

GREENFIELD PUBLIC RECREATION DISTRICT
MINUTES
MONDAY JANUARY 19TH, 2026
6:30 PM @ 618 APPLE AVE (LIONS HALL) GREENFIELD, CA 93927

CALL TO ORDER: **TIME: 6:50 PM** **Adjourned: 7:44 PM**

ROLL CALL: David Kong (Chair), Beatriz Diaz (Clerk), Raul Rodriguez, Clara Valdivia, James Thorp

- David Kong, Raul Rodriguez, Clara Valdivia, and James Thorp all responded with here when prompted. Beatriz Diaz was excused.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Members of the public will be afforded the opportunity of a **3-minute** public comment *for items not on the agenda*, and may do so when the board opens public comments. “The board will normally not respond to public comments.” *If an item is already on the agenda and you want to make a public comment, please save your comment and make it when the public comment for the item is presented.*

1. **Public comments:** No public comments were made when prompted.

2. **Approval of Minutes for December 15, 2025.**

Motion by: Raul Rodriguez made a motion to approve the minutes for the meeting of the month of January. **Seconded by:** Clara Valdivia seconded the motion.

Motion: The motion was unanimously carried when prompted with an “aye”.

AIF: _____, **Any Objections:** _____, **Any Abstentions:** _____

3. **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT + PROJECT MANAGER REPORT – JANET THORP:**

A. The oral report will be presented by Janet Thorp

- Website Update: 5,478 views for this month as the information for 1/19/2026.
- Oak Park Improvements Update – Reached out to Jesus but have not heard back out with possible names of where the City Rec Department got the hoops.
- AT&T Update – The District is currently in a dispute with the phone bill previously.
- Insurance Update – David renewed the insurance do to not having the information for the new GSRMA insurance to apply currently.

B. Board Comments & Questions

- Raul Rodriguez inquired about an insurance claim from several months ago and states the board was generous not fighting the claim because he states the signs are clearly posted and we provide parking where there are no trees.
- David states there was a job done on the whole car.
- Janet stated she sent the board everything and there was no total for the car rental.

C. Public Comments

- No public comment was made on Janet’s report.

D. Final Comments

- No further comments were made on this report.

4. **MANAGER REPORT – ANIVAL MIRELES:**

A. The oral report will be presented by Anival Mireles.

- Anival reported that from this meeting to last \$309.00 were made for the month.
- He reported he filled the water tank up at the top of the hill.
- He took a load to the dump of the old PVC and the old metal pipes.
- He replaced those piping.

- Filled in the pot holes in the drive way to the pits.
- Picked up the portable basketball hoop David purchased and installed it. Filled it up with sand so that it won't tip over and be able to steal.
- Cleaned up and leveled out the horseshoe pit next to pit 14.
- Cleaned up the trails in the back and around the corner towards the fields and the back where the tree's are at.
- Trying to make the park look good for Easter.
- Covered the pipe line near the swimming pool where they replaced the PVC.
- He sprayed the pits with DW-40 and tested them out.
- He's making a new backboard for the horseshoe pits and stenciled them so it stands out.
- He cleaned the front of the tennis court and park.
- He cleaned around the swimming pool and the cement around the area.
- He also has been cleaning around the parking lot there's been a lot of weeds due to the rain.
- Performed maintenance on the little lawn mower. Got new tires and replaced them. He also sharpened the blades.
- He changed the battery cable to the big backhoe because the charge wasn't taking to the battery.
- He also burned on the 19th (today).

B. Board Comments & Questions

- Raul Rodriguez questioned the wood being sanded down in the picture. He was asking if it was for the benches in the big area.
- He asked him to remind him about the cement tables. Are their cement benches or wood? He suggests it'd be a good idea for them to start being replaced.
- Anival states it'd be a good idea to sand them all down and paint them to last longer.
- David apologizes and states that he hasn't been out the park but try and get out there soon.

C. Public Comments

- No public comment was made on this report.

D. Final Comments

- No further comments were made on this report.

5. GREENFIELD PUBLIC RECREATION ACTION ITEMS

- The board will discuss the well and any further updates with the water system (well and pump) at the park.

