

Magalia Community Park Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, February 5, 2026
Magalia Community Center

Minutes to be transcribed by the Executive Director at a later date

Linda Horton-Lyons, Chair

1) Call to Order & Board Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 6:03pm

Board members & staff: Linda Horton-Lyons, Chair, Monica Gaxiola, Treasurer, Rich Gingery Jr, Secretary, Ryann Pinnegar (Zoom), Phil Howard, Lee Stone, Jake Bates (Disc Golf Director), Lucas Warmerdam (Zoom) and executive director Chris Rauen. Not present: Ryan Soulsby, Vice Chair.

2) Guests: None

Quorum: Board Quorum requires four (4) members. Quorum has been met.

3) Approval of Minutes: January meeting minutes have been submitted for review.

Motion to approve minutes was given by Rich Gingery Jr. & seconded by Lee Stone. Minutes approved 6-0.

4) Treasurer's Report – Monica reported a bank balance of \$55,663.62. This includes the monthly Paypal transaction from disc golf which will be applied in a few days (\$1,853.20) and a recent disc golf cash deposit.

5) Executive Committee Meeting from January –

Rich reported that he, Ryan Soulsby & Jake met last week to review Jake's contract with regards to reducing salary, and discussed updating the contract to reflect what his obligations would be with the reduced hours. These changes would be forthcoming, some extended discussion on bringing on volunteers to help in key areas of the program. Full agreement with the committee & Jake that the goal is to keep the whole of the MCP budget balanced and is not a direct reflection of the disc golf program or anyone's contribution to it. Jake's work & dedication to Magalia Community Park was recognized and appreciated by the board & cooperation in helping make the entity a success going forward.

6) Executive Director's Report – Chris

North Valley / Aaron Rodgers Camp Fire Fund Grant 2026 – Chris shared that the new North Valley grant program, with a very specific focus on youth, is now open for accepting applications. The maximum request that can be awarded is \$25,000, however as it is anticipated there will be many entities competing for this grant, MCP would be more likely to be awarded a grant if we apply for a project or program for a lesser dollar value than the max. Proposing to apply for the expansion of the disc golf course to accommodate youth players via a "short course," as discussed in previous board meetings. This project was already written by Ryan S.

for a grant opportunity through the Heathy Communities Collaborative that was declined in 2025 (budget approx \$10,000) so this project should be easy to transfer to the North Valley application. The application link has been forwarded to Ryan to fill out & submit by deadline which is March 3rd. Lucas would like to have the mini-golf also added in to the project, which would include funding for sand & astroturf for tee pads for the course.

Other grants – Many grant & funding opportunities became available in January for community organizations, including resiliency hubs & community gathering spaces. **Red Cross** has identified a grant specific to facilities such as ours (Paradise Stronger, Southside Oroville, etc) and have proposed to submit this as a collaborative. Potential for up to \$20k per each group in program funds if awarded. **California ReLeaf** is a grant opportunity sponsored by PG&E to plant established, native trees in community spaces; \$2500 to \$5000 to organize a “project day” if we choose to apply, which would allow us to plant up to a dozen trees on the course in areas heavily impacted by the fire. **T-Mobile Hometown Grants Program** – up to \$50,000 to renovate and/or improve community spaces for public enjoyment. Chris is reviewing this however it is a highly competitive grant and we may not be able get a quality application to them in time for the first quarter deadline. Will follow up later w/Doug LaMalfa’s office staff on federal funds for community centers, however with his passing it may not be possible to apply until after a new congressional representative is elected. **Butte County Air Quality Mgm’t District** – funding opportunity this summer to assist improving public spaces and pathways (i.e. walking path, trees); same grant that MCP was awarded in 2021-22.

Music Sponsors –

Chris completed a \$1500 donation request through **Explore Butte County**, which is offering funds for events that can be promoted county-wide. CHIP Housing has also requested to sponsor, they are deciding how much to do. No word yet from UBC Contractors but still planning to reach out at some point to Otto Construction, both of which are rebuilding & making improvements to the Paradise and Magalia schools. Possibility of support from the Masonic Lodge. Discussion about ideas to monetize the concerts during the actual event itself. Chris also clarified the process for & type of bands that make up the summer series vs. interest in profiling younger, newer artists – proposal is for a “Young Musicians Night” at MCP featuring a former teen participant and his band either before the main concert series in June or later in August.

Update on Ernie Wilson Estate –

Chris has been in contact with both the estate planner and Ernie’s son-in-law regarding MCP being a beneficiary of a gift in Mr. Wilson’s will. This status has been confirmed, however it will take some time for the process to move forward. Rich advised Chris that we can follow up again at a later date.

Potential for CCC work projects on the course – We have been trying to connect with the CCC crews both at the Magalia Fire Center and in Chico, and messages have been left but there have been no calls returned. There are vegetative clean-up projects we’d like to take care of while the weather is good; Chris will continue outreach & visit the offices at both locations. Phil also added that Ridgeview Rangers will be mostly booked up the rest of 2026 doing work with the MBA.

