

MONTEREY COUNTY PARKS COMMISSION

Thyme Room
1441 Schilling Place, Salinas, CA, 93901
August 2, 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 3:00 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 (3:15pm) Joanna Devers Sergio Sanchez Supervisor Mary Adams		Carl Holm Brian Briggs Shawne Ellerbee John Dugan John Snively Lavonne Chin Sarah Trueblood Cam Sanchez	Mary Pendlay Kelly Donlon Kate Battiato Kayla Johnson Beth Winters Nate Merkle

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mary Pendlay

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, REQUEST, RECOMMENDATIONS

Supervisor Mary Adams swore in Commissioner Sergio Sanchez in before the Parks Commission meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Approve the Parks Commission Minutes of June 7, 2018.

Chair requested minutes be drafted within a week from the meeting.

Motion: Commissioner Joanna Devers motioned to approve the June 7, 2018 minutes with the correction of consider instead of the word complete on section 2ab. Supervisor Mary Adams 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: Sergio Sanchez

SCHEDULED ITEM:

3.
 - a. Receive a follow up report on the update to Article V – Parks User Fees of the Monterey County Fee Resolution (Park User Fees); and
 - b. Support recommended updates to the Board of Supervisors regarding Park User Fees.

Ms. Shawne Ellerbee – RMA Deputy Director of Administrative Services, gave a follow up report from the June 7, 2018 Parks Commission meeting.

Commissioner Sanchez inquired how the proposed rates compare to other county parks and stated as a principal he cannot support charging people to get into our day use Parks.

Supervisor Adams expressed her goal is to have an unarmed ranger in every park and for many residents in this County, the day use parks are their only backyard and they should not have to pay to enter the day use the parks. Supervisor Adams suggested looking at increasing other fees to offset not charging entry fees or at least consider having one day out of the week be free to enter, either a Wednesday or Sunday.

Commissioner Caballero recommended Sunday as the best day to be free of charge for entry into the day use parks.

Chair Hertlein commented that there is a fundamental question of whether to recover fees for people entering the day use parks which is a policy decision for the Board of Supervisors.

The Commission requested that staff return with the following:

- 1) Modify the fee schedule to see what the impact would be with no entry fee charge for the day use parks, by compensating in other areas;
- 2) Identify impacts of providing each child in the school district four passes per year centric to the day use park closest to each school district to provide them the ability to get in at no charge;
- 3) Identify the impact of establishing 1 day a week free admittance into day use parks;
- 4) Identify what the process would be for establishing long-term subsidy such as an assessment district or some type of tax;
- 5) Identify events at the day use parks that would generate income to offset charging an entry fee;
- 6) Consider Partnerships with non-profit to operate and manage park facility(s) while still offering discounts;
- 7) Develop a long-term plan between 5-10 years to work towards the parks to become self-sufficient.

Public Comment: Glen Woodson; Susan Young; Erik Peterson; Dan Thompson

SCHEDULED ITEMS

4. Receive a report of the Park's volunteer hours and services for the period of July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018

Ms. Sarah Trueblood, RMA Operations Manager, presented a report of the Park's volunteer hours and services for the period of July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 to the Commissioners. Ms. Trueblood indicated this report included four parks consisting of Jacks Peak, Manzanita, Royal Oaks and Toro Park.

Commissioner Devers expressed her interest on what the future plans are for training the volunteers.

Commissioner Sanchez inquired if there was a process was for coordinating with schools for students needing to identify community service opportunities. Commissioner Sanchez also asked regarding the process for partnering with local Universities and Colleges, as they have groups such as Return of the Natives. Commissioner Sanchez also inquired what program is in place to recognize volunteers for their effort.

Public Comment: Robin Cohen

5. Receive a report on the process for the formation and selection of the new Toro Park Trails Task Force.

Ms. Sarah Trueblood, RMA Operations Manager presented a report on the process for the formation and selection of the new Toro Park Trails Task Force. Ms. Trueblood informed the Commissioners of the seven members selected and their affiliations. Ms. Trueblood informed the Commissioners of the first Toro Park Trails Task Force meeting scheduled for Wednesday, August 8, 2018 where they will lay the frame work for the role of the task force.

