

**PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
November 1, 2023**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Lieberg called the meeting to order at 2:09 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

- a. Present: Chair Lieberg, Commissioners Arbogast, Jimenez and Shrout
- b. Absent: Vice Chair Abercrombie
- c. Staff Present: Brian MacDonald, Interim Assistant City Manager; Jolene Jauregui, Interim Parks & Rec Director; Amanda Jensen, Recreation Coordinator; Justin Geibig, Recreation Services Supervisor; Todd Rocha, Operations Superintendent; Brandy Reybol, Transit Coordinator
- d. Recorded By: Andrea Pedigo, Executive Assistant

**3. ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE:**

Phyllis Kiester, Tracy resident asked about Gretchen Talley Park and wanted to know where we are at with this project. She stated we were supposed to see it Summer of 2023 and we are past that, and it is still dirt.

Chair Lieberg stated he just asked that question to staff and read aloud the response he received from staff.

Chair Lieberg open item 4 for discuss.

**4. NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. RECEIVE AND DISCUSS CURRENT AND FUTURE SENIOR CONCERNS AND NEEDS

Phyllis Kiester, Tracy resident asked about pickleball as Gretchen Talley was supposed to have pickleball courts, however it is still dirt. She mentioned that the pickleball group is dealing with the courts at Hoyt Park on 3<sup>rd</sup> street. City came out (PW) and repaired the cracks "kind of". When we asked more about it, they were told they didn't have the equipment to fix the courts, so they came in with the crews they had and bandaged them. These courts are very dangerous. There have been a few bad falls on these courts. The courts are just taped off. So, now they are wondering since there are so few courts where they go as they had a run in with tennis players on Saturday. Since there is no signage at the court as to when tennis vs pickleball players can be there this has caused some issues between them. How can this get resolved.

Justin Geibig, Recreation Services Supervisor addressed the question by stating they will now have a facility attendant post a schedule as to when those courts are reserved for pickleball which is typically on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. He will also add this route to their schedule so they can do a check during those times to make sure no one is using them. Justin also mentioned there are two other parks with Pickleball (Western Park & Sr. Center) Sr. Center is open for indoor pickleball on Wednesdays at 3pm.

Jolene Jauregui, Interim Parks & Recreation Director mentioned that our Parks Maintenance crew is looking at repurposing a few other courts to make them multi use. Staff will work with Todd Rocha, Operation Superintendent to discuss which parks.

Jolene also mentioned she met with Richard Joaquin our Parks Planning and Development Manager and Gretchen Talley is slated to start construction late Spring/early Summer and they will too have pickleball courts.

Todd Rocha, Operations Superintendent addresses the comment regarding the maintenance at Hoyt Park. Todd stated we did the best we could with the resources we had to address the courts. It wasn't in the budget to complete a full resurface, however, he stated he will have the crew go and look at the court as he was unaware of the hazards on the courts. Todd mentioned that Kenner Park is another tennis court they are looking at to add pickleball.

Mary Jo Tisa, Tracy resident asked if the Senior Center could expand their days for pickleball from once a week to maybe Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

Mr. Hasan stated he plays pickleball on Wednesdays and it is very hard to set up the nets and lines as it takes 1 hour. They need help with this. He suggested we paint permanent lines for pickleball at the Senior Center.

Mr. Hasan also mentioned that at the Senior Conversation mtg. (2 months or so ago) they asked for new yellow bands and the ones they use are breaking and the participants are bringing in their own bands/weights. He also stated the instructor would like mirrors at Senior Center for fitness class.

Jolene Jauregui, Interim Director of Parks & Recreation stated staff is working with Hyatt (Instructor) for a list of what is needed such as the bands. Thank you for the mirror suggestion as this is new to us and check into the safety as she is on the stage. As for set up of pickleball, she will work with staff to help, but she knows there is a group of seniors that like to help with set up/clean up for ping pong, pickleball & fitness.

Jolene Jauregui, Interim Director of Parks & Recreation expressed that the lines cannot be painted permanently in the Senior Center as this is a multi-use facility that we also rent out.

Senior Center member asked what the status of the Multi-Generational Recreation Center is.

