

MONTEREY COUNTY PARKS COMMISSION

DECEMBER 5, 2024 ACTION MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was in-person and called to order by Chair Kite at 3:08 p.m. Teleconference using Zoom was also available for the public. Lisa Harris called the roll to verify a quorum was present. Chair Kite announced that this is a public meeting, and it was being recorded.

Commissioners Present:

Commissioner Sanchez, Vice Chair
Commissioner Getzelman
Commissioner Kite, Chair
Commissioner Church
Commissioner Garcia

Commissioners Absent:

Commissioner Stracke

County Staff Present:

Bryan Flores, Chief of Parks (COP)
Lisa Harris, Clerk
Samantha Barnhouse, Clerk

Guests: None

Members of the Public: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, REQUESTS, RECOMMENDATIONS

Commissioner Church commented on the potential increase of revenue Parks may see from the passing of Measure AA. COP Flores stated that he would like comments and ideas on the future of the parks and its needs from the commissioners. Commissioner Church noted there would be a Board of Supervisors meeting in January where Measure AA would be discussed.

Commissioner Sanchez arrived at 3:13 p.m.

Commissioner Getzelman asked what percentage of the Monterey County population is incorporated versus unincorporated. Commissioner Church answered that about 25% is unincorporated.

Commissioner Church asked for time next meeting to address Park's needs and if we could get a general overview. COP Flores suggested fieldtrips which was concurred by Commissioner Church.

ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS BY COMMISSION CLERK

Clerk Harris stated that item number 2 was moved to the February 6, 2025 meeting.

APPROVE MINUTES

1. Approve minutes for November 4, 2024

Clerk Harris stated that the minutes were corrected to reflect that Commissioner Sanchez was Vice Chair.

Commissioner Kite motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Sanchez seconded.

Vote: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SCHEDULED MATTERS

3. Review and approve the 2025 meeting schedule. Parks Commission will meet the first Thursday of every other month at 3:00 p.m., in the Monterey Conference Room, 168 West Alisal Street, 2nd Floor, Salinas, CA 93901. Any Meeting Changes will be posted accordingly.

Commissioner Kite asked for comments. After none, Commissioner Kite moved to approve the schedule. Commissioner Sanchez seconded.

Vote: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

VERBAL UPDATE

COP Flores provided verbal updates on the following items:

a. Parks Masterplan

COP Flores reported the consultants are making a detailed scope for the Parks Masterplan project in order to go out for a Request for Proposals (RFP). The full Masterplan process should take about 18 months and could cost up to \$1 million. The final Plan will include substantial input from the community as the Plan will affect the parks for the next 30 years.

Commissioner Church commented that \$1 million was a lot of money and seemed higher than normal. COP Flores responded that the base model would be approximately \$600,000 and could then include additional details and community engagement.

Commissioner Church asked about the old master plan. COP Bryan responded that it was a strategic plan and was done in 2015 and was more of an overview, not giving actual management details.

Commissioner Church asked if Fort Ord would be included in the current master plan underway. COP Bryan answered that Fort Ord plans are still in development and are part of the HCD division. Once that is finished, it will become part of the Master Plan.

Commissioner Church asked for a timeline. COP Bryan explained that the Ford Ord plans still need to go through other committees before being presented to the Board of Supervisors and that it could still be another 18 months.

b. North County Youth Recreation Association Concession Agreement

COP Flores reported that the North County Youth Recreation Association and Parks had their first negotiations meeting. COP Flores requested that the Commission appoint commissioners to the Ad Hoc Committee. COP Flores nominated Commissioner Garcia and asked for other volunteers. Commissioner Garcia agreed to be on the Ad Hoc Committee.

Counsel commented that appointment of commissioners is at the discretion of the Chair. Chair Kite volunteered to be on the Ad Hoc Committee.

COP Flores suggested commissioners contact relevant sport groups for information. COP Flores also commented the North County Youth Recreation Association is looking forward to an agreement renewal that will last the next 10 years.

c. Wildflower Experience Triathlon

COP Flores reported that the last Wildflower Experience Triathlon was held in 2019. He is excited for it to come back to the Parks and that it was approved by the Board of Supervisors in October.

Commissioner Getzelman asked if students will be participating as volunteers. COP Flores answered that yes, students will be participating as volunteers, and that the event will need an army of volunteers.

Commissioner Sanchez asked if this was the same event that had a previous fatality. COP Flores answered no.

Commissioner Kite asked about Parks staff numbers. COP Flores answered there are only about 13 current full-time Parks staff at Lake San Antonio.

d. Laguna Seca Recreation Area and Friends of Laguna Seca

COP Flores reported that John Narigi, formerly the County contracted operator, has announced he will be removing his company from FLS with no plans on returning. Employees from Narigi's company will be retained by the FLS.

COP Flores reported that cleanup is still underway at Laguna Seca, working with haulers and recyclers.

Transition and cleanup will be complete by end of February.

Commissioner Sanchez asked when FLS will be taking over the shooting range. COP Flores answered that it is in discussions and that the Parks are still overseeing the range.

e. **Lake Nacimiento Resort Lodge Renovation**

COP Flores reported the Lake Nacimiento lodges are nearly finished with renovations. He predicts the \$3.1 million that was invested will be made back within a few short years.

Commissioner Kite asked if COP Flores will be working with See Monterey to promote the new lodges. COP Flores answered yes, that See Monterey promotes the Parks often.

Commissioner Getzelman asked if the store on North Shore (Lake San Antonio) will be renovated as well. COP Flores answered yes, but further down the road as additional funding is needed. Commissioner Church asked what Parks was charging for the lodges and how much the new charges would be with the renovations. COP Flores answered that currently they cost \$400 to \$500 a night, but that it has not been decided how much to charge with the new renovations.

Commissioner Church asked how many lodges does the County own. COP Flores answered that there are 4 different floor plans, 7 buildings, and 13 units. They can sleep from 8 to 12 people depending on the floor plan.

Commissioner Church enthusiastically suggested a Parks Commission meeting at the lodges once renovated. COP Flores agreed suggesting a joint Parks Commission and Board of Supervisors meeting. Commissioner Sanchez asked if it would be overnight. COP Flores suggested making it a retreat.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

COP Flores commented there were items brought up during the Special Session in November, but due to the short turnover, those items will be addressed in the February meeting.

Commissioner Church asked for input on the potential funds from Measure AA.

Commissioner Sanchez asked for an overview/update on the construction of the Interlake Tunnel system for the lakes.

Commissioner Sanchez also suggested reenergizing the parks and raising money as other foundations are active in doing so for their parks. Commissioner Sanchez would like to see the Parks Foundation started again.

COP Flores responded that the Interlake Tunnel Project is a Water Resources Agency (WRA) project, not a Parks project. He said he would inquire with WRA to see if a presentation was possible.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The Parks Commission meeting was adjourned at 3:52 p.m.

NEXT MEETING DATE

February 6, 2025, 3:00 p.m.