

Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission

**County Administrative Center
1115 Truxtun Avenue,
3rd Floor Multipurpose Room
Wednesday, May 23rd, 2018
6:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

A meeting of the Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission was held on Wednesday, May 23rd, 2018. Chairman Barrera presided.

Present: Commissioner Gary Bray, District I; Commissioner William Chapman, District II
Kathleen Arnold-Chambers, District III; Manuel Barrera, District V

Absent: Commissioner Gregory McGiffney, District IV

Staff: Bret Haney, Division Chief, Kern County General Services Department; Geoffrey Hill, Acting Assistant County Administrative Officer for General Services

Others: There were 16 others present

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

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. Flag Salute: Chairman Barrera

1. Approval of the Minutes of April 25th, 2018

The minutes from April 25th, 2018 were reviewed. Ch-Ar, motion to approve the minutes. 4 Ayes, 1 Absent, Motion carried - Minutes were approved.

2. Public Presentations

Lorraine Unger Heard – Gave a thank you for re-arranging the table/chairs setup at the meeting as to better serve attendees that are having a difficult time hearing. Asked about the minutes being posted online. Bret Haney and Commissioner Arnold-Chambers explained how to access the minutes on the public website.

Bruce Miller heard – Offered his apology to staff about his display of passion at the Board meeting in regards to the OHV award.

Geoff Hill heard – At the May 22nd, 2018 Board of Supervisors meeting, the funding Agreement with Stewards of the Sequoia was presented and approved. During the conversation between Board members there was a question about the disbursement planned for the Kern County General Services (GS) Parks Rangers funding that was previously approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission. Geoff asked the Commission that they take the funding proposal (GS Parks – Rangers) under review again for procedural reasons related to evaluation criteria, asking the Commission to consider re-evaluating the OHV application at the next meeting to ensure the Commission has complete information in regards to the process and the eligibility requirements. He stated that he is not questioning the Commissioners decision and has met with County Counsel and the request from GS Parks Rangers does meet all of the necessary criteria for the request. Geoff also clarified that the area the Rangers patrol is not designated OHV land. Commissioner Bray opposed the idea of bringing it back before the Commission at the next meeting as he was satisfied with the initial selections made. A Motion was made by Commissioner Chapman to re-agendize the OHV grant applications for the June meeting, Second by Commissioner Chambers – 3 Ayes, 1 Nay (Commissioner Bray), 1 Absent – motion carried.

Bruce Miller heard - Use of OHV funds

Sgt Williams heard – He questioned whether Commission would expect presentations again at the June meeting. The Commission stated they would just rely on the information they have already received and heard.

Michael Deleon (KCSO) heard – He asked about the appeal process to Commission's decision if there was disagreement. Chairman Barrera indicated his appeal would be to the Board during the session in which the item was up for approval.

Bill Cooper heard – Discussed the Shell Park project update which involved road barriers along Round Mountain Rd. Also heard regarding suspected dumping of green waste by the Soccer Foundation along the bike path. Commissioner Bray also heard regarding green waste issue. Commission asked to have follow-up at the next meeting on the green waste issue.

Eddy Laine heard – Discussed the parking at Lake Ming in off-pavement areas. Asking Commission to look into agreement with NJBA regarding parking and mitigation for any environmental impacts caused by their grading of the land. Bret heard in response to state that the department is looking into the issue since it was brought to our attention.

3. Correspondence

None

4. Public Requests

None

5. New Business

- Lake Ming Watercraft Use

Steve McNutt heard - Discussed watercraft use, overcrowding at BVARA and possible use of jet skis at Lake Ming

Steve Drasser heard - Discussed non-motorized use of Lake Ming

Darren Schmidt heard – Discussed prior history of Jet Ski use, saying that his recollection was that Jet Ski use was “approved” by Commission (thought to be) near the end of 2016, but Counsel wanted an EIR costing \$15,000. Non-motorized available at other locations.

Bruce Miller heard –Recollected that a trial period was approved for Jet Ski use at Lake Ming.

This item was discussed and the Commission requested this item be brought back for further discussion at the June meeting. Motion Ch-Ar to add topic to June Agenda, All Ayes, 1 Absent – Motion carried.

6. Old Business

There were no items for discussion.

7. Department Staff Report

Geoff Hill heard – Discussed the Hart Park Plan timeline. The preliminary plan was reviewed and it required some revision. The Consultant is in the process of making adjustments. Expectation is to have it back within 4 weeks. It will be reviewed and then taken to the Board with a funding recommendation. Shell Park was discussed General Services Division - Parks is working with the Roads Department to provide on a project to provide barrier parking and fencing which was identified for that area of the park to prevent people from parking and camping in forbidden spots. The project is planned for October.

Bill Cooper heard - Discussed the history of “Shell Park”.

Geoff Hill heard – Discussed OHV Park Funds, which total approximately \$700,000. and multiple proposals for consideration. General Services Parks is working with Planning and other Departments to make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors on multiple proposals for consideration for use of that money. There has been discussion about a new OHV park in the Valley. However, nothing has been decided or recommended to the Board at this time.

Bret Haney heard – Discussed the Kern River Preserve proposal. Bret met with Eddy Laine recently to discuss. Property Management is looking into what is the most appropriate way to define that portion of land that would preserve it for a given amount of time. There is still time to develop this plan. Once they have an outcome they will have it reviewed by General Services and the CAO and then take it to the Board. They are working towards the goal of keeping the land preserved.

Eddy Laine heard – Discussed his desire for a public process in regards to the Preserve.

Bill Cooper heard – Discussed Kern River Plan element and history.

Darrin Schmidt heard - Discussed OHV Park funds history.

8. Commission Comments

Commissioner Arnold-Chambers heard – Discussed changing the location for the June, July, and August meetings and future special interest items for the agenda.

Commissioner Barrera heard – Discussed the appropriate method of the public bringing

items to the Commission Agenda. He asked all Commissioners (present) to consider a location within their Districts that they would like have the meeting held (if different than those already scheduled).

Commissioner Chapman heard – In agreement with future meeting locations and appropriate process of bringing items to the Commission Agenda.

Commissioner Bray heard - In agreement with future meeting locations and appropriate process of bringing items to the Commission Agenda

9. Dates and Locations of Future Meetings:

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

Future meeting dates and locations (subject to change):

- June 27, 2018, County Administrative Center, 1115 Truxtun Ave, 3rd floor
- July 25, 2018, District 2 Tehachapi Library
- August 22, 2018, District 1 Lake Isabella
- September 26, 2018, County Administrative Center, 1115 Truxtun Ave, 3rd floor
- October 24, 2018, District 3 Rathbun Library, 200 W China Grade Loop
- November 28, 2018, District 5
- No Meeting December 2018

10. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn Br-Ch, All ayes, 1 absent. Commissioner Barrera adjourned the meeting at 8:26 p.m.