

RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 18, 2021
TO: Board of Directors
FROM: District Manager
SUBJECT: Discuss and Provide Direction Regarding Duck and Geese Overpopulation at Rancho Simi Community Park - Supplemental Information

Attached for your review please find correspondence received subsequent to the preparation and distribution of the staff report regarding the Discuss and Provide Direction Regarding Duck and Geese Overpopulation at Rancho Simi Community Park scheduled for the March 18, 2021 Board Meeting.



Dan Paranick
District Manager

From: Kathleen Byers
Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 1:10 PM
To: Sandee Covone
Subject: Letter for each Board Member prior to March 18th Board Meeting re Chinese Geese

Good afternoon. Will you be able to distribute this letter/email to each Board Member for review prior to the 3/18/2021 Board Meeting?

Dear Simi Park Board,

On behalf of the undersigned, it has come to our attention that you are voting on removing the gaggle of Chinese geese from the Duck Pond in the Simi Park on Erringer and Royal. Our families have been enjoying the park and the variety of geese and birds for years. It seems to us that common sense indicates that removing a small amount of waterfowl (namely the Chinese geese) from the park will do nothing to lessen the bird poo. Further, the Chinese geese have been living there or were born there and have bonded family units. We hope you vote to keep the Chinese geese at this park at your March 18 meeting. Thank you for your consideration.

The information below has been taken from other sources and we support it.

“Geese are intelligent and imprint the people who care for them. They know and trust the volunteers who are consistent in taking care of them. One goose, Dory, is currently in the care sees a vet yearly, and is on medication three days a week - thanks to the volunteers.

For over five years, the volunteers have asked the park to post signs saying do not feed the wild birds (i.e. Canada geese), do not feed bread, do not dump domestic animals (geese, ducks, bunnies, turtles). Each year the Canada geese come back to breed. They are prolific breeders and their babies survive. This can lead to easily 500 Canadian Geese living in the park until they can fly away. The exception is

a few permanently injured Canada geese who cannot fly due to injuries. Canada geese (and all migratory birds) are protected by Fish & Game. The park was advised to retain a permit from F&G to cull the eggs in the spring but has yet to do so.”

Here is a list of some of the people who support keeping the Chinese geese at the Simi Duck Pond. We decided to send one letter to save you time in reviewing the matter.

Simi Valley Residents:

Dorothy - dbyers29@icloud.com

Kathy - katmay620@gmail.com

Audrey Larson- miraculos@yahoo.com

Jill Powers- jill.powers@att.net

Michele - mimimcgrail@gmail.com

Rayhana Alikhani - reyhanehus@yahoo.com

Mani Davarian - manidavarian@yahoo.com

Ellie Amouei - eamouei@yahoo.com

Mana Alikhani - 19842003@yahoo.com

Denny - dennysdock11@yahoo.com

Carolyn - carolynackmann@yahoo.com

-----Original Message-----

From: Patty Docter

Sent: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 11:29 AM

To: Dan Paranick <danp@rsrpd.us>

Subject: Chinese Ducks

I just read the letter to the editor in last weeks Acorn & want you to know that I feel these Chinese ducks at the duck pond are beautiful & should be left alone. As to the complaint about to much duck poop could be solved by your department hiring someone to vacuum it more often. You do nothing to the visitors that refuse to pick up after their dogs, this is also a problem. Or your workers being able to figure out the sprinklers after seed or sod has been added to the grass area right next to the pond. Neither took as the the water off prevented it.

This is just another opinion I no but hope it's listened to, I have lived in Simi Valley for 35 years & love the birds of all varieties.

Thank you

Patty Docter

Sent from my iPad

From: noreply@revize.com <noreply@revize.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 10:10 AM

To: comments <comments@rsrpd.us>

Subject: Comments/Suggestions

Building and Maintenance (vandalism, park maintenance, irrigation, graffiti) = true

Name = Megan

City = Simi Valley

Email =

Comments = I am a resident of Simi Valley for 42 years. It has come to my attention that the board is considering removal of the ducks and geese at Simi Central park. I am aware that volunteers have been working with them for years. The geese are not the problem and the city has been encouraged to add signs since people are feeding them bread which they should not be eating. The geese have become domestic and reliant on people for food due to the city's inability to put up signs. The geese cannot be relocated to a wild area and thus the city would be responsible for mishandling of the situation. I am a concerned citizen and have known that park my whole life. I would like to bring attention to this matter any way that I can; and to the entire community. Consider the importance of this issue and the value of the volunteers and their input.

Respectfully,

Megan

Client IP = 107.184.140.88

From: noreply@revize.com <noreply@revize.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 9:32 AM

To: comments <comments@rsrpd.us>

Subject: Board of Directors Submit Form

Everyone on the Board = true

Name = Jennifer Niles

City_Town = Moorpark

Email =

Comments for the Board = Dear Board of Directors,

As a lifelong resident of Ventura County I am urgently requesting that the Chinese geese who have lived at the water skape for over 15 years be protected and allowed to remain at their home. I have many fond memories as a child of visiting the ducks and geese and enjoy the beauty and ambiance they continue to bring to the park. These geese are an important part of the community and must be protected!

Kind Regards

Jennifer Niles

Client IP = 76.218.81.121

From: noreply@revize.com <noreply@revize.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 10:53 PM

To: comments@rsrpd.us

Subject: Board of Directors Submit Form

Everyone on the Board = true

Name = Jonathan Beck

City_Town = Simi Valley

Email = :

Comments for the Board = I would like to encourage all the board members to vote against the idea of relocating the 24 Chinese Geese at Rancho Simi Park more commonly called Duck Park at the upcoming board meeting. There is a problem of overcrowding of birds at the park but the very large majority of these birds are Canada Geese. It is cruel and unnecessary to relocate this small flock of geese that have been dumped at the park by their former owners. The number of geese have remained constant and there is a dedicated group of local citizens who have adopted these geese and feed and care for them when injured. It would be cruel and unfair to remove these flightless birds and will create a hardship for the folks who have protected and cared for these helpless animals. Please vote against the removal and relocation of these Chinese Geese. Thank you for your consideration and understanding! Jonathan E.Beck

Client IP = 172.13.73.143