

MONTEREY COUNTY PARKS COMMISSION

Board Chambers, 168 W. Alisal St., Salinas, CA

Thursday, July 2, 2015

3PM

DRAFT MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Chair Joe Hertlein at 3:00 p.m.

<u>Commissioners Present</u>	<u>Commissioners Absent</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Brian Contreras Joe Hertlein, Chair Ken Husby	Roger Soell Ruben Zurita	Mark Mariscal Lavonne Chin John Akeman Lynnette Beardsall

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 14, 2015

Commissioner Ken Husby made a motion to approve the May 14, 2015 meeting minutes. Chair Joe Hertlein seconded and they were unanimously approved.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Jay Donato with SEIU 521 spoke regarding layoffs and the future of employees at the parks.

Mike Dove spoke regarding fees for school cross country track meets.

IV. DISCUSSION TOPICS:

a. Manzanita use

1. Manzanita Park – update on access of park by non-registered participants of the NCYRA

Parks Director, Mark Mariscal reported that at the April 21st Board of Supervisors meeting the concession agreement with the North County Youth Recreation Association (NCYRA) was approved for a period of ten years. Parks staff was given the direction to return to the Board in July or August with a status report on the ADA issues. The department has been working with John Stratton from Supervisor Phillips office to find a solution to the remaining issues.

Mr. Mariscal reported that one consideration for public access is to have NCYRA sell an annual pass for access to Manzanita for \$50 per pass, per year. The purchaser would have access to the gate via the combination and would be responsible for closing and locking the gate after their visit. An added incentive to the pass is to allow the individual to purchase a Parks Annual Day Use Pass which will give them access to Toro Park, Jacks Peak Park, Royal Oaks Park, and San Lorenzo Park for an additional \$30 per pass, per year. The \$50 for the Manzanita pass would be retained by NCYRA and if the customer purchases the Park Annual pass, the additional \$30 would be retained by the Parks Department.

A suggested solution to the ADA access is to have anyone that requires assistance accessing the park to call ahead to make arrangements so the gate can be opened. Mark noted that the gates are already currently open to the public during the week. Over the next couple of weeks the department will work with the NCYRA to get the pass done and marketing done.

2. Manzanita Park – update on possible concession agreement for use of the batting cages.

Mr. Mariscal reported that in 1991 the Parks Department worked with a concessionaire on a batting cages sublease to the NCYRA lease. The concession sublease has since expired and the previous owner of the concession is no longer involved with the organization. Renewing the sublease is required to be brought before the Board of Supervisors. County Counsel and the Parks Department are currently looking into this issue.

b. Banning smoking in County Parks – review of County Ordinance 10.70.040-10.70.080

Mr. Mariscal reported that during public meetings held regarding the Strategic Plan, concern of smoking in county parks was expressed by the Health Department. The County Ordinance already covers smoking and states that smoking can be limited to designated areas. Additionally, the Parks Director can declare no smoking due to fire hazards. Parks staff is currently working on selecting areas and this item will come back to the Parks Commission with specific locations that have been identified throughout the parks. Commissioner Husby asked why not ban smoking entirely. Mr. Mariscal stated that a full ban would require more public discussion and would be more difficult as there is a clientele that still smokes at events.

c. Update on closing of Lake San Antonio

Mr. Mariscal reported that Lake San Antonio is closed and the gates will be in place July 4th, 2015 and the two layoffs have been carried out. The morale in the department is a concern. Many employees, in both North and South County are worried about the future direction of the department.

The probability of 2016 Lightening in a Bottle and Wildflower events are being reviewed by the county. Lightening in a Bottle is likely to take place in 2016 while the Wildflower Triathlon is more involved and is more of a challenge to pull off. The Wildflower concessionaire has been put on notice. An update on this item should be available at the August Parks Commission meeting.

d. Brown Act Briefing

Chair Hertlein discussed the training that the county held which he attended regarding the Brown Act and suggested that the commissioners read through the presentation slides that were provided so that they have a full understanding of what the rules are. Chair Hertlein felt that the Commission is following all of the rules covered under the Act. Commissioner Husby suggested that the Commissioners be cautious of any outside meetings.

e. Strategic Plan Update

Mr. Mariscal reported that on July 1st the Parks Department began working on the implementation of the Strategic Plan with items such as playground inspections, assessments of buildings, inventory control and assigning people to the right work areas and designated to the right budget units. The department has managed to do all of this without any additional funding. The Strategic Plan also includes analyzing fees and how organizations, such as the cross country groups, are charged.

Lavonne Chin, Special Events Manager, reported that International Speedway Corporation (ISC) will begin working with SCRAMP at Laguna Seca to conduct a 90-day due diligence. There currently is no agreement with ISC and Lavonne was unsure the extent of the management ISC would potentially handle.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Hertlein adjourned the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

Prepared by: Lynnette Beardsall, Secretary