

MONTEREY COUNTY PARKS COMMISSION

Thyme Room

1441 Schilling Place, Salinas, CA, 93901

June 7, 2018

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Chair Joe Hertlein at 3:08 p.m. There was a quorum.

<u>Commissioners Present</u>	<u>Commissioners Absent</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Guests</u>
Joe Hertlein, Chair Jordan Caballero, Vice Chair Joanna Devers (3:10pm) Supervisor Mary Adams		Carl Holm Kelly Donlon Shawne Ellerbee John Dugan Neville Pereira Kate Battiato John Snively John Akeman Lavonne Chin Sarah Trueblood Kayla Johnson Clifton Hermann	Mark Sandoval Mary Pendlay

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. John Akeman introduced Clifton Hermann to the Commissioners and gave verbal recognition for his two years of intern work within RMA-Parks as he will be graduating and leaving the county to pursue a permanent job.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, REQUEST, RECOMMENDATIONS

Vice-Chair Caballero requested that staff pursue filling the vacancies from District 1 and District 3 as quickly as possible.

Since consideration of minutes requires a quorum present, the Chair moved to scheduled item #2 until Commissioner Devers arrived.

SCHEDULED ITEM:

2.
 - a. **Receive a report on the County Park Project Review process for proposed projects brought forward by proponents or sponsors as a willing gift, contribution or donation to the County; and**
 - b. **Provide direction to staff.**

Mr. Akeman, Parks Planning Manager, gave a Power Point presentation on the County Project Review process to the Commissioners. Mr. Akeman explained the key steps in this procedure: 1) submittal of proposal for RMA – Parks Review; 2) Development Review Committee (DRC); 3) Park Commission Review; 4) Planning Commission Review and 5) Board of Supervisors Consideration and Approval. Steps might vary due to the scope of work. Commissioner Devers arrived towards the end of the presentation at 3:14 p.m. Mr. Akeman will draft a formal policy that outlines the above to present to the Park Commission for consideration and recommendation.

Under general consensus the Commission requested staff provide a detailed checklist for proposed projects to provide proponents or sponsors when they complete and submit

paperwork. The Commission also requested a fee structure to recover staff cost for time spent to complete a proposed project.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

Mr. Akeman verbally informed the Commission of a letter received from Tatum's Foundation Treehouse indicating they were not pursuing building the Treehouse facility in Toro Park. Mr. Akeman mentioned an issue that arose when staff researched the Federal Program that funded the purchase of Toro Park in the 70's - The Land Water Fund Conservation Fund Agreement. The Agreement prohibits leasing land, and projects on County lands require a competitive bidding process, minority hiring and prevailing wages. As such, Tatum's Foundation decided they did not want to become a bidder and possibly not utilize volunteers for the majority of the work.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the Parks Commission Minutes of May 3, 2018.

The approval of the Minutes was approved after item two was discussed as the Parks Commission did not have a quorum. Commissioner Joanna Devers arrived during the discussion of item two and there was a quorum for approval of minutes.

Motion: Commissioner Joanna Devers motioned to approve the May 3, 2018 minutes with the correction of Trails Map instead of the word Trails May on section 4a. Vice-Chair Caballero seconded the motion and it was approved with the following vote:

AYES: Joanna Devers, Jordan Caballero, Joe Hertlein, and Supervisor Mary Adams

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

SCHEDULED ITEMS

3.

- a. Receive a report on the status of amendments to Monterey County Code Chapter 14.12 (County Parks).**
- b. Consider an amendment to Monterey County Code Section 14.12.130.A.14 to allow the Resource Management Agency Director or designee to authorize religious and fundraising activities in County Parks.**

Mr. John Snively, RMA Management Analyst, presented an update on the status of amendments to Monterey County Code Chapter 14.12. Mr. Snively mentioned a Draft was presented to the Commission a couple of months ago. Staff placed this item on the agenda because it is closely tied in with the Park Fees. This way the regulations and fees are presented at the same time. Mr. Snively indicated that the proposed Chapter 14.12 update reflects prior direction from the Commission. He indicated Attachment B was included to provide an overview of some of the major policy changes if this draft is approved and he is working closely with county counsel to review the ordinance.

Mr. Snively noted that current county code requires that any political, religious or fundraising activity go to the Board of Supervisor's for approval. Due to the increased number of requests it has involved a significant amount of staff time to process, staff requested support from the Commission to move forward separately Section 14.12.130.A.14 with transferring authority to approve religious and fundraiser events

from the Board of Supervisors to the Director. Political activity or political events would still go to the Board of Supervisors for approval. Mr. Snively also mentioned including an appeals process in the Chapter 14.12 draft in the event a religious or fundraising activity or event is appealed and needing the Board of Supervisors approval.