A. The item will be presented by James Thorp.

- Jim Thorp stated that first Chris Voelker was nice enough to give the Park a well, but it was caved in when pulled, so it's no good.
- Jim got a price from Industrial pump to sweep and air lift the well the park has as is – the estimate is \$12,600.00 and that's going to clean it, air lift it, and clean out the bottom 10 feet which is full of silk. That's just the beginning.
- It will be videod and more than likely it'll have to be relined with PVC. The price of a new well would be upwards of \$100.000.00. They'll move on it as soon as they get approval.

B. Board Comments & Questions

- Daivd Kong states this would be considered and emergency, so he thinks that one would move forward.
- David Kong just inquired about the tank and whether or not it was able to be filled. **Anival previously said it was filled and Jim did state the same.**

- Anival is trying to work with Greenfield Turf, but there are other obligations, so it has been difficult to get water.
- Jim states they're not irrigating at the moment, so it's not as easy to get water.

C. Public Comments

- No public comments were made on this item.

D. Final Comments

- No further comments were made on this item.

Motion Adopted: Yes

Motion by: Clara Valdivia made a motion to move forward with Industrial Pump for the estimate Jim provided to move forward with the well project. **Seconded by:** Jim Thorp seconded the motion.

Motion: The board unanimously carried with "aye" when prompted.

- The board will discuss the possibility of individuals under the age of eighteen who need community service hours at the park.

A. The item will be presented by Anival Mireles.

- Anival Mireles reported that the court does not have workmans comp insurance after explaining to the board that an individual was 17 years old came to the park to inquire to complete his community service hours. Stated that the board would need waivers and there could be liability issues, but it's something the board could look into.

B. Board Comments & Questions.

- Raul Rodriguez stated that was something the District probably would want to stay away from.
- Anival stated he'd be willing to work with them and not make them participate in hard labor. He'd also take classes if the board would in interested.
- Janet stated that she did contact the lawyer when she saw this agenda item just as a reference point. He stated at this time he didn't think it would be a good idea.

C. Public Comments

- No public comments were made when prompted.

D. Final Comments

- David commented at the moment he thought the park was only covered for individuals 1he 8 and up. He also went on to explain the park and third party insurance.

Motion Adopted: No

- The board will discuss possible drug testing for liability purposes and background checks for future and existing employees.

A. The item will be presented by David Kong/Raul Rodriguez

- Raul Rodriguez states that the conversation would be similar to the discussion from the Cemetery District meeting. The board would need to adopt a policy for future employees. Also states that if the lawyer states it's okay that can include current employees in a future conversation.

B. Board Comments & Questions

- Janet inquired what the background check would entail. Would it be employment and criminal history or what was the board thinking when adding this on?
- David Kong stated they would have to define that. He stated it would have to do with referencing and calling them.
- Raul Rodriguez stated back to Jane's point that yes that would be what the check entail.

C. Public Comments

- No public comment was made on this item.

D. Final Comments

- Jim was prompted for response and had no comment.

Motion Adopted: Yes

Motion by: Raul Rodriguez made a motion to add drug testing and background checks for future employees and check with the lawyer for current employees. **Seconded by:** Clara Valdivia seconded the motion.

Motion: When prompted all board members replied with “aye” passing the motion unanimously.

- The board will discuss and schedule and evaluation process for employees and what forms will be used.
 - A. The item will be presented by Raul Rodriguez.**
 - Raul Rodriguez stated this is a similar conversation with the Cemetery District meeting.
 - B. Board Comments & Questions**
 - No further comments were made.
 - C. Public Comments**
 - No public comment was made.
 - D. Final Comments**
 - No final comments were made.

