

Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission

**County Administrative Center
1115 Truxtun Avenue, 1st Floor
Board of Supervisors Chambers
April 24, 2019
6:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

A meeting of the Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission was held on Wednesday, April 24, 2019. Madam Chair Arnold-Chambers presided.

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

Absent: Vacant, District V

Staff: Carl Brewer, Senior CAO Manager – General Services; Matt Howard, General Services Manager – General Services; and Shane Denton, Supervising Park Ranger – General Services

Others: There were twenty-six (26) others present

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

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. Flag Salute: Madam Chair Arnold-Chambers

1. Approval of the Minutes of March 27, 2019

The minutes from March 27, 2019 were reviewed. Br-Ch, to approve the minutes. 4 Ayes, 1 Absent, Motion carried - minutes were approved as written.

2. Public Presentations

Eddy Laine was present before the Commission to suggest that a public hearing be held to obtain community input with regard to possible Kern County application(s) for Proposition 68 funds.

Gustavo Aguirre was present before the Commission to welcome the new Commissioner, Lorena Cervantes, District IV and to inform the Commission that

the Comite Progresso de Lamont will be hosting a community meeting for General Services regarding Lamont Park for Proposition 68.

Carol Lair was present before the Commission to voice her concerns for the wildlife in Hart Memorial Park as part of the overall master plan.

Mark Vibe was present before the Commission to voice his concern for mistletoe in the trees at Hart Memorial Park.

Richard Yubeta was present before the Commission to voice his concerns regarding the need have the lights on after 10:00 p.m. at Belle Terrace Park.

Lupe Yubeta was present before the Commission to report on the improvements at Belle Terrace Park following the March Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting.

Carol Lewis was present before the Commission to report on the improvements at Belle Terrace Park following the March Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting.

3. Public Requests

There were no public requests before the Parks and Recreation Commission for review and/or consideration.

4. Correspondence

Staff provided the Commission with written correspondence dated April 8, 2019 from Carol Lair regarding the wildlife at Hart Memorial Park not being mentioned in the Master Plan for the park. Br-Ch, to Receive and File Correspondence. 4 Ayes, 1 Absent, Motion carried – correspondence was received and filed.

5. Department Staff Report

Carl Brewer, Senior CAO Manager provided the Commission with a Department Staff Report. Mr. Brewer reported:

General Services Update

- Trash and litter in Hart Memorial Park were minimized on Easter due to General Services staff handing out trash bags to the park users and picking up trash throughout the course of the day;
- Additional port-a-potties were placed in Hart Memorial Park for the Easter holiday weekend;
- The Hart Memorial Park Presentation and Improvement Plan were posted on the Parks and Recreation Commission website;
- Homeless sweeps at Pioneer Park and in a vacant plot of County land off Kentucky St. and Williams St. were completed;
- Staff conducted a mock community meeting at the Boys and Girls Club in Lamont in preparation for the required community meetings at part of the

Proposition 68 grant application requirements. Staff will be holding their first public Proposition 68 community meeting for Lamont Park on May 2, 2019 at 5:30 PM at the Boys and Girls Club on Segre Rd. as part of the Comite Progreso de Lamont meeting.

- When staff was conducting its mock community meeting in Lamont, the residents informed them of illegal gambling in the park. Following the community meeting, staff went to the park and located the group that was gambling. Staff contacted the Park Rangers who responded and removed the group from the park.

Park Ranger Update

Shane Denton, Supervising Park Ranger provided the Commission with a verbal update regarding the monthly Kern County Park Ranger Division. Mr. Denton reported that the Rangers have been implementing the new citation process and alcohol permit process at Hart Memorial Park. Additionally, Mr. Denton reported that the department hired two (2) additional Rangers.

New OHV Grant Process

Staff provided the Commission with the Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) funding regarding for input and a recommendation. Following review, the Commission unanimously agreed to postpone a detailed review and discussion until the May Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting.

6. Old Business

There was no old business before the Commission for review and/or consideration.

Lake Ming – Jet Skis – Staff reported that Bret Haney, Senior CAO Manager – General Services drafted the proposed ordinance change and put it before County Counsel for review. Staff advised the Commission that the proposed ordinance change language, as approved by County Counsel would be put before them, to review and consider at the May Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting.

7. Standing Business

Hart Memorial Park – Staff provided an update regarding Hart Memorial Park. It was noted by Staff that one of the restroom remodels is complete and the second restroom remodel is underway. Additionally, Staff reported that the restroom roof replacement of two of the restrooms is currently underway.

Nature Park – Staff provided an update regarding the Nature Park. It was noted by Staff that a meeting took place with County Counsel to discuss the proposed language regarding the Nature Park designation.

CA State – OHV Grant Process – Staff provided an update regarding the CA State OHV Grant Process. It was noted by Staff that the grant is currently in the public comment phase.

8. **New Business**

Monthly Park Showcase – Staff provided the Commission with a showcase of Belle Terrace Park located at E. Belle Terrace and Cottonwood Rd. as the monthly park showcase. Belle Terrace Park is a neighborhood park with a softball field, soccer field, basketball court, tot-lot, and restrooms. It was noted by Staff that new LED lights have been installed on the restrooms, in the soccer field and in the softball field.

Belle Terrace Park Plan – Staff provided the Commission with the improvement plan for Belle Terrace Park.

Trash/Litter in Parks on Busy Weekends – The Commission discussed how to handle trash/litter in parks on busy weekends. It was noted by the Commission that Staff organized a team to handout trash bags to parks users over the Easter Holiday weekend which helped cut-down on excess litter in Hart Memorial Park.

Reallocate Existing OHV Grant Funds – Sergeant O'Brien – Sergeant O'Brien of the Kern County Sheriff's Office was present before to the Commission to request approval to reallocate the funds they received as part of the Kern County Off Highway Vehicle License Fund Grant (Agt. #654-2018) for the enclosed trailer. Sergeant O'Brien requested that the funds be reallocated to additional patrol hours, maintenance of existing OHV equipment, and the purchase of equipment related to the operation of and maintenance of existing OHV vehicles. Following review and discussion, the Commission postponed a decision and instructed Staff to work with Sergeant O'Brien on locating an enclosed trailer within the fund allotment.

Future Meeting Dates and Locations – Ch – Br to move the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting dates to the third Wednesday of the month starting in May 2019 and to continue holding them at the County Administrative Center, 1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, 1st Floor - Board of Supervisors Chambers. 4 Ayes, 1 Absent, Motion carried – future meeting dates and location were approved.

9. **Commission Comments**

The Commission honored past Commissioner, Manual Barrera of District 5 for his outstanding leadership, dedicated service, and continued efforts to Kern County and the community. Commissioner, Manual Barrera was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission.

10. **Dates and Locations of Future Meetings:**

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

Future meeting dates and locations (subject to change):

- May 15, 2019, County Administrative Center, 1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield,
1st Floor - Board of Supervisors Chambers.

11. Adjournment

Commissioner Arnold-Chambers adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.