Supervisor/Commissioner Mary Adams inquired who would be enforcing the amendments to Chapter 14.12. Carl Holm, RMA Director, informed the Commissioners that RMA is looking to go back to a model where all of staff were Rangers and have the ability to enforce the regulations administratively.

Supervisor Adams inquired how the public would be informed of the regulations. Ms. Shawne Ellerbee, RMA Deputy Director of Administrative Services, informed the Commissioners the Ordinance is on the website, at the kiosks at the entry of the parks, and in the special events documents to inform the public.

Supervisor Mary Adams inquired why smoking is permitted within any county property. Mr. Snively replied that based on previous discussions with the Parks Commission, staff was trying to determine reasonable accommodations for people who are smokers and have extended stays (e.g. overnight). Mr. Akeman requested Commissioners keep the live-on volunteers in mind when considering the smoking section of the ordinance as there might be a smoker among them. Mr. Holm suggested that one part of the conversation was to ban smoking in the parks and the other part of that conversation was how/if to accommodate an overnight smoker.

Ms. Ellerbee informed the Commissioners the current ordinance does not have a designated area indicated for smokers.

County Counsel Kelly Donlon informed the Commissioners of the Health Departments intent on amending or adding chapter 10.70 concerning smoking.

Recommendation:

Commissioners recommendation is for the smoking regulations to be brought separately from Chapter 14.12.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mark Sandoval, CalParks Manager at the Lakes, commented on concerns prohibiting smoking at the Lakes facilities due to the type of clientele they receive at the Lakes.

Mary Pendley commented in support of a smoking ban

4.

- a. Consider updates to the Park fees for recovering costs related to the use of County Parks; and**
- b. Provide a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors regarding updates to Park fees in Article V of the Monterey County Fee Resolution.**

Ms. Ellerbee presented proposed Park User Fees for the County Parks. Ms. Ellerbee highlighted some of the proposed items on the fee schedule: a daily entry fee at day use parks, identifying child age (5 yrs. old), and changing the grouping of the parks and building rentals to size, occupancy and capacity they can hold instead of location. Ms. Ellerbee mentioned when the fee article was adopted on September 2014, there was a recommendation to have a park specific annual pass.

The current park annual pass is currently \$80 and is good at all County Parks, except for Lake Nacimiento which is \$200 because it is a resort with different amenities. Ms. Ellerbee informed the Commissioner the passes run from the month of purchase to 12-month time. Ms. Ellerbee also informed the Commissioners the proposed schedule will

include the lodges at the Lakes, Section V, Section IV on boating and rentals (renting poles and kayaks, etc.): the increased the annual boating pass to account for the Quagga Mussel inspection and breaking off the commercial from non-profit on photography fees. Ms. Ellerbee also informed the Commissioners of the increase on the Rifle Range, she indicated the fees are higher compared to other facilities but it is the only public range in the area and the facility needs help with the infrastructure.

Ms. Ellerbee also informed the Commissioners of an added section for Special Events as the process it has taken to get started and having to meet deadlines has been cumbersome. Ms. Ellerbee spoke of the update on the convenience fee for the credit cards, acquiring a new reservation system which would allow for on-line reservations and payments. Ms. Ellerbee also brought up concerns from the cross-country community regarding students participating or attending events having to pay an entry fee to the park. She informed the Commissioners that the proposed Fee Schedule is scheduled to go to the Board of Supervisors on July 17, 2018 and adjustments can be made at the July 5, 2018 meeting.

Recommendation:

The Commission supported staff to proceed forward to the Board of Supervisor's if there was not a Parks Commission meeting held in July. Commission direction included: remove the January to December time for annual passes, escalate the fee every two years, provide an application fee for project review, add a discount for students, and indicate children under five years old get into Parks at no charge.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Mr. Akeman gave an update on the twenty-two applications received for the Trails Taskforce. Mr. Akeman mentioned having done a pre-assessment with Sarah Trueblood and Joanne Devers created a criterion that was used to rank the applicants. Mr. Akeman informed the Commission of the meeting on June 14, 2018 for final selection and there might be interviews. Mr. Akeman informed the Commission they will have representatives from District 5, Big Sur Land Trust, User Groups: Equestrian, Hikers, Joggers, Mountain Bikers, and Resource Experts.

Mr. Carl Holm, RMA Director informed the Commissioners of a group that was involved in a biking event which had an agreement and took it as they were to work on trails. Mr. Holm informed the Commissioners that it has been made very clear to the event organizer from this group that if there is any work on trails with this group that it is to be done in conjunction with county staff per our direction and standards.

Recommendation:

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

II. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Joe Hertlein adjourned the meeting at 5:09 p.m.

Prepared by: Susan Rosales-Nava, Secretary