Motion Adopted: Yes **Motion by:** Raul Rodriguez made a motion to adopt the forms that David sent the board members. **Seconded by:** Clara Validiva seconded the motion.
Motion: The board when prompted all stated “aye” unanimously approving the motion.
- The board will discuss the possibility of having the Greenfield Public Recreation District as a separate board with five members on its own per last meeting.
 - A. The item will be presented by David Kong.**
 - David Kong stated that they already spoke about this earlier. Stated that Supervisor Lopez that he would like to speak to the board. In a special meeting or something like that before they move forward.
 - B. Board Comments & Questions**
 - Jim Thorp stated that it was not done for the Rec District. He states it’s a good idea to separate the boards. He thinks Chris Lopez made a mistake by putting the same five people in charge of the park as the cemetery; for both districts. His opinion that manages the Rec District right now is not capable of managing the park the way it should be. He’ll reference back to when the board decided to give \$60,000.00 to the city of Greenfield as a donation. Which he believes it’s against the law due to the California Constitution. Boards are not able to give tax payer money unless it specifically benefits the District. He says right now we could use that money on the well, on the pool, on a tractor which they don’t have. He thinks it would be smart to get five different people.
 - Raul Rodriguez states that it’s connected to get the training from Chris Lopez and prompted David to respond with the question “Is that right?” Goes on to state: He appointed us and never said it was going to be easy. He states that it was completely dysfunctional.
 - Jim states as this board is.
 - Raul continues he thinks that it’s worth the effort to listen to Chris and retrain themselves. Or just clarify. Whatever he has in mind. He thinks this board took over with a lot of challenges. This building was being used for parties with no liabilities

insurance. This board has finally started facing the issues didn't do that the previous board didn't do. This new board said – hey we don't do that. He thinks that's a really positive thing. He says this board has taken some steps forward. David found the lawyer. We're going to have handbooks. Employment contracts. Neither board was doing that. He thinks that Chris giving them this responsibility that it is a step forward. They've got new managers. We have to train. We have to do a lot of things. Is it easy no? Is he going to quit because he's getting harder. Implies that it's a question each board member has to ask.

- Jim asked what has this board accomplished other than the things that were stated in the four years previously? Other than giving away sixty thousand dollars, telling city council they weren't going to open the pool, a grant from 2017 that no one acted on that Janet and him have been working on. What have you accomplished? An employee handbook and hiring a new manager? That's about it. This building should have been given to the museum committee and putting that building out there for the park manager.
- Raul responded that he wouldn't answer that cause he wasn't sure if it was to him or to the board because the board is a board and not individuals. So if we voted to give money to the city we can answer that. If you think we haven't accomplished anything that's your opinion. States that Jim was on the previous Rec Board.
- Jim stated 15 years ago.
- Raul stated exactly and he didn't know what the board then accomplished. He wasn't going to ask him what he accomplished.
- Jim stated he opened the pool.
- Raul stated the pool was something that came from COVID. Says they didn't have any knowledge of what to do with it and they waited quite a long time. He doesn't think it's a bad decision. Says board they had no idea what to do with it.
- Jim states that he was making his point for him. States it wasn't that easy.
- Raul says the board talked to Chris Lopez about installing the visitor center and it was perfectly fine. He then goes on to state "Maybe you know more law than him!" And that Jim should talk to him. He implies that Chris said that he checked into it and they could do it. Raul said that Recreation doesn't have to be swimming or going to the park. It could be volunteering at the visitor center. It's not a mistake. Jim can disagree with that but it's not a mistake. It's Greenfield history.
- Jim stated the land was donated by Mike Nino.
- Raul states he hopes it opens this year. If anyone volunteers to open the visitor center and it's a great thing for recreation. It was \$56,000.00 it's going to work out. He states that he doesn't know how much has been spent on it, but it hasn't been cheap. Goes on to state we've missed deadlines and he doesn't know, but he hopes it opens this spring or summer. We just need to stay on it because it's been awhile.

C. Public Comments

- Anival asked when the six months had happened.
- Raul Rodriguez stated that it would be a good time to do it and repeated that it was for goal setting several times.

D. Final Comments

- Raul Rodriguez stated that he wanted to make a motion for the boards to stay together. He says it's their decision and not Chris Lopez's decision. He goes on to claim to know Chris Lopez wants them to stay together and work through it.
- David Kong states that they should give Chris a chance to talk to them first.

Motion Adopted: Yes

Motion by: Raul Rodriguez made a motion to keep the boards together and get training from Chris Lopez. **Seconded by:** Clara Validiva stated she seconded that motion.

Motion: Raul voted aye. Clara did not respond. David stated that they should wait for Chris Lopez to speak to them. Jim Thorp voted no. The motion in this case would die as it was not officially carried and no further comments were made.

