

Magalia Community Park Board of Directors Meeting  
Monday, January 5, 2026  
Magalia Community Center

This meeting was held on Zoom  
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 6:12pm

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

2) Guests: Lee Stone - Community Garden & board vacancy interest

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

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

***Motion to approve minutes was given by Monica Gaxiola & seconded by Ryann Pinnegar. Minutes approved 4-0.***

4) Treasurer's Report – Monica reported a bank balance of \$51,122.22, and includes a Paypal transaction deposited today.

Budget Report – Monica and Chris presented an extensive review of the 2025 revenue & expense report for the board (there are a few smaller bills and deposits outstanding), and a projected budget for 2026. An executive committee meeting has been called to review MCP's finances in greater detail. Board members determined that Friday, January 9 would work best (Chris will contact Ryan S. to confirm this date and send a calendar invite to the executive committee).

5) Executive Director's Report – Chris

Ridge Kids Christmas - Chris shared that the first Ridge Kids Christmas toy giveaway at MCP was a success (we made the front page of the Enterprise Record!) and turned out to be a successful partnership with Deb Tastet and GEM (Global Empowerment) and Tsu Chi. This is an annual event normally held on the Upper Ridge at other locations (DeSabra Guild) for families who are Camp Fire survivors; this year, as with 2024, their event included Park Fire survivors and GEM was looking for a new host location. In spite of rain, the location at MCP worked out perfectly; Chris coordinated w/Paradise Police Dept. VIPS volunteers to help with traffic control. All parking lots were packed including the event parking on the driving range; organizers estimated over 1000 attendees. Richard Yale also participated.

North Valley Community Foundation – NVCF grants that would include requests for general support for Camp Fire-related organizations will now be in November of each year; we applied

for \$10,000 and due to the large number of applicants, MCP was granted \$5000 for 2026. The next grant program coming up is for a youth-specific program or event, and the request can be for up to \$10,000. Calls for applications are expected to take place in later January or early February. At a prior MCP board meeting the youth grant had been discussed as an option to re-apply for the construction of the “short course” – per board advisement, Chris will forward this grant to Ryan Soulsby as soon as it is made public.

Other grant opportunities for MCP include two funding options through Congressman Doug LaMalfa’s office (Chris has been in contact w/Teri DuBose), including USDA grants that fund Community Facilities – possible funding for repairs & upgrades to the building (i.e. grab bar hardware on doors) and concrete walkways around the facility for better & safer public access; also reviewing a “group grant” for local community centers & non-profit resilience hubs through the Red Cross. Ryann P. asked to be looped in on the USDA grant info once available (her husband is an ecologist for the USDA and may have suggestions on the best use of these funds).

Events Planning – MCP event volunteers need to meet soon to set the 2026 calendar & discuss the early details for certain larger events (Gala, Halloween, etc). Trish Witten is the social committee director at the POA and has expressed interest in partnering with MCP on at least two major community events so as not to spread volunteers too thin (we will learn more after their own planning meeting soon). This collaboration would allow us to host a stronger & more organized event (more cars on the lot for Trunk or Treat, more help with games & crafts) than if we are each trying to do the same thing at different sites. Email to go out soon to schedule the planning meeting.

New potential programs – Chris has had conversations with staff at PRPD about providing some of their classes and programs at the Community Center; at prior meetings their district manager had shared that there was an interest from Magalia residents for programs on the Upper Ridge; PRPD has since been invited to bring these to the center. Their timeline to discuss this further is later in January or February.

Rentals – Calls have picked up for people looking to host baby showers & birthday parties post-Christmas; we are still averaging about 2-4 private rentals per month.

