

1. **A. CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Soiseth called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.
PRESENT: Councilmembers Amy Bublak, Bill DeHart, Matthew Jacob, Steven Nascimento, and Mayor Soiseth.
ABSENT: None

Park, Arts & Recreation Commission – Commission Vice Chair Bohlender called the Parks, Arts & Recreation Commission meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.
PRESENT: Commission members Sergio Alvarado, Lakneshia Ann Diaz, Hannah Noonan, Michelle Morse, and Vice Chair Bohlender.
ABSENT: Commission member Larry Yeakel and Chairman Dowd.

2. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:**

Parks, Arts & Recreation Commissioners made self-introductions.

3. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – LIMITED TO ITEMS DESCRIBED IN THE NOTICE FOR THIS MEETING**

This is the time set aside for citizens to address the City Council concerning any item that has been described in the notice for the meeting, including Consent Calendar items, before or during consideration of that item. You will be allowed five (5) minutes for your comments. If you wish to speak regarding an item on the agenda, you may be asked to defer your remarks until the Council addresses the matter.

Mayor Soiseth commented on the artwork, currently on display at the City Hall Gallery, provided by Jessica's House. Mayor invited artists to speak at the podium.

Artist/participant from Jessica's House, "Rosie," read "The Invisible String" book that tells the story about an invisible string that connects individuals to everyone they love.

Artist/participant from Jessica's House, "Gabriel" (with his mother), shared a story about his sister who passed away from cancer. Gabriel's mother spoke in favor of Jessica's House for reasons including the support they offered her family throughout their healing process.

4. **STAFF UPDATES**

Skate Park:

Parks, Recreation and Public Facilities Manager Erik Schulze provided an update on the skate park including that the contract for construction has been awarded, with an estimated project completion date of February 2016.

Recreation Feasibility Study:

Parks, Recreation and Public Facilities Manager Erik Schulze provided an update on the Recreation Facility Feasibility Study including the Request for Proposal (RFP) process and noted that once a consultant has been selected an advisory committee will be established to determine how the City will prioritize future needs of the community, identify potential partners, gauge costs

and resources, evaluate existing infrastructure and facilities, and determine whether to invest in aging or new facilities.

Council discussion included the importance of being aware of current assets and future needs, such as a boxing facility on the Westside of Turlock, as the RFP process moves forward.

City Hall Gallery:

Parks, Recreation and Public Facilities Director Allison Van Guilder provided an update on the City Hall Gallery including the current artwork on display provided by Jessica's House, the purpose of the art gallery being to provide community artists a location to highlight and showcase their work, and efforts of the City Hall Gallery Ad hoc Committee to reach out to the community and various groups to display their work at the gallery. Ms. Van Guilder noted the gallery is currently booked from now until June with various art exhibits and commended the Commission and Mr. Schulze for their efforts.

Councilmember and staff discussion included the possibility of adding a reader board or signage to direct citizens to the gallery as they enter City Hall and the steps or requirements an artist would need to pursue to have their artwork showcased at the gallery.

Community Art Murals:

Park, Recreation and Public Facilities Director Allison Van Guilder provided an update on community art murals including options for a mural or artwork at Columbia Park and asked the Council and Commission for their suggestions and feedback on the type of art they would be interested in seeing.

Councilmember and staff discussion included the formation of an ad hoc committee to guide this process, identification of potential locations, determining whether artwork would be temporary or permanent, and the possibility of a contest between schools to design the artwork.

Commissioner Diaz spoke in favor of the murals, noting she received positive feedback from community members who wanted to see a mural and an art structure at Columbia Park and commented that she knows several artists who would be willing to work on these projects.

5. COMMISSIONER FORUM

Commissioner Forum Items A, B, and C were handled concurrently.

- A. Parks, Arts & Recreation Commission Staff Liaison Report
- B. Parks, Arts & Recreation Commission Comments
- C. City Council Comments

Council discussion included the desire to add senior citizen exercise equipment or exercise circuits to parks to promote a health initiative. Director Van Guilder noted the potential of developing Montana Park to include features such as a fitness and trail system, multi-surface playing courts, playground, and paved pathways.

Council commended the Commission for their hard work, competence, and service to the community and encouraged Commissioners to continue developing new ideas and initiatives.

Mayor Soiseth noted that the purpose of these joint meetings is for the Council to gain a better understanding of what the Commission is working on, identify potential road blocks, and provide support to move forward. Mayor commented that he appreciates the opportunity to meet and personally interact with the various commissions and will provide the Commission Chair with a follow-up letter outlining the meeting discussion, Council roles, Commission expectations, and plans for moving forward.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Parks, Arts & Recreation Vice Chair Bohlender, seconded by Parks, Arts & Recreation Commissioner Alvarado, to adjourn the Parks, Arts & Recreation Commission Meeting at 5:43 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Councilmember Dehart, seconded by Councilmember Nascimento, to adjourn the meeting at 5:43 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

Jennifer Land, Deputy City Clerk
Executive Assistant to the City Manager/City Clerk Trainee