

Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission

**County Administrative Center
1115 Truxtun Avenue,
1st Floor Board of Supervisors Chambers
Wednesday, February 27th, 2019
6:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

A meeting of the Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission was held on Wednesday, February 27th, 2019. Madam Chair Arnold-Chambers presided.

Present: Commissioner Gary Bray, District I; Commissioner William Chapman, District II; Madam Chair Kathleen Arnold-Chambers, District III

Absent: Gregory McGiffney, District IV; Vacant, District V

Staff: Carl Brewer, Senior CAO Manager – General Services Geoffrey Hill, Chief General Services Officer – General Services;

Others: There were 43 others present

NOTE: Br, Ch, Ar are abbreviations for Commissioners Bray, Chapman, and Arnold-Chambers. As an example, Br-Ch denotes Commissioner Bray made a motion and Commissioner Chapman seconded the motion.

Meeting called to order at 6:33 p.m. Flag Salute: Madam Chair Arnold-Chambers

1. Approval of the Minutes of January 23rd, 2019

The minutes from January 23rd, 2019 were reviewed. Br-Ar, motion to approve the minutes. 3 Ayes, 2 Absent, Motion carried - minutes were approved with no corrections.

2. Public Presentations

Gustavo Guerra with Central Race Poverty Development heard – he wants to contribute and work with the Board to secure funds for low income and underserved communities.

3. Public Requests

Gema Perez, Greenfield Walking Group heard regarding the proposed commemoration for Bob Lerude at Rexland Acres soccer field. Br-Ch, motion to support the request. 3 Ayes, 2 Absent, Motion carried.

4. Correspondence

Correspondence received regarding Central Race Poverty Development. Madam Chair motioned to receive and file. Br-Ch 3 Ayes, 2 Absent – motion carried.

5. New Business

Administrative Citations

Supervising Park Ranger, Shane Denton heard - made a presentation on the proposed Administrative Citations. He thanked the Commission for their support. The mission of the Kern County Rangers is to patrol the parks for safety and security of patrons and for staff to patrol lakes and monitor boating safety, patrol campgrounds to ensure compliance with rules, proactively make contact with patrons to foster positive relationships, enforcement to deter illegal OHV use in and around our parks and interact with the homeless to discourage use of our parks. Assist the KCSO Search and Rescue in water rescue in the Kern River and County parks. Shane discussed some of the infractions that would be considered misdemeanors: littering; illegal OHV use; sound amplification without a permit; alcohol use without a permit; swimming in prohibited areas; boating infractions; and selling merchandise without a permit to name a few. Shane discussed the current misdemeanor violations court process saying that if the new process (Administrative Citations) is adopted it will allow citations to be processed outside of the court. The current process is said to be time consuming and costly to all parties involved. The Kern County Fire Department has adopted using Administrative Citations for illegal fireworks use and this has proven to be an effective alternative to misdemeanor citations. Shane stated that if the Commission is in agreement with the Administrative Citations, Board of Supervisors approval would be sought asking for an amendment to the current Ordinance. This could take approximately 30-60 days. There are currently 10 rangers, 2 full time and 8 extra help. Bruce Miller heard - asking that the public be allowed to speak on these such topics prior to it moving to the motion stage. He expressed his concerns about due process with this going forward and asked for comparative analysis with the Sheriff's Department and Bakersfield City Police Department. Marion Vargas heard in support of the idea. Carl Brewer heard saying the monies would be designated specifically for security for the parks. Craig Smith heard saying the District Attorney (DA) works with various agencies and is familiar with the Fire Department's Administrative Citations. He explained how the administrative fines can be included in other infractions and possibly be included in their cases against the violator. The DA is in favor of this. Geoffrey Hill heard. He explained that there will be an appeal process included in the Ordinance. A recommendation was made to move forward in support of the concept of Administrative Citations. Br-Ch motion to approve. 3 Ayes, 2 Absent, Motion carried.

Hart Park Adobe House

Steve Montgomery heard – on the board of the Historical Society also the Chairman for the Sierra Club made a presentation about not demolishing the Hart Park Adobe House. Spoke about the Community building in the city of McFarland has been renovated and expanded and is in current use and the fort in Taft is in private hands and on the National Registry of Historic Places. Marion Vargas heard. Tim Downs heard. Geoffrey Hill addressed the comments on the plan of the park. He confirmed it was adobe. Bill Cooper heard. Madam Chair Kathleen Arnold heard- I hope a lot of thought and care goes into this before we take another part of history away. This is going to the board of Supervisors March 12th, 2019, we can appear at the Board of Supervisors Meeting. William Chapman heard- I just see an old house. Margie Bell heard- retired teacher wanted to know why does it need to be demolished? Can they raise money for the renovation? Geoffrey Hill states that part of the Hart Park Plan is slated for an event area. Tom Downs heard- Why can't we do a go-fund me page to raise the money. NO ACTION

6. Old Business

Lake Ming Jet Skis, Geoffrey Hill discussed about researching the ordinance and history of why the jet skis are not allowed on Lake Ming. Gustavo Aguirre heard about conserving the water and not to contaminate the water. Bruce Miller heard. Henry Love heard. NO ACTION

7. Department Staff Report

Prop 68 update, Amanda Ruiz has been assisting Carl Brewer with the grants.

- Applied for a \$1.65 million dollar grant for Lamont Park to install artificial turf for the soccer and baseball fields, LED ballfield lightening, new playground area surface, and plant 15 new trees.
- Applied for a \$2.8 million dollar grant for a new undeveloped Kern Delta Park for a new restroom, artificial turf soccer field, LED pathway, LED field lighting, picnic area and a biofield infiltration basin basically is a sump.
- Applied for a \$1.3 million dollar grant for Delano Memorial Park to install artificial turf to the baseball field, new LED ballfield lighting, new playground surfacing, new drinking fountains, new scoreboard for the baseball field, ADA pathways, and 15 new trees.
- Applied for a grant for Heritage Park to replace an existing restroom, create ADA parkway, add an event stage with power to the north side, renovate the soccer field, install LED pathway, install LED lighting at the skate park, add shade structure to the skate park, create a multi-cultural mural at the pre-school. Want to use the stage to have movies in the park and other community events.
- Will continue to evaluate all the parks for their needs, would like to input from the community
- G Rick heard. Jasmine Del Aguila heard.

OHV Grant Process

- Current grant to support local OHV enthusiast ongoing update items. Will research a better way to for the grants with accountability of the grant monies.
- Bruce Miller heard. Bruce Witcher heard.

Shell Park Barrier

- Kern River Parkway Foundation maintenance public access to the area. Roads Department contracted the work to finish the barrier.

Kern River Nature Park

- Proceed with an ordinance change, will be brought back to this commission for review to identify a Park Classification of a Nature Park discuss the qualities and attributes of it.

8. Commission Comments

Chairman Arnold-Chambers heard: She said that Mike Maggard wanted to thank Carl Brewer for taking care of the graffiti at Panorama Park, Carl said it was the effort of the GS Maintenance team.

9. Dates and Locations of Future Meetings:

The meeting time is at 6:30 p.m.

Future meeting dates and locations (subject to change):

- April 24th, 2019, County Administrative Center, 1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, 1st Floor Board of Supervisors Chambers.

10. Adjournment

Commissioner Chambers adjourned the meeting at 8:28 p.m.