

Item #1

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MONTEREY COUNTY PARKS COMMISSION

Saffron Room
1441 Schilling Place, Salinas, CA, 93901
October 1, 2020
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

MINUTES

3:00 P.M. - CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

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

This meeting was conducted via teleconference using the Microsoft Zoom program

<u>Commissioners Present</u>	<u>Commissioners Absent</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Sergio Sanchez, Chair Eric Rozance, Vice-Chair Paula Getzelman Supervisor Mary L. Adams Joseph Hertlein	Joanna Devers	Brian Briggs, Deputy County Counsel Shawne Ellerbee, RMA Assistant Director Brian Flores, Administrative Operations Manager Susan Rosales-Nava, Secretary

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, REQUEST, RECOMMENDATIONS

Commissioner Hertlein commented on the following item:

- Audio recording available of Commission meetings

AGENDA ADDITIONS, DELETIONS AND CORRECTIONS

None

APPROVAL/ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

1. Acceptance of the August 6, 2020 Parks Commission Minutes.

A motion was moved by Commissioner Hertlein that the minutes be approved after page 2 reference to clarify "By-Law" subcommittee and page 3 item 4 remove of "The Commission received the report", seconded by Commissioner Getzelman, and passed by the following vote to approve the August 6, 2020 Parks Commission Minutes:

AYES: Sanchez, Rozance, Getzelman, Hertlein and Supervisor Adams

NOES: None

ABSENT: Devers

ABSTAIN: None

3:00 P.M. - SCHEDULED MATTERS

2. Brown Act Training (California's Open Meeting Law)

Brian Briggs, Deputy County Counsel gave a power point presentation on the Brown Act (California's Open Meeting Law).

Public Comment: None.

The Commission received the report – No motion required.

3. The California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68) Funding Opportunities.

Shawne Ellerbee, Assistant Director of RMA introduced Janie Bettencourt who gave a power point presentation on proposition 68 grant opportunities and criteria: Statewide Park Program – Round 4, Per Capita Grant, Rural Recreation and Tourism (RRT) Grant, and Regional Park Program (RPP) Grant.

Ms. Ellerbee informed the Commission of the projects the Parks Operations Managers have identified for the two grant opportunities available now for San Lorenzo Park and Lake San Antonio. A detailed scope of work and a cost estimate will be completed for all projects including these two. It will be brought back to the Commission possibly in a Special Meeting for recommendation and resolutions for the list of projects to be presented to the Board of Supervisors for adoption. Lake San Antonio may cause some complications as there is a 30-year deed restriction where Water Resources Agency will need to be involved, they are the landowner for this property. Therefore, timing for December 14, 2020 deadline might not be met so focus will proceed with the grants for San Lorenzo Parks.

Ms. Ellerbee informed the Commission that community meetings were held in February 2019 for the development of the operations plan for Lake San Antonio where the community provided feedback on the activities they envisioned occurring at that facility.

Ms. Bettencourt informed the Commission grants are available to non-profits.

Public Comment: None

The Commission received the report – No motion required.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

4. City Gate Report Update.

Shawne Ellerbee, Assistant Director of RMA gave an update on the actions that have been taken since the City Gate Report was received and approved by the Board of Supervisors.

- On September 15, 2020, the CAOs officer presented an ordinance to dissolve RMA and create two new department where the Deputy Director position was eliminated and created the new position for the Director of Community Services.
- On September 29, 2020, the CAO returned to the Board of Supervisors for the adoption of the ordinance dissolving RMA and creating the Housing and Community Development Department and Community Services Department and will take into effect November 30, 2020. Staff is currently in process at looking how the split between the two departments will take place.
- On September 15, 2020 Board of Supervisor meeting an attachment showed the different functional areas as being proposed for each of the department. A follow up with the BOS on proposed organization charts will be taken to the Board of Supervisors on the functions and positions going between the two departments.
- The posting for the Director position for the Community Services was released and closed on Monday, September 28, 2020 and applications are being considered and an announcement should be given shortly on who the appointed Community Services Director will be and should be in place before the dissolving of RMA.
- Concerns raised in reference to Recommendation Number 50 by Commissioner Hertlein on what the purpose of the recommendation was and the Commissioner's role when referring to recruitment. Ms. Ellerbee received clarification from Mr. Palmer of City Gate that the purpose of that recommendation was to utilize the Parks Commission members utilize their networks to try to promote volunteerism within the county parks.

Public Comment: Gabriel Soto shared information the California Fish and Wildlife has on their natural resource volunteer program and suggested the county have a similar program in place to report any illegal activity at the park.

Bryan Flores, Administrative Operations Manager for Toro Park informed the Commission of the eight Live-On volunteers that assist with patrolling the park for illegal entry. He also mentioned the county working closely with the Rangers and the Sheriff's Department with repeat offenders to issue any citations under county code 14.12. He informed the Commission of the county's awareness in this situation and the county is proactively working towards mending fence lines, illegal points of access, signing trails and signing areas to help with this issue.

The Commission received the report – No motion required.

5. River Fire impact on Toro Park.

Bryan Flores, Administrative Operations Manager for Toro Park gave an overview of the River Fire impact on Toro Park. Informing the Commission approximately four thousand acres of the five thousand five hundred and ninety-five acres burned. Although, trail markers, fencing, range fencing for cattle all of that in the black area was destroyed, Toro Park did not lose any structures. Backfiring operations took place from the lower portion of the parks: the command post area, the shop area, the Ranger house area, the EV Center area and around the YONA campgrounds to meet the approaching fire line. This was successful as most trees in the back-burn areas survived, the underbrush and grass were burned out which was the intent of the operation. Wildlife has been pushed down into the improved part of the parks – the picnic areas with turkey, bobcats, and deer but no mountain lions or bears. Bryan mentioned hazards the public is not aware of nor do they know where these hazards exist such as dump pits. Dump pits are the stumps and root systems of trees that are still on fire - subterranean. He mentioned Cal Fire doing suppression repair work from the dozer lines in the firefighting suppression. He also mentioned soil is unstable which is the cause for closure as erosion control measures taking place, improvements to the culvert system along Ollason Trail. He also mentioned Emergency access route for Harper Canyon and San Benancio and hazard areas such as Pipeline, Toyon, and Cougar Trail. He mentioned the sprouting of Manzanitas and Coyote Bush and grass turning green on Ollason Peak. He also mentioned Staff is working closely with Environmental Services, EPA, Cal OES to dispose of hazardous waste. He also mentioned the great relationship developed with Cal Fire during this time with minimal damage to the park compared to any damages from the Soberanes Fire.

Public Comment: Gabriel Soto inquired why the wildlife troughs do not have water.

Bryan Flores, Administrative Operations Manager for Toro Park informed the Commission he would look into this and remedy this issue.

The Commission received the report – No motion required.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

6. Future Agenda Items:

Supervisor Adams suggested John Narigi, General Manager of the Weather Tech Raceway at Laguna Seca be invited to give a presentation to the Parks Commission.

Chair Sanchez requested a special meeting before December on the bylaws the subcommittee has been working on – a presentation. He also requested the names of the Commissioners be added to the cover of the Agenda.

Supervisor Adams thanked staff for sending the laminated pass for Commissioners.

Public Comment: None

The Commission received the report - No motion required.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m. by Chair Sergio Sanchez.

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