Maintenance on the course – Drainage issues have been mostly fixed at the 18th hole (will require continued maintenance by us), however due to damage from heavy rain & non-working culverts, sinkholes and divits on the 17-18 fairways need to be backfilled with rock and dirt. Rich

Hefner will take care of this in the coming week. Chris noted that although Butte County Public Works did take the time to come up and examine their own culvert system, which dumps water onto the course from neighborhood drainage, they are not responsible for their system past the point of where the water exits – responsibility is with the adjoining property owner (in this case, MCP/Safor).

Election Precinct – Magalia Community Center will serve as the official election precinct for the Upper Ridge once again for the June primary and November general elections this year. A special election in August is TBD.

7) Potential New PRPD classes at MCP

Last year, PRPD District Manager Dan Efseaff shared in public meetings that there had been a desire from the Upper Ridge community for Paradise Park & Rec classes to be held in Magalia. Chris attended a recent PRPD board meeting and invited staff to bring their classes to our community center. This was followed by immediate outreach by Dan, who has offered to discuss this during the late January / February timeline. He has also inquired if Chris has a proposal. A meeting has been set for later in the month; Chris requested that Ryann Pinnegar join the meeting, as she knows Dan from a prior program which the district funded. Rich shared that we can prove that the need is here, in Magalia, and has been for some time, and this is an opportunity that we should really go for. There was extended discussion on what the program revenue should be for use of the center, extending beyond just PRPD. Chris will pitch the concept of how this looks for us in terms of a class or set of classes/programs & bring back any potential ideas, rental fees, etc., back to the board in March.

Rentals – We continue to get calls for rentals for baby showers & birthday parties; we are still averaging about 3 private rentals per month. Rich & Phil suggested placing a banner advertising event space.

8) Committee Reports

Disc Golf Committee Report – Jake reported that the January Bag Tag Opener went very well w/25 players; he reported total disc golf sales & green fees \$3600 in January. February will feature a Bingo tournament on the 21st. Rich noted how incredibly packed the parking lot was over the weekend & exciting for the community to see. Linda listed some of the 2026 course sponsors she has been reaching out to; Chris and Monica are following up with others on checks/invoices & are exploring new sponsors.

Community Garden Update – Lee Stone reported all the garden beds are now rented; rat infestation is ongoing but less invasive now. The blackberry bushes are aggressive but the garden group has been cutting them back, looking for assistance for abatement. Lee will connect with Monica on donation & fundraising process.

9) Youth Activities

Ryann & Chris held one youth night in January with about 30 kids & parent volunteers. Mtn Mikes gives discounts to non-profits for pizzas for youth & other types of activities. May do a teen night plus another younger kids later in the month depending on volunteers.

10) Events/Activities

Chris reported that the events & volunteer committee met & drafted the calendar for 2026 for all *major* events (including some that are still in the works). Chris is also working with the POA social committee on a collaborative effort for two major events – Easter & Halloween – to help consolidate these into one large community event. This would also help to not spread volunteers too thin & not having enough help at each event.

Discussion re: logistics for the Easter Egg Hunt & Pancake Breakfast set for Sat., March 28 at MCP. Linda suggested having another activity taking place during the breakfast while kids are waiting for the Egg Hunt to start. Ryann P. noted we also want to keep in mind having a Plan b in case of inclement weather, which may bring us inside for a very different event. Focus on making sure that we have enough volunteers. Suggestion for live bunnies if we can arrange that. Also Linda has the bunny costume.

Other events set: Gala will now be on Sat, Sept 26, we are bouncing between a Luau or a Roaring 20's theme (more likely a Luau, the POA has Hawaiian themed decorations that we can use); Halloween on Halloween day Sat, Oct 31, Christmas tree lighting on the first Friday in December. PRPD staff say September Family Fun Fest may not go this year as this had previously been funded by the N2N grant program.

Music on the Green – Phil as the “green light” to start calling and booking bands, Chris will work w/Phil on getting sponsors.

Lee suggested a “community day” of some kind that makes use of the bandstand, but separate of the Music on the Green series; Chris is working on this w/Phil & will circle back.

11) New Business:

Chris & the board discussed updates that have been provided in public meetings on Lakeridge Park.

Linda shared that the Lions Club is holding a pop-up yard sale as a club fundraiser.

Phil would like to do a Fun Run and requested to have it added to the next agenda.

Rich proposed that Committee Reports be bumped up to #4 in the agenda, so that those who are just giving a short report do not need to stay for the entire meeting to get to their portion. There was board consensus and this will be noted in the next agenda.

Next meeting will be held Thursday, March 5th at 6pm. Meeting adjourned 8:10pm.