- The adoption of proposal (winter hours/employees).
 - A. The item will be presented by David Kong.
- Raul Rodriguez stated that this is a conversation that had in the Cemetery District meeting.
 - B. Board Comments & Questions
- David asked if he should re-read it and asked if Anival had received it.
 - C. Public Comments
- No public comment was made on this motion.
 - D. Final Comments

Motion Adopted: Yes

Motion by: Raul Rodriguez made a motion to adopt the winter hour policy David Kong provided. **Seconded by:** Clara Valdivia seconded the motion.

Motion: Raul Rodriguez, Clara Valdivia, and David Kong stated “aye” when prompted. Jim Thorp voted with a “nay”.

6. EXPENSE SHEETS

- The board will review the expense sheets attached to the agenda’s for the last month.

7. FINAL BOARD COMMENTS:

Each member of the board will take 1 minute to finalize comments and introduce items for February

- Raul stated he’d like for the board to invest money in the house for the next months agenda. Rainy days there could be work. The mold is clean.
- Jim Thorp stated regardless of what Chris Lopez decides that he doesn’t feel like he is a welcomed member on this board after what happened last month. He will not be a part of the board unless it is separated. He’s sorry to have to say that.
- David responded with it being at the pleasure of the board.
- Jim stated with that being the case then Raul down there can take over the well, the pool, the grant, and he will help Anival with his equipment this year but he won’t do it past this year.
- Raul asked Jim if he was resigning then.
- Jim stated he’s going to talk to Chris Lopez first. If this board doesn’t separate then he won’t be a part of it. He won’t do anything more to help them. There’s a list of accomplishments that Janet and him have completed and nobody cares. The excavator was got due to him. None of the board would have been able to accomplish getting that \$65,000.00 piece of equipment. Then he gets stabbed in the back. That’s how he feels.
- Raul stated the house is just idling. He’d like to move in.
- Anival said he doesn’t agree on that paper previously and for him to talk to David.
- Janet asked if he could move in – does he need cabinets to move in there?
- Jim stated that he already had permission to move in.
- Raul stated that he agreed with the lack of the cabinets. He doesn’t feel comfortable with him living there without things being living there. He doesn’t feel comfortable. If he wants to clean and get it in shape to where it’s acceptable to him. It doesn’t seem too extreme. He thinks that it needs that everything should be proper to move in. He doesn’t know what else for him to

move in. Make a list of what needs to be addressed and fixed. If that's in order and he thinks he could move in.

- Raul Rodriguez stated that he thinks we all care and that they appreciate which everyone has done. He goes on to say he thinks it's unfortunate that this is happening. Sometimes you want to work through it and I say this from personal experience. He wanted to resign. Stated he didn't think he was being productive. David said for him to work through it. He claims he opens his eyes and you know sometimes it works and sometimes it doesn't. He thought he'd give it another try. It's still difficult. Very difficult. Last month it could have been done better. He talked to David and it couldn't be done in closed session. He was surprised that he couldn't do it in closed session.
- Jim stated that he could have called him.
- Raul stated that he had a conversation with David and he could talk to David about it.
- Jim stated he wasn't interested and nothing Raul would say would change his mind.
- Raul responded that he wasn't trying to change his mind that he thought Jim resigning would be productive.
- Clara agreed saying "very".
- David stopped it there.
- Raul tried to say that people cared.
- David stated that he appreciates the things that Jim and Janet do.

8. THE BOARD WILL OPEN THE MEETING BACK UP AND REPORT WHAT HAPPENED IN CLOSED SESSION & MAKE ANY MOTIONS AS NECESSARY.

9. **CLOSED SESSION:** PUBLIC EMPLOYEE (Gov Code section 54957(b).) Title: Employee Discussion

10. THE BOARD WILL OPEN THE MEETING BACK UP AND REPORT WHAT HAPPENED IN CLOSED SESSION & MAKE ANY MOTIONS AS NECESSARY.

- Nothing to report from closed session after the meeting opened back up.

The agenda can also be located and downloaded at our website:

<https://www.gfoakpark.org>

NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING FEBRUARY 16, 2026.

Board Members: David Kong, Beatriz Diaz, Clara Valdivia, Raul Rodriguez, James Thorp