniors in San Marcos that are going hungry that have reached out to our senior services program.

Andrea Gonzalez

From: Jen Montoya <jmon3333@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 1, 2021 9:13 AM
To: Parks & Rec Commission General Email
Subject: Woodland Park

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I overheard that the duck pond at woodland park is going to be drained in the next few weeks. It is going to be a disaster for the ducklings that be hatching between now and July. All the eggs have already been laid around the pond and surrounding areas.. the mama duck will then be bringing these duckling to an empty pond. This will be a very sad situation. Please postpone this plan until August.

This could be a PR nightmare for the city as the local park goers will be very upset.

Respectfully,
Jen Montoya

Park Naming Emails since March 17th, 2021 Commission Meeting

Joanne Harris

I attended the 3/17/21 Parks & Recreation Commission meeting as I made a nomination for the Park: "The People's Park in honor of Pia Harris-Ebert." Three letters of support for Pia Harris-Ebert were read into the record (2 from the last city managers) and, in the end, the matter was tabled. One of the commissioners, Joyce Sensmeier wrote a chat (her audio wasn't working) to consider Pia Harris-Ebert, but it was never addressed. I'm interested to learn of the next steps (so are her many supporters). Thank you for letting me know what the process is moving forward.