

Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission

**County Administrative Center
1115 Truxtun Avenue, 1st Floor
Board of Supervisors Chambers
Wednesday, August 21, 2019
6:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

A meeting of the Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission was held on Wednesday, August 21, 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: Lorena Cervantes, District IV; 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 Shane Denton - Supervising Park Ranger – General Services;

Others: There were thirteen (13) 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 6:34 p.m. Flag Salute: Madam Chair Arnold-Chambers

1. Approval of the Minutes of June 19, 2019

The minutes from June 19, 2019 were reviewed. Br - Ce, to approve the minutes as written. 3 Ayes, 2 Absent. Motion carried - minutes were approved as written.

2. Public Presentations

Karene Williams was present before the Commission to discuss a request from the Lake Isabella community for improvements at Tank Park, which include a covered picnic area and an amphitheater.

Carol Lair was present before the Commission to request verbiage be added to the Matrix Message sign at the west entrance to Hart Memorial Park, asking that cats not be abandoned at the park. Carol Lair also requested follow-up information

to the shooting that occurred at Hart Memorial Park several weeks ago.

Eddy Laine was present before the Commission to discuss community expectations as they relate to the Peacock House at Hart Memorial Park being the restored as the Kern River Parkway Interpretative Center and to request that the Commission go on record in support for the restoration of the Peacock House.

3. Public Requests

Marion Vargas was present before the Commission with a request to have the Parks and Recreation Commission meetings recorded; a request to have public comment related to specific agenda items when members of the public speak included in the meeting minutes; a request to have the nature of correspondence submitted to the Commission included in the meeting minutes; and a request to have specific language on agenda topics that is related to the topic being heard before the Commission.

4. Correspondence

Staff provided the Commission with the written correspondence dated July 9, 2019 from the Hart Park Working Group meeting; written correspondence dated July 11, 2019 from Eddy Laine regarding suggestions for the Trails and Greenway Program; written correspondence dated August 12, 2019 from Eddy Laine requesting that the Commission support restoring the Peacock House; and written correspondence dated August 9, 2019 from Eddy Laine to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors requesting that a series of documents be included as “receive and file” items for the Kern County Board of Supervisors. Br – Ch to receive and file the correspondence. 3 Ayes, 2 Absent. Motion carried.

5. Department Staff Report

1. Michael Dillenbeck of Kern County Public Works was present before the Commission to present on the grant application submittals Pubic Work has applied for regarding the completion of the Lake Ming Bike Path loop.

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

i. Proposition 68 – Statewide Park Program (SPP)

- Staff submitted five (5) applications on August 5, 2019 for the SPP grant. The park applications there were submitted included Mojave East Park, Virginia Avenue Park, Lamont Park, Heritage Park, and Potomac Park;
- Award notifications for the SPP grant are scheduled for December 2019.

ii. Proposition 68 – Funding Opportunities

- State Per Capita Program – Staff is currently awaiting state allocation notification. Allocation award notification is expected in the late summer of 2019.
- Regional Parks Program - The competitive grant is to create, expand, or improve regional parks and regional park facilities. Currently, Staff is waiting for

the final Application Guide to be published. An application due date will be announced after the Application Guide is finalized.

- Staff is currently completing the grant application for the Recreational Trails and Greenways Grant Program. The application due date is October 11, 2019 and Staff will be attending scheduled workshops for the grant.

iii. CA State - OHV Grant

- Staff reported that the General Services Department has been awarded a \$380,000 grant through the State Parks OHV Division to begin searching for a location for a new OHV park.

iv. Kern River Valley Dog Park

- Staff reported that a new dog park opened in Kern River Valley next to the Linda Kissack Ballfield in Lake Isabella. The dog park was a grassroots community project funded and supported by local residents and businesses.

v. Hart Memorial Park

- Staff reported that third restroom remodel project is underway, and the stage is currently in the process of being remodeled.

vi. Camp Okihi

- Staff reported that the engineers are still exploring options to bring water to the site.

3. Shane Denton, Supervising Park Ranger provided the Commission with a monthly overview and statistics report for the Kern County Park Ranger Division. Mr. Denton reported that in the past 60-days:

Felony Arrest	14
Misdemeanor Arrest	22
Warrant Arrest	8
Incident Reports	59
Parking Citations	74
Traffic Citations	27
Administrative Citations	59
Vehicle Impounds	5
Water Rescues	11
Vessel Accidents	2

Mr. Denton further reported that the Rangers were authorized to hire six full-time officers. Two Rangers have been hired full-time as of August 17, 2019 and four more Rangers will start on September 14, 2019. Lastly, Mr. Denton reported that in addition to the full-time Rangers, two Extra-Help Park Rangers will be starting in September 2019.

6. New/Unfinished/Other Business

1. Monthly Park Showcase – Staff provided the Commission with a showcase of Riverside Park located at Burlando Rd. and Kern River Dr. in Kernville, CA as the monthly park showcase. Riverside Park is a neighborhood park with a full basketball court, 2-5 yrs. old tot-lot, 5-12 yrs. swings and monkey bars, a group picnic area with barbecues, restrooms, a riverside walkway with seating, and fishing.

2. Monofilament Fishing Line Disposal Signage – Staff provided the Commission with proposed signage options regarding the proper disposal of fishing line at Lake Ming. Br – Ch to have Staff furnish and install “Keep Fishing Tidy” signage at all appropriate designated bodies of water at Kern County owned and maintained parks. 3 Ayes, 2 Absent. Motion carried.

3. Email Notification System to Public – The Commission discussed email notification to the public regarding the monthly Parks and Recreation Commission meetings. Following discussion, the Commission agreed to continue discussions at further Commission meetings.

7. Commission Comments

The Commission requested that staff include the following topics on the September meeting agenda: Lake Ming – current jet ski ordinance and history of the change in ordinance, Peacock House support request, litter in the parks, and other ways parks can meet the needs of the community around the park.

8. Dates and Locations of Future Meetings:

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

Future meeting dates and locations (subject to change):

- September 18, 2019, County Administrative Center, 1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield,
1st Floor - Board of Supervisors Chambers.

9. Adjournment

Commissioner Arnold-Chambers adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.