Jolene Jauregui, Interim Director of Parks & Recreation stated we will be taking that item to council on 12.5.23 for the environmental study and budget. We are looking at going out to bid in the Spring with a 2.5 yr. project.

Jolene stated all the updates are on the City website.

Bill Johns asked if the City could partner with some of the recreational places in Tracy that have senior classes at a reasonable cost. The bowling center in Tracy has really low rates in the morning for seniors. This would be something to put in the Activity guide. It would be nice to get the community to have more things for seniors.

Mary Jo Tisa, Tracy resident asked about all the vacant buildings.

Justin Geibig, Recreation Services Supervisor explained how our Special Interest programs work and how we are always looking to explore options in working with businesses or organizations to expand services that we don't offer here at the City.

Phyllis Kiester asked if the city could go and renovate a building such as the old Orchard Supply and put multiple pickleball courts inside. Possible lease temporarily.

Justin Geibig, Recreation Services Supervisor stated he would need to work with planning / zoning to see if this was an option.

Mary Jo Tisa stated her family members stated their cities are going in these vacant building and quickly making them into pickleball courts.

Amanda Jensen, Recreation Coordinator asked if Mary Jo knew what cities so they can research.

Mary Jo Tisa stated Lafayette.

Commissioner Shroul mentioned that all 3 High Schools have turned their tennis courts into pickleball courts as well with lights. He mentioned that one reason he wanted to be on the commission is to help the City and TUSD work together. West High has 8 courts and Tracy High has 6 courts.

Justin Geibig, Recreation Services Supervisor stated that this is great opportunity for the City to explore. Justin explained to the audience that they would not be able to just show up and play, that this is something the City and TUSD would have to explore.

Brian MacDonald, Interim Assistant City Manager stated this is a great idea to explore, however; it would be after hours when school is out or maybe on weekends. Brian mentioned that we have two commissioners that are part of TUSD, one being the athletic director and one on the TUSD Board of Trustees. There may be opportunities as well in the summertime. This would be a great fit for us other than partnering with the new private pickleball facility in Tracy.

Amanda Jensen, Recreation Services Supervisor stated the pickleball group tried the new facility out and reported they did not like it.

Mr. Hasan mentioned he has come to Senior Center to play ping pong as a beginner player and found aggressive but very good players & no room for him. He suggested that there be an instructor even with three tables.

Mr. Hasan mentioned he has tried pickleball outside, but it is sometimes windy and cold. He would rather have it inside with a pickleball instructor.

Amanda Jensen, Recreation Services Coordinator clarified that for ping pong they were aware that were more beginners so there are now 4 tables with one being dedicated for tournaments were the more advanced can play at their level, leaving 3 tables for the beginners.

Mr. Hasan asked about an instructor and Amanda Jensen, Recreation Coordinator stated there is a volunteer onsite that is there to help with anything they need.

Wayne Templeton mentioned that their population is aging and some of the ideas of partnerships and using vacant building aren't new ideas as these have been used in the past in 2007 & 2008 in the surrounding areas. He mentioned that in regard to the partnerships, we need to make long term plans as the population is aging.

Wayne Templeton mentioned that one pressing item is in home services for the elderly and veterans. We need to look at how we outreach. Recreation and Parks Commission has great programs, but how do we get the word out, for instance, transportation and the services that are available. He mentioned that some cities having an Aging Advisory Council and we may need to begin looking outside the box.

Mr. Hasan suggested to open the Senior Center on Saturday's and Sunday's for pickleball.

Justin Geibig, Recreation Program Supervisor thanked him for the suggestion and stated that is something he can look into and if the schedule fits the need.

Commissioner Jimenez stated that Wayne is on target with his thoughts, and she appreciates them. She appreciates all he does for us at the County. Commissioner Jimenez mentioned that she began using the Tracy Transit, Para Transit, and the On-Demand after hours to get to my commission meetings. For those of you who haven't used it, it is fantastic. She mentioned that we need to do a better job at advertising this service. She knows we advertise here at Senior Center and City Hall, but we need to look at more ways to get the word out.

Wayne Templeton mentioned that we need to look at a clearing house that people can trust.