Supervisor Adams asked if BLM was invited to be on the task force. Ms. Trueblood informed Supervisor Adams they were supportive and provided guidance. RMA Director, Carl Holm informed Supervisor Adams BLM agreed to serve as a resource but need to be at every task force meeting.

Supervisor Adams inquired whether it is usual for staff to appoint members of the task force as oppose to having the Parks Commission involved. Chair Hertlein informed Supervisor Adams of Commissioner Joanna Devers' involvement with the selection and expressed his appreciation.

Public Comment: Eric Peterson

Carl Holm, RMA Director informed the Commissioners of this being Ms. Trueblood 's last meeting as she will be leaving to further her education and is appreciative of all the work completed on this. Mr. Holm also informed the Commissioners that Brett Fulgoni will be stepping in to be the Administrative Operations for Parks Department on an Interim basis until the position is permanently filled. Mr. Cam Sanchez, RMA Management Analyst informed the Commissioners of John Akeman's, RMA Planning involvement with the task trails will continue as he was part of the first trail force.

6. a. Consider recommending partial smoking ban proposal for incorporation in the amended Monterey County Code Chapter 14.12; or direct staff to incorporate a different option.

b. Provide direction to staff on scope and timing of implementation of smoking ban.

Mr. John Snively, RMA - Management Analyst presented a summary of smoking bans in counties throughout California. Mr. Snively noted how other county facilities summarized in the report compare in size and scope with Monterey County parks and provided the recommendations from staff for the Parks Commission.

Supervisor Adams suggested staff put more non-smoking camp sites than smoking camp sites at San Lorenzo Park. Supervisor Adams inquired on the data point for Lake San Antonio and Lake Nacimiento and indicated no demographics point to the majority of people smoking at these parks. She informed staff on August 28, 2018, Monterey County Board of Supervisors is considering a referral from staff to draft an ordinance banning tobacco smoking at Monterey County parks, buildings and parking lots and would like to ensure what is happening here is in agreement to what may come from the referral.

Chair Hertlein inquired how a smoking ban would affect the volunteers and perhaps if there is an exception it could be considered for the live on volunteers.

Commissioner Caballero inquired what the policy Manzanita Park has for smokers as this park is unique with the way it is set up and with the relation with its different organization and high traffic of children and high traffic.

Supervisor Adams indicated Parks Commission can recommend to the Board supporting a strict

smoking ban with two special considerations: live on volunteers to smoke in their habitation and for designated smoking areas for Laguna Seca and Lake Nacimiento.

Commissioner Sanchez inquired if referral included banning all products, in particular cannabis, as it can be prescribed by a doctor and smoking does not need a prescription. Supervisor Adams read Supervisor Alejo's recommendation on the verbiage the referral will need: This referral requests that county staff draft an ordinance to prohibit tobacco smoking including tobacco e-cigarettes and vaping in all county parks, buildings and parking lots. Commissioner Sanchez inquired of monitoring and enforcing this ban.

Public Comment: Nate Merkle, General Manager for Cal Parks; Eric Peterson; Gonzalo Coronado, Tobacco Control Program

Motion: Recommend to the Board of Supervisor's a ban on smoking in all County Parks, including smoking cannabis, with consideration given for Live-On Volunteers and special circumstances for Laguna Seca and the Lakes. Approved by consensus.

DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Mr. Cam Sanchez, RMA Management Analyst informed the Commission of the intent to clean-up at Dutton Hotel, however because of the rattlesnakes it was postponed until November 2018. Mr. Sanchez also informed the Commission of the clean-up made at Tidball with the collaboration of other partnerships.

Mr. Cam Sanchez, RMA Management Analyst informed the Commission the San Lorenzo Master Plan Update will need to be postponed for the next Parks Commission Meeting for Mr. John Akeman, RMA Planning to present.

II. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Joe Hertlein adjourned the meeting at 5:11 p.m.

Prepared by: Susan Rosales-Nava, Secretary