



# SAN BENITO COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Don Kelley Chair District 1	Jim West District 2	Daniel Dungy District 3	Ray Pierce Vice-Chair District 4	Estevan Guzman District 5	Janie Lausten Historical Society	Fred Pagaran Vet's Park	Talia Gonzalez Youth Rep. San Benito HS	Kyle Vallejo Youth Rep San Benito HS
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***LOCATION: VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING  
649 SAN BENITO STREET, ROOM 218  
Hollister, CA 95023***

## **SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES Tuesday, October 7, 2008 6:30 - 8:00 PM**

- 1. Called to Order at 6:40 p.m.** by Chairman Don Kelley
  - 1.1. Pledge of Allegiance – The Pledge was led by Commissioner Dungy
  - 1.2. Roll Call  
Commissioners Present: Don Kelley, Ray Pierce, Janie Lausten, and Daniel Dungy.  
  
Commissioners Absent: Jim West, Estevan Guzman, Talia Gonzalez, and Kyle Vallejo.
  - 1.3. Acknowledge Certificate of Posting: The agenda was posted on September 12, 2008 at 12:30 p.m. at the Library, County Courthouse, and County Administration Building.
- 2. Public Comment**  
None
- 3. Staff Announcements**  
None
- 4. Commission Announcement, Introductions, and Presentations—Information Only**  
None
- 5. Consent Items**  
None

## 6. Regular Agenda

### 6.1 Hold Public Workshop on the Parks & Recreation Master Plan

Approximately 22 people attended the workshop. Childcare was provided to approximately 5 children. Pizza and drinks were served.

Janelle Cox, Acting Public Works Administrator, welcomed the public attending and gave a brief introduction. She then turned the meeting over to Lee Steinmetz and Elke Ikeda, consultants with Bellinger Foster Steinmetz.

Elke showed a brief slide show of San Benito County, pointing out its rural beauty and some of its existing features and parkland. She then reviewed the map of the County, pointing out parks, trails and greenbelt areas of current and future use.

Lee explained the Draft Purpose, Vision, Goals and Objectives of the Park Master Plan from a handout distributed to participants.

There was a brainstorming session, and the audience was encouraged to bring up items that were of interest or concern to them in the County. The issue of youth illegal activity at Veterans' Memorial Park was discussed as a request to improve existing facilities. Jesse Garza, the Chair of the Veterans' Memorial Park Commission, spoke a few words about the action recently taken at the Veterans' Memorial Park Commission meeting

Following is the list of park and recreation needs identified by the citizens present and the number of votes it received at the end of the meeting when attendees were asked to identify their priority project(s):

- Dog parks (9 votes)
- Trailheads
- Trails connecting to existing trails
- Equestrian trails with mountain bikes (5 votes)
- Mountain bike trails
- Trails along the River (12 votes)
- Bike trails not along highways (4 votes)
- Bike trail on Cienega (5 votes)
- Recreation Trails (3 votes)
- Walking trails (4 votes)
- Bike/Multi-use trail from Hollister to Gilroy, not on Hwy 25 (2 votes)
- A pool or aquatic center (1 vote)
- Indoor pool (5 votes)
- Use of green belt areas
- County to assist with Vista Hill Park improvements (6 votes)
- More courts
- Sports complex

- Velodrome
- Cultural Center
- Protect cultural landscape in and around Hollister through acquisition of farms/orchards and convert to parks ( 1 vote)
- Running Park like Toro in Salinas ( 1 vote)
- Improve picnicking sites
- Use existing facilities but add alternate functions
- Veterans Memorial Park on both sides of Memorial Drive (1 vote). *(Note: Vets Park Commission meets 1<sup>st</sup> Monday/Month in Board Chambers, 7pm)*
  - Improve (west side)
  - Convert to better function (west side)
  - Open fences to allow use by home owners (west side)
  - Create connectivity to down town
  - Provide pedestrian crossing to main portion of park
  - Open main park
  - Address safety aspects
  - Convert parking to child play areas
  - Needs a Master Plan
  - Utilize Briggs Building
- Have a volunteer program to help clean-up parks (2 votes)
- Trails within Hollister Hills buffer zone (4 votes)

At the end of the meeting, participants were given three sticky dots to place on the list of brainstormed items that interested each of them most, see above for vote distribution. The information collected will be used to identify community priority of park and recreation needs in the community.

There will be another Community Input meeting on Saturday, October 18 from 11:00 to 1:00 p.m. at the Veterans' Memorial Hall. Attendees were encouraged to tell their friends and relatives to come and give their input. Childcare and pizza will be provided on that day also.

Each Commissioner present provided closing comments.

**7. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.**