

KERN COUNTY HERITAGE COMMISSION
County of Kern, California

Minutes of the Regular Commissioners Meeting
March 3rd, 2016
Parks and Recreation Department Building Administrative Conference Room
Bakersfield, California
5:30PM

COMMISSONERS PRESENT:
John Blythe - District 1 (Secretary)
Michele Slade - District 2 (Vice Chair)
Scott Knoeb - District 2
Trenton Spears - District 3
Norma Jackson - District 5 (Chair)

Robert Lerude, Commission Advisor

GUESTS: None

COMMISSONERS ABSENT:
Ruby Dodds - District 1
David Dennison - District 4
(three vacancies)

Commission Chair N. Jackson called the meeting to order at 5:30PM

Quorum established; 5 Commissioners present

N. Jackson gave the invocation and J. Blythe gave the flag salute.

Approval of the Minutes of December 2nd, 2015. Secretary J. Blythe read the minutes of the previous meeting. M. Slade made a motion to approve minutes with correction by S. Knoeb (last name corrected); second by S. Knoeb. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chair Jackson inquired about former commissioner John Enriquez' replacement for district 3. Advisor Bob Lerude indicated that the commission should contact the supervisor's office to get that seat appointed. J. Enriquez has been involved with the Fox Theater and could no longer dedicate time to the commission's board. The commissioners also discussed passing a resolution to recognize J. Enriquez dedication to the Heritage Commission having served since 1988.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS:

First District:

J. Blythe: Kernville recently held their annual Whiskey Flat Days festival. He was part of the Exchange Club float and they passed out nearly 1,000 small American flags to the spectators. Very well received event. Honor Flight is doing a veterans breakfast in Ridgecrest once a month. He is also working on a new movie and is trying to partner with an upcoming film company that specializes in employing homeless veterans to get them jobs in the film industry.

Second District:

M. Slade: Had to go out of town in February and was unable to ring the Liberty Bell for President's Day as planned. She has been working on raising funding for the Pima Air Museum in Tucson, Arizona. So far they have raised over \$413,000 which will help remodel the interior areas they occupy. Supervisor Schrivner recently visited the Mojave feline compound and was very excited with developments there. He also visited the Antelope Valley Board of Trade Show which rock star/KISS founder Gene Simmons was the keynote speaker. It was a very well attended event and they also had hundreds of people from all over the world attend. Michelle also reported on the successful roll out of the Virgin Galactic at the Mojave Airport recently.

S. Knoeb: Freeway renovation has recently been completed. Two issues that continue to be a problem in district 2 are the drops both in real estate and oil. Scott commented that several folks he knows in the oil industry have lost jobs. County is also discussing additional budget cuts to allocate for loss in property tax revenue from the oil industry in Kern. Scott also reported that the veterans event he is planning for Armed Forces Day was rescheduled for October 7th at the Bakersfield Conference Center.

Third District:

T. Spears: Recently took the Color Guard down to Pasadena on February 14th for a special event for Constitution Days in the school. He is continuing to do that here in Kern County as well. They have another event coming up on March 10th. T. Spears' echoes the same concerns of Commissioner Knoeb regarding the oil industry hurting. He indicated that his son recently lost his job in the oil industry and actually worked for the industry in Russia as well.

Forth District:

No Report.

Fifth District:

N. Jackson: December 7th Pearl Harbor Memorial Day was successful. The fly over was a bit delayed, but still very well received. Arvin recently had another very well received "We the People" day in the schools and one of the school district's raised enough money to send the kids to an educational conference in New York. Advisor Lerude mentioned that the "We the People days" is a great program in the schools and the commission could be part of those programs at the schools and pass out certificates to the students.

OTHER / UPDATES:

B. Lerude: Mentioned that the executive director of the Kern County Museum recently resigned. They are looking for a replacement and the pay is very good around \$90,000 a year. He asked the commissioners if they knew of any replacements to please let him know or the historical society at the museum know. Also Kern County chief administrative officer John Nilon is retiring next year around the same time as B. Lerude. Chair Jackson encouraged B. Lerude to take a seat on the commission board after he retires.

M. Slade: Would like to move the commission's next meeting to June 2nd, rather than Wednesday June 1st so the commissioner's can see the feline compound in Mojave if that was a possibility. The other commissioner's were okay with moving the meeting date one day ahead of time.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD Thursday June 2nd, 2016 @ 5:30PM at the Mojave Airport, Mojave, California.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn the commission meeting by J. Blythe; second by T. Spears. Motion passed. Commission adjourned at 6:35PM

Respectfully Submitted by

John Blythe, Secretary
Commissioner for 1st District County of Kern