#### 6) Ernest G. Wilson Estate – MCP as a beneficiary

Ernie Wilson was a generous supporter and donor of Magalia Community Park, who passed away in early December. Rich shared the backstory on Ernie Wilson’s close friendship with him and through this connection; Ernie helped jumpstart our organization during its first year. Ernie also wanted to include MCP as a beneficiary in his will, substituting us for another organization that he had previously specified but had become defunct. Mr. Wilson provided Chris with a template proposing the change that names MCP several years ago, but it is not the final notarized document. Chris will contact the estate planner that is handling his affairs to confirm that this amendment was indeed finalized and steps going forward.

#### 7) Board Vacancy

Since making some changes in June, there has been a vacant seat on the MCP board. Lee Stone, who is a member of the garden committee, attended the December board meeting expressing interest in the vacancy. Ryann P. and Rich expressed their support for Lee based on his enthusiasm and willingness to jump in and volunteer at our events, and his past experience on other boards.

***Ryann Pinnegar nominated Lee Stone for a 2-year term on the MCP Board of Directors; this was seconded by Rich Gingery Jr. Nomination approved 4-0.***

8) Committee Reports

Disc Golf Committee Report – Jake reported that December was a tough month due to the storms. Looking forward to the Bag Tag Opener on the 17<sup>th</sup> which is a big money kickoff for the new year. Lucas reported that sales have been good on the weekends that he's been working & also connected with a player who came up from Willows who is now a new sponsor of one of the holes. Also per the last players committee, they will be getting a solid list of exactly what sponsor signs are at which tee pads – that list will be provided to Linda as we continue to get renewals & new sponsors for 2026.

Community Garden Update – Lee Stone reported two events since the last meeting, including a “tea party” just prior to Christmas that was successful; garden bed renewals are coming up, and the group is working through some rodent issues. Garden committee will also be working through some changes with the garden group, both in terms of personal issues and organizational. Chris shared that he has been in contact with Richard Yale, who has extensive experience in conflict resolution and it was agreed that it was time for a mediator to step in & resolve these issues. Chris and Lee will meet later and set up a call with Richard.

9) Youth Activities

On a personal note but related to our youth nights, Claire Charlton has been a long-time parent volunteer at MCP and her own kids have been active participants in our activities the past four years; her husband passed away very suddenly in late December. Ryann is close with the family so to keep the month easy for her, we will just hold one youth night for the TK-6<sup>th</sup> graders on the 16<sup>th</sup> but will hold on organizing other activities until after his memorial. Claire and her children will be moving to Arizona and we will miss them greatly.

Lee asked about tramua services that might be provided by the community center, particularly for the children – Rich shared that PUSD has resources that would provide immediate counseling if any of the children are students in the district, including those who are homeschooled or in charter schools.

10) Events/Activities

Chris proposed that we hold our events planning meeting as soon as possible to set our dates for 2026 so that we do not conflict with other major events in town. Ryann P. would like to connect w/Ryan S. and Chris to look at our options for expanding the online calendar beyond one layer (with inclusion of disc golf and garden events but with filters). Chris will text / email everyone involved to coordinate on these meetings.

11) New Business:

Discussion of a change of board meeting dates: MCP originally had set the first Monday of every month to accommodate Rich's schedule at that time. Rich shared that as his family obligations have shifted, he is no longer able to meet on Mondays. After discussion there was some consensus that Thursday evenings would be preferred and would work for other board members as well. Chris will send an email out to the board with choices of preferable days of the week/month that everyone can make the board meetings work in their schedules (we are happy to accommodate!:) )

Gala feedback/report – for Rich and Linda who were unable to attend the December meeting and hear the report, Chris shared that the post-Gala response has been excellent; Linda shared that it's difficult for some businesses to donate consistently due to financial challenges; Rich shared the response he's received from attendees was that the event was "an opportunity to meet people in the community they would have never met before." More and more people are understanding why we need the community center & all that we offer; Ryann P. added that those who were interested but may not have prioritized attending the Gala in 2025 would be more likely to do so this year.

Date of the February meeting TBD pending change of day (will be emailed out). Meeting adjourned 8:10pm.