



MINUTES

Hybrid Meeting

Thursday, June 4, 2026

3:30 PM

***** IN-PERSON WITH REMOTE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AVAILABLE *****

This meeting of the San Mateo County Parks Commission will be held in **Room 101 at 455 County Center, 1st floor, Redwood City, CA, 94063**. Members of the public will be able to participate in the meeting in person in Redwood City or remotely via the Zoom platform.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call

Present: Chair Rodriguez Mitton, Vice-Chair Esser, Commissioner Manneh, Commissioner ter Schure

Absent: Commissioner Faklis

3. Public Comment

Public Comment: Request for repairs and maintenance of the second floor to be completed at Sanchez Adobe.

4. Action to Set the Agenda and approve the May 7, 2026 meeting minutes

Motion to approve May 7, 2026 meeting minutes passes.

5. Reports and Presentations

5.1 SMC Parks Department Report – Assistant Parks Director Hannah Ormshaw

Highlights include:

- Don Horsley County Park at Tunitas Creek Beach: Repair work on the landslides has been completed. Parks will be preparing the Park for opening, including vegetation management and brushing. Projected opening is August 2026.
- Realize Coyote Point – Magic Mountain Playground: The public was invited to complete a survey and provide feedback on two design concepts. There was an overwhelming preference for Concept A, which can be viewed on the Parks website. The contractor will move forward with this design and work is anticipated to start in July 2026.
- Realize Flood Park: A shade structure will be added over the slide and we are waiting for some additional safety features to complete the playground.
- Interpretive Division summer programs include:
 - Take a Hike program
 - Youth Group Camping Program for community-based organizations at Memorial Park – six groups scheduled
 - Senior Center outings with Parks: each center visits Wunderlich Park and one park of their choosing. Transportation funded by the Parks Foundation.
 - Big Lift program with SMC Libraries: field trips to Parks
 - Junior Naturalist Program at Fitzgerald Marine Reserve
 - Summerfest at Coyote Point
 - Art in the Park program at Flood Park and Friendship Park

6. Regular Agenda**6.1 Commission Retreat Session 2 (Discussion/Action)**

A facilitated workshop to identify Parks Commission priorities and develop a workplan for the next 18 months.

Hosted by Facilitator Debbie Schechter

**Notes are on following pages*

7. Commissioner Updates**7.1 Commissioner report on information items, subcommittee, or project updates****8. Items for a Future Agenda**

- County priorities update
- Welcome & onboarding of new Commissioners
- County diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives
- Partnerships and connections – have representatives of partner organizations provide presentations to the Commission. Discuss which County department may be able to attend.
- Update on sustainability actions for the Parks Department & alignment with action plan for County Office of Sustainability. Regional transportation and active transportation
- Summary of Revitalize Coyote Point survey
- Subcommittee structure and assignments
- Processes to address public comment
- Address technological gaps to ensure accessibility for public attendees and improve participation at in-person and remote meetings.

9. Adjournment

Adjourned at 5:38pm.

County of San Mateo Parks and Recreation Commission

Paul Faklis, District 1 | Arnout ter Schure, District 2 | Irma Rodriguez Mitton, District 3 (Chair) | Brooks Esser (Vice-Chair), District 4 | Basem Manneh, District 5

County of San Mateo Parks Department

Emma Gonzalez, Interim Parks Director

Hannah Ormshaw, Assistant Parks Director

Scott Lombardi, Parks Superintendent

Tracy Nappi, Administrative Assistant I

San Mateo County Parks Commission Workplan Discussion Notes

June 4, 2026

prepared by Debbie Schechter, Schechter Consulting

The Parks Commission held a discussion about its work plan on June 4, 2026. This was a follow-up to the Commission's goal-setting discussion on May 7, 2026. After hearing from Parks staff about County Parks' activities and the Commission's role, the Commission agreed on three primary goals and prioritized some key activities for each of the three goals. Commissioners Irma Rodriguez Mitton and Brooks Esser will work to complete a draft workplan that will be discussed and potentially adopted by the full Commission at its August 6, 2026 meeting.

Retreat Attendees:

Brooks Esser, Commissioner Vice Chair

Basem Manneh, Commissioner

Irma Rodriguez Mitton, Commission Chair

Arnout ter Schure, Commissioner

Emma Gonzalez, Interim Parks Director

Tracy Nappi, Parks Administrative Assistant I

Hannah Ormshaw, Assistant Parks Director

Debbie Schechter, facilitator

Parks Commission Preliminary Goals and Activities:

Commissioners narrowed down the list of goals and activities from the May 7th meeting and agreed on the following preliminary goals and activities to be included in their workplan:

Community Awareness and Engagement: *Increase community awareness of and engagement in parks*

- Attend parks events and represent the Commission at public events or informal activities.
 - Hand out business cards, have name tags (County provides)
 - Report back to the Commission
 - Once a quarter per Commissioner
- Invite friends and neighbors to parks.
- Hold listening sessions to get feedback from the public (longer term)

Elevate Visibility of the Parks Commission: *Elevate visibility of the Commission by strengthening relationships with peers and decision makers.*

- Identify four to six commissions to dialogue with, focused on County priorities (e.g., social isolation)
 - Go to other commissions' meetings or host a joint meeting (January)
Measure: Number of connections to commissions, etc.
- Find a mutual project to collaborate on with other commissions
- Meet with Supervisors or their staff at least quarterly to share priorities and successes; prepare a list of talking points

Commission Education and Operations: *Increase Commission effectiveness through education and increased understanding.*

- Invite guest speakers focusing on a subject area of interest
 - Receive a presentation from the Interpretive Division (August-September) on their strategic plan, the ranger program and other activities.
 - Receive an overview presentation on the Parks budget
- Increase Commissioners' understanding of parks operations and comparable departments. Find out about other parks commissions.

Next Steps:

Commissioners Rodriguez Mitton and Esser will develop a draft workplan based on the discussion. They will present the draft workplan to the Commission for feedback and possible adoption at the Commission's next meeting on August 6, 2026.