Brandy Reybol, Transit Coordinator reported on the services that the City Transit Station provides and how they advertise.

Phyllis Kiester mentioned that the placed we advertise, is hard for those who don't get around easily in which they will never see or hear of things, she suggested we advertise in the water/garbage bills as this has worked in the past. This would be very helpful for them to know what is happening.

Brandy Reybol, Transit Coordinator mentioned that last year they did 5000 inserts in the water bills, so it is time to redistribute again.

Jolene Jauregui, Interim Director of Parks & Recreation added that we are working with the transit manager to add their information in our packet that goes out to seniors. 3 times a year, staff goes out and delivers information to various areas including doctors' offices, pharmacies, senior living facilities, the apartments on 12<sup>th</sup> street and Butthmann as well as across the street from the Senior Center.

Commissioner Jimenez stated the bus Tracy Transit now goes to Tracy Hills and Mountain House.

Brandy Reybol, Transit Coordinator confirmed we do not go to Mountain House as that is county, however; RTD Van Go goes to Mountain House.

Mr. Hasan suggested we have the meeting around 10am because the center is full of people who come for exercise.

Justin Geibig, Recreation Services Supervisor mentioned we have offered it in the past in the morning and based off feedback we offered it in the afternoon.

Joy Daniels asked if we have a group of 20-30 people who want to go somewhere, how do we get them there?

Brandy Reybol, Transit Coordinator answered the question stating we do not do a charter service. We can only provide services with the programs/services we currently have.

Jolene Jauregui, Interim Director of Parks & Recreation mentioned that we have used tracer in the past to carpool to Ace Train so they can go outside of Tracy. We have also used RTD to the Bart Station.

Joy Daniels stated that with the Golden Agers, they have had to charter busses which is over \$1000, and it is a lot and now we have to charge those who want to go.

Jolene Jauregui, Interim Director of Parks & Recreation mentioned it is unfortunate as we are in the valley and there isn't easy access to other cities, however; to commends staff and the commission and the council credit as we do subsidize 4 trips a year that the senior center provides to recreation facilities. There is a minimal fee of \$35 per senior, however we do have scholarships for those who can't afford it through CDBG. Secondly, we are slowly gathering data/ information so we can go back to the commission/council during budget and ask for more money for transportation. This November we are taking 2 charter busses to Apple Hill which is the first time in several years. We are hearing you on the needs and staff is trying.

Wayne Templeton gave suggestions on things we can do to get a group together to use the services we have available.

Mr. Hasan thanked the staff for what they are doing as he enjoyed the trip to Yosemite.

Commissioner Jimenez mentioned she knew about the trip to Monterey with Golden Agers as she connected them with the Parks Foundation, and they gave a substantial donation. The Tracy Senior Center Association is having an upcoming fundraiser. They fundraise to support their seniors, so as nonprofits, you do have to fundraise. She commended them for doing that.

Commissioner Jimenez mentioned she is the senior member on the commission and is thankful for Wayne and his advice and partnership. She thanked everyone for being here and voicing the concerns and needs. She appreciates and hopes that everyone continues to be outspoken and let us know what the needs are so we can look at how we can help.

Chair Lieberg thanked everyone for coming out and stated their input is very valuable. He also reminded everyone to not limit themselves to once a year to voice concerns. He reminded them we have meetings once a month, the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month, and if there is an issue to be addressed, come, and let us know. The council also has 2 meetings once a month and they can voice their needs there as well.

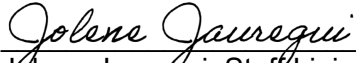
Jolene Jauregui, Interim Director of Parks & Recreation mentioned you can always email the Parks Commission with needs/concerns.

**5. ADJOURNMENT:**

Time: 3:14 P.M.

**ACTION:** Commissioner ShROUT motioned to adjourn the meeting at the said time of 3:14 pm and Commissioner Jimenez seconded the motion. Roll call found all in favor; passed and so ordered. 4,0,0 vote.

The above agenda was posted at Tracy City Hall on October 30, 2023. The above are action minutes. A recording is available at the Parks and Recreation Department.

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jolene Jauregui, Staff Liaison