



**DRAFT MINUTES**  
**CUPERTINO PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**  
Thursday, September 4, 2025

At 7:01 p.m. Chair Swamy called the Regular Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to order in the Quinlan Community Center Conference Room, 10185 N Stelling Rd, and via teleconference.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Chair Swamy, Vice Chair Bono, Commissioners Kumarappan, Sreekanth and Stanek.  
Absent: None.

**CEREMONIAL MATTERS AND PRESENTATIONS**

1. Subject: Parks and Recreation Department Youth/Teen/Events/Facilities Division's Youth and Event Programs  
Recommended Action: Receive a presentation on the Parks and Recreation Department Youth/Teen/Events/Facilities Division's Youth and Event Programs.

Recreation Manager Sonya Lee gave a presentation.

Commissioners asked questions and made comments on the presentation, which staff responded to.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

2. Subject: August 7, 2025 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes  
Recommended Action: Review and approve the August 7, 2025 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting minutes.

MOTION: Bono moved and Swamy seconded to approve the August 7, 2025 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes. The motion carried with the following vote:  
Ayes: Swamy, Bono, Kumarappan, Sreekanth, Stanek. Noes: None. Abstain: None.  
Absent: None.

**POSTPONEMENTS** - None

## ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

- Nori urged the city to prioritize pedestrian safety in Memorial Park by discouraging bicycle use within the park. They cited safety concerns, past injuries, and vulnerable park users like children and seniors. They opposed placing a bike rack near the gazebo, suggesting it be moved to the parking lot instead. They emphasized that bikes are vehicles and should use nearby designated bike trails instead of park walkways.

## OLD BUSINESS - None

## NEW BUSINESS

3. Subject: Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Community Funding Grant Program Written Reports  
Recommended Action: Receive an update on the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Community Funding Grant Program Written Reports.

Recreation Manager Sonya Lee introduced Management Analyst Jacinta Liang, who gave a presentation.

Commissioners asked questions and made comments, which staff responded to.

4. Subject: Discussion on Non-Native Plants on Park Property Maintained by the City  
Recommended Action: Discuss non-native plants on park property maintained by the City as a Commission and provide recommendations.

Commissioners asked questions and made comments, which staff responded to.

Commissioner Stanek opened the public comment period, and seeing no one, closed the public comment period.

Commissioners made the following recommendations:

- Encourage a greater degree of planting of native plants and limit non-native plants.
- Limit non-native plants in ornamental zones.
- Replace invasive non-native plants with native species over a five-to-ten-year period, leveraging available grants to support this transition.
- Educate the community on the differences between native and non-native plants.
- Allow for use of non-native plants in decoration areas.
- Invite representatives from Public Works to leverage their expertise, and principles about how they think about native versus non-native plants, and how they're planning to address the issue, or if they have thoughts of doing that in the

future.

## **STAFF AND COMMISSION REPORTS**

Recreation Manager Sonya Lee reminded the Commission to complete mandatory cyber security training. She also provided updates to the Commission on several items, including the Annual Playground Replacement CIP Project, the upcoming Pooch Plunge event, Teen Movie Night, and the addition of Administrative Assistant Lindsay Nelson and Recreation Manager Alex Corbalis to the team. She also noted that a QR code for survey feedback will be included in the upcoming Winter Recreation Schedule, and that the thorny vine at Tessellations School was removed.

Commissioners asked questions and made comments, which staff responded to.

Chair Swamy reported that there have been some discussions between Mayor Chao and CASOA, which supports senior citizens in other cities, and has expressed interest in working with Cupertino. More information will be shared at the next meeting.

## **FUTURE AGENDA SETTING**

Commissioners added the following future agenda items.

- Inviting Public Works to discuss native and non-native plants, including their current policies and any considerations regarding invasive species. (Swamy)
- Receiving an update on how the city ordinance and related recommendations are being implemented by pickleball players in Memorial Park. (Kumarappan, Swamy)

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:05 p.m. Chair Swamy adjourned the Regular Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting.

Minutes prepared by:

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Lindsay Nelson, Administrative Assistant