

MONTEREY PENINSULA REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

DATE: March 13, 2019
TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Jackie Nelson, Environmental Education Supervisor
REVIEWED BY: Rafael Payan, General Manager
SUBJECT: Approval of the creation of a Spirit Nest Art Sculpture, by Jayson Fann, at Palo Corona Regional Park

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Staff respectfully recommends the Board consider approval of: the creation of a “Spirit Nest,” by Jayson Fann, as public artwork to be installed at Palo Corona Regional Park (PCRP); supporting the Carmel River Watershed Conservancy’s (CRWC) fundraising efforts for this artwork’s construction and installation; and, direct Staff to schedule a meeting with the Monuments, Art and Exhibits Committee’s members to review and discuss the proposal in greater detail.

FISCAL IMPACT:

To be determined.

FUNDING SOURCE:

To be determined.

FUNDING BALANCE:

To be determined.

DISCUSSION:

“Public art, monuments and interpretive exhibits can create a unique sense of place, a strong civic identity, and concurrently provide interpretive and educational opportunities. The Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District (District) endorses the placement of Monuments/Artwork/Exhibits (Objects) in public places, recognizing the educational, aesthetic, cultural and economic value to the District’s residents and visitors, and our art communities,” per MPRPD’s Monument, Art & Exhibits Policy and Procedures¹ (July 2017). Nestled in the Rancho Cañada Unit of PCRP, the Spirit Nest will provide a visual portal from the Discovery Center towards the Carmel River and Inspiration Point, cultivating a sense of connectedness to the watershed.

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¹Monument, Art & Exhibit Policy and Procedures defines Public Artwork as:

1. Artwork created by an Artist, Artists, and/or a collaboration of Artists and design professionals for the public to experience or for a public purpose.
2. Art or design that is created specifically for a public context or place which, through a public process, influences that context or place in a meaningful way.
3. Artwork that is publicly visible and accessible during regular operating hours of the District.

PCRCP is a “gateway” park that allows the park’s visitors to transition their outdoor activities from manicured turf fields to wildlands, from the Monterey Peninsula to Big Sur, and from the Front Ranch to the park’s backcountry and wilderness. PCRCP inspires conservation and stewardship of water, earth and sky, cultivating an inherent respect for the environment. As a public art piece, the Spirit Nest will instill a sense of place for discovery. It also provides an opportunity to highlight habitat restoration and the removal of invasive plant species. To reinforce this, the Spirit Nest will be constructed using eucalyptus tree trunks and branches likely harvested at Garland Ranch Regional Park.

Jayson Fann is an artist residing in Big Sur and an Arts Council of Monterey County award recipient. Mr. Fann is an interdisciplinary artist and designer with a focus on large-scale works that integrate nature, architecture, engineering, and artistic imagery. He continues to create cross-cultural collaborations worldwide. The proposed Spirit Nest is aligned with the MPRPD Strategic Plan objective of engaging people with nature and enhancing relevance to the community, and supports the objectives identified in PCRCP’s General Development Plan.