

Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission

**County Administrative Center
1115 Truxtun Avenue, 1st Floor
Board of Supervisors Chambers
May 15, 2019
6:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

A meeting of the Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission was held on Wednesday, May 15, 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; Isaac Preston – General Services Manager – General Services; and Amanda Ruiz, Senior Fiscal and Policy Analyst – County Administrative Office.

Others: There were sixteen (16) 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 6:31 p.m. Flag Salute: Madam Chair Arnold-Chambers

1. Approval of the Minutes of April 24, 2019

The minutes from April 24, 2019 were reviewed. Br-Ch, to approve the minutes. 4 Ayes, 1 Absent. Motion carried - minutes were approved as written.

2. Public Presentations

Craig Smith was present before the Commission to provide a copy of the letter the Kern River Parkway Foundation sent to Mike Maggard requesting assistance in facilitating the development of a Proposition 68 spreadsheet so that the public can see what grants the County of Kern has applied for and what the status is of the grants that have been submitted and/or awarded.

Marion Vargus was present before the Commission to query if the Commission meetings were recorded and if so, are they broadcasted? If not, would it be possible for them to be recorded and broadcasted?

Eddy Laine was present before the Commission to advise that he recently attended a Per Capita Program workshop to learn more about the grant program. Eddy Laine also commended Carl Brewer, Senior CAO Manager – General Services for getting the application submitted for the Wildlife Corrido and Fish Passage Program grant into the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) by the deadline date.

G Regal was present before the Commission to discuss a plan for Frazier Mountain Park and to provide signatures, emails, etc. from residents within Frazier Park to improve Frazier Mountain Park. Mr. Regal requested that General Services' staff attend the next Community Meeting on May 30th at 5:00PM at the Frazier Park Library to discuss Frazier Mountain Park.

Carol Lair was present before the Commission to discuss her concerns with the wildlife as part of the Hart Memorial Park master plan. Additionally, Ms. Lair provided an update regarding the cats at Hart Memorial Park.

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 17, 2019 from Maria Polite regarding concern for changing the jet ski ordinance at Lake Ming; written correspondence dated May 8, 2019 from Eddy Laine regarding the Per Capita Program funding; written correspondence dated May 10, 2019 from Eddy Laine requesting a Proposition 68 spreadsheet; written correspondence dated May 14, 2019 from Andrew Honig opposing jet ski use at Lake Ming; and written correspondence dated May 15, 2019 from Craig Smith requesting the development of a Proposition 68 spreadsheet. 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 that Staff is currently in the process of completing the Per Capita Allocation Questionnaire to qualify the interest of Kern County in the program.

Park Ranger Update

Shane Denton, Supervising Park Ranger provided the Commission with a monthly overview and statistics report for the Kern County Park Ranger Division. It was reported that in the month of April:

Felony Arrest	1
Misdemeanor Arrest	9
Incident Reports	17
Parking Citations	78
Misdemeanor Citations	11
Traffic Citations	33
Impounded/Towed Vehicles	2
Vessel Rescues/ Public Assist at Lake Isabella/BV	14

It was further reported that the first major holiday weekend (Easter) was a very successful event with no reported injuries or arrests. Thousands of patrons visited both Hart Memorial Park and Buena Vista Lake over the Easter weekend to spend time with friends and family. Rangers assisted with park maintenance by handing out orange plastic bags to park patrons for any excessive trash.

Additionally, Rangers made ten (10) arrests throughout all county parks for the month of April; two for domestic violence two for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, four for warrants one for public intoxication and one for reckless driving in the park.

Lastly, Rangers implemented the new administrative citation program in April. Eleven (11) citations were issued for various county ordinance violations. 96% of all fines collected go back to General Services and the Ranger division.

6. **Old Business**

Lake Ming – Jet Skis – Staff presented the Commission with a proposed draft ordinance change regarding jets skis on Lake Ming. Following review, discussion, and public comment, Br – Ce to table a decision regarding the proposed draft ordinance change regarding jets skis on Lake Ming until the June 19, 2019 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. 3 Ayes, 1 Opposed, and 1 Absent. Ch opposed. Motion carried.

