

Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission

**County Administrative Center
1115 Truxtun Avenue, 1st Floor
Board of Supervisors Chambers
Wednesday, January 15, 2020
6:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

A meeting of the Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission was held on Wednesday, January 15, 2020, 2019. Chairman Bray presided.

Present: Chairman Gary Bray, District I; Commissioner William Chapman, District II; Commissioner Kathleen Arnold-Chambers, District III; Lorena Cervantes, District IV; and Ucedrah Osby, District V

Absent: None

Staff: Brian Van Wyk – Deputy County Counsel; Geoffrey Hill – Chief General Services Officer; 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 twenty-two (22) others present

NOTE: Br, Ch, Ar, Ce, and Os 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 6:32 p.m. Flag Salute: Chairman Bray

1. **Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission – Reorganization**
Ce – Ch to appoint Gary Bray as the Chairman of the Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission for the 2020 calendar year. 5 Ayes, 0 Opposed. Motion carried.
2. **Approval of the Minutes of November 20, 2019**
The minutes from November 20, 2019 were reviewed. Ch - Ar, to approve the minutes. 5 Ayes, 0 Opposed. Motion carried - minutes were approved as written.
3. **Public Presentations**
Heidi Carter was present before the Commission to introduce herself as the

Community Outreach & Communications Coordinator for Kern County Public Works and a partner of the Keep Kern Beautiful program.

Darren Schmidt was present before the Commission to request that the Commissionaires have an open opinion when it comes to topics such as jet skis and OHV's.

Eddy Laine was present before the Commission to advise that the Hart Park Working Group had a positive meeting with County Staff to discuss plans for the Peacock Adobe Structure. Additionally, Eddy Laine presented the Commission with a letter regarding a grant consultant recent retained by the County.

Jeremy Rowell was present before the Commission on behalf of the Bakersfield Trailblaze 4x4 club to obtain details regarding the County's plan for a new OHV park.

Marion Vargas was present before the Commission to request additional information regarding jet ski usage and to request that the ordinance regarding jet skis be placed on the website.

4. Public Requests

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

5. Correspondence

Staff provided the Commission with the written correspondence dated November 30, 2019, December 10, 2019, and December 20, 2019 from Carol Lair regarding the recent cat statistics at Hart Memorial Park; and the written correspondence dated January 6, 2020 from Eddy Laine to Kathleen Krause, Clerk of the Kern County Board of Supervisors regarding the December 15, 2019 Hart Park Working Group Meeting. Ar – Ce, to receive and file the correspondence. 5 Ayes, 0 Opposed. Motion carried.

5. Department Staff Report

1. Geoffrey Hill, Chief General Services Officer – Reports / Status Updates

i. Special Events / Lake Closures – Geoffrey Hill, Chief General Services Officer presented the Commission with a total park reservation summary from 2015 – 2019, a special event and lake closures summary for Lake Ming from 2015 – 2019, and the former county ordinance and Board of Supervisor meeting minutes that were requested.

ii. Conceptual Plan Peacock Adobe Structure - Geoffrey Hill, Chief General Services Officer presented a verbal report to the Commission regarding the status of the conceptual plan for the Peacock Adobe Structure at Hart Memorial Park. Mr. Hill reported that a Historical Architect has been retained to assist with the plan to maintain the building to its historical nature. Mr. Hill further reported that the project is 2 phased. The first phase is the historical evaluation and the second phase will

be the review and evaluation of the Hart Park Working Groups drawings on improvements

2. General Services – Status Updated

i. Hart Memorial Park – Carl Brewer, Senior CAO Manager was present before the Commission to discuss ongoing projects at Hart Memorial Park. Carl Brewer reported that Staff is focusing on the day-to-day maintenance of the park as well as finishing the improvements to the stage in Section 7.

ii. Establishment of Kern County Kern River Parkway - Carl Brewer, Senior CAO Manager was present before the Commission to advise that Staff will be submitting a Board Letter authorizing the Kern County Planning Department to move forward with updating the general plan for the establishment and naming of the Kern County Kern River Parkway.

iii. Proposed Nature Park - Carl Brewer, Senior CAO Manager was present before the Commission to advise that Staff is currently awaiting a response regarding the grant application that was submitted on October 16, 2019 under the Recreational Trails and Greenways Grant Program.

iv. Proposition 68 - Carl Brewer, Senior CAO Manager was present before the Commission to discuss Staff's efforts on the various Proposition 68 funding opportunities, which currently include the Regional Park Program.

v. Camp Okihi - Carl Brewer, Senior CAO Manager was present before the Commission to provide an update regarding water at Camp Okihi. It was noted by Carl Brewer that the engineers were exploring options for bringing water to the site.

vi. Off-highway Vehicle (OHV) Park – Status – Carl Brewer, Senior CAO Manager was present before the Commission to provide an update regarding the status of the Off-highway Vehicle (OHV) grant for a future OHV Park in Kern County.

vii. Cellular Towner – Behind Soccer Park - Geoffrey Hill, Chief General Services Officer was present before the Commission to provide information regarding the initial permit that was filed with the Planning Department for a cellular tower behind the soccer park.

Park Ranger – Status Update

Shane Denton, Supervising Park Ranger provided the Commission with the proposed ordinance changes that have been submitted to the Kern County Board of Supervisors regarding administrative citations.

6. **New/Unfinished/Other Business**

Monthly Park Showcase – Staff provided the Commission with a showcase of Boron Park located in Boron, CA. Boron Park is a 10 acre community park with 2 ballfields and dugouts, bleachers, concession stand, announcing stand, concrete multipurpose pad, 13 horseshoe pits, basketball court, shade striations 2-5- tot-lot,

5-12 play equipment, restrooms, and a community recreation building.

Litter in Parks – The Commission discussed the issue of litter in the parks as well as options for addressing it. The Commission requested that Staff continue this topic on the February agenda.

Request Board of Supervisors Prohibit Jets Skis on Lake Ming – The Commission reviewed and discussed the written correspondence dated October 4, 2019, from Eddy Laine regarding a request for the Commission to request that the Kern County Board of Supervisors amend the Kern County Ordinance which currently permits jet ski usage on Lake Ming, to not allow jet ski usage on Lake Ming. Br - Ar to table the topic of prohibiting the use of jets skis on Lake Ming indefinitely and to request Staff to come up with a reasonable number of special events that involve the use of jet ski jets and present them to the Commission at a future meeting for review and consideration. 5 Ayes, 0 Opposed. Motion carried.

Establishment of “Managing Organization” for Peacock House - The Commission reviewed and discussed the written correspondence dated November 20, 2019 from the Kern River Parkway Foundation regarding the management and organization fore the repurposed Peacock Adobe when it is opened to the public. Ca – Os to support the establishment of a managing organization for the Peacock House. 5 Ayes, 0 Opposed. Motion carried.

7. Commission Comments

Commissioner Chapman informed the Commission