

Minutes, PRT meeting, Thursday, March 13, 2025, 6 pm

Present: Commissioners Patty Hickel, Madison Martin, Thomas Roach, Cynthia White, chair Elizabeth Yerxa. Also attending Jesse Cain, DJ Nokes, Denise Conrado, Antonio Ortiz, Cliff Burrious. **Absent:** Commissioners Leslie Poland, Jamie Davis-Meyer.

Minutes from January 9, 2025, special meeting—Cynthia moved, Madison seconded; approved unanimously.

Trees for Tomorrow report—20 street trees requested for Spring 2025; sites inspected; purchase order to Griffs. A 21st tree, an October Glory, also ordered; to be planted as Rotary’s “100th” tree in Parkhill mow strip in WS Green Park. Planting scheduled for early April. Antonio requested PRT consider adding more trees to “suggested” list instead of just the current six.

ACTION--Thomas will review Woodland tree list; Cynthia will review Davis list; Patty will review Chico list; present update suggestions to Colusa tree list at next meeting.

State of the Parks report—

- Levee Park—Excellent. Debris from high water removed from park and dock
- Sankey Elmwood—Excellent. Drinking fountain an ongoing issue.
- WS Green—Excellent. Thanks to staff for dealing with PGE pole issue.
- Davison—Excellent.
- Kingvale/Leland Taylor—Excellent. Thanks to staff for replacing bench in Kingvale.
- CD Semple—Excellent. Opening of inclusive playground was great success; inclusive swing and a baby swing now installed. Water fountain needs fixing; basketball court needs lines painted.
- Memorial Park-- Jesse has an RFP out to replace Well #6. Marker for Gene Beauchamp memorial tree will be installed soon.

Parks Discussion—add pour in place surface to other parks? Invite a veteran as liaison to PRT for more input, cooperation regarding Memorial Park?

Parks Action

- **Jesse and DJ will address water fountains at Sankey and CD Semple and paint lines on the three basketball half courts**
- **Jesse to investigate cost of “pour in place” at other parks; that might come from future Measure B funding?**
- **Patty will speak to veteran Dennis Sanders about a liaison from the VFW; Denise will serve as liaison from Arts Council.**

February 26 Tree Pruning workshop follow up:

- Cynthia to work with Jamie Lay from the County to ensure that Courthouse trees are pruned and shaped properly.

Tree Pruning report—Jesse is using the list of 42 trees we provided; working with tree service based in San Diego; total cost is \$20K from Measure B funds

Stump Grinding report—Jesse borrowing grinder from Williams; 59 stumps on list; grinding will start April 1.

Commissioners to remind public that City staff works as fast as possible given the big list of maintenance projects and no dedicated tree department.

Pickleball report –Jesse expects costs of \$130K for four courts; no lighting or exterior fencing included. 68 x 142 cement pad to be poured to behind tennis courts which requires removal/rerouting of sidewalk. Jesse has bid of \$15,700 from local contractor to pour cement; will need add'l \$16K per court to add surface material. Local players will paint the lines.

Pickleball Discussion: Jesse investigating whether any portion of the \$93K in developer fees could be used. Now that we've upgraded parks and planted trees with Rotary, Madison would like to see PRT focus on recreation, specifically pickleball—tournaments, classes, etc.

Dog park report—Approved by Council. Jesse looking into pricing of fencing. Does not plan to sink posts into cement. Several Commissioners still have concerns about taking away from historical grandeur of City Hall.

Clean California grant—Sadie/Jesse waiting for pricing on components.

New business—Sadie re-applying for Colusa designation as “City of Trees.” She is creating Arbor Day Proclamation and “Arbor Day Events” and a walking tour of favorite trees.

Action: Commissioners, send Sadie your favorite tree sites by March 21 to be added to tree walking tour.

Adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Elizabeth Yerxa for Leslie Poland