Reallocate Existing OHV Grant Funds – Sergeant O’Brien – No action was required by the Commission as Sergeant O’Brien of the Kern County Sheriff’s Office was able to located and purchase the enclosed trailer with the funds they received as part of the Kern County Off Highway Vehicle License Fund Grant (Agt. #654-2018).

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. Lastly, Staff reported

that irrigation sump pump culvert in the canal is currently being repaired. The culvert was blocked and was allowing water to seep from the canal onto the equestrian/walking path along the Kern River bank.

Nature Park – Staff provided an update regarding the Nature Park. It was noted by Staff that Staff submitted a pre-application for the Wildlife Corridor and Fish Passage Program through the Wildlife Conservation Board (“WCB”), who will administer the Proposition 68 funds. The pre-applications were due by April 26, 2019 at 5:00PM. WCB staff will evaluate pre-applications and contact applicants to provide direction as to whether or not the proposal addresses the objectives of the Program, provide direction as to the perceived strengths and weaknesses of the preproposal, identify any ineligible costs, and request a full proposal if appropriate. Staff will be contacted on Friday, May 17, 2019 if we have been invited to submit a full application.

CA State – OHV Grant Process – Staff provided an update regarding the CA State OHV Grant Process. It was noted by Staff that they were contacted on May 9, 2019 with a request to provide more information regarding the OHV Grant process. Staff has until June 9, 2019 to respond to the request for additional information.

Proposition 68 – Statewide Park Program (SPP) – Staff provided an update regarding the SPP grant process. Staff has held several of the required community meetings for Lamont Park, Heritage Park, and Potomac Park. Staff has also prepared a master calendar regarding all community meetings for each park and have shared it with the Kern County Marketing and Promotions Associate to get the word out on social media. Staff has a team of eight (8) members, one of which is an intern from CSUB, working on the Prop 68 SPP grant.

8. New Business

Monthly Park Showcase – Staff provided the Commission with a showcase of Scodie Park located at Scodie Park Dr. and Cypress St. in Onyx, CA as the monthly park showcase. Scodie Park is a neighborhood park with a baseball field, restroom, a shade shelter, picnic tables with BBQ’s, basketball half court, tot lot, and equipment storage building. It was noted by Staff that during the 2018 – 2019 winter storms, Scodie Park suffered flooding devastation. With the efforts of the Kern County Park Operations team, the park was cleaned up and the park was refreshed throughout the park.

2018 – 2019 OHV Funding Requests – Staff provided the Commission with the 2018 – 2019 Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) funding requests from the interested agencies that had submitted proposals by the deadline date of April 12, 2019. The three (3) completed proposals were from: Kern County Sheriff’s Office - \$33,000 for equipment maintenance and law enforcement; Stewards of the Sequoia - \$43,000 for maintenance of the Sequoia trail system; and Bakersfield Fire Department Regional Task Force 1 - \$14,500 for equipment for Search and Rescue. It was noted by Staff that the application from the Bakersfield Fire

Department Regional Task Force 1 did not meet grant criteria, as the criteria required a link for patrolling or marinating areas utilized by off highway motor vehicles.

Following review, discussion, and verbal presentations by each requestor, Ce - Br to make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors that \$10,000.00 be granted to the Kern County Sherriff's Office and \$33,000.00 be granted to Stewards of the Sequoia. 3 Ayes, 1 Opposed, and 1 Absent. Ch opposed. Motion carried.

Shell Park – Staff provided an updated regarding Shell Park. It was noted by Staff that the Roads Department was currently in the process of completing some outstanding punch list items to the fence.

9. Commission Comments

The Commission requested that staff include the following topics on the June meeting agenda: A report from the Rangers regarding homeless activity; adding signs around Lake Ming regarding the proper disposal of Monofilament fishing line; the status of the Adobe House at Hart Memorial Park; and Lighting in a Bottle and the potential on their return in 2020.

10. Dates and Locations of Future Meetings:

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

Future meeting dates and locations (subject to change):

- June 19, 2019, County Administrative Center, 1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield,
1st Floor - Board of Supervisors Chambers.

11. Adjournment

Commissioner Arnold-Chambers adjourned the meeting at 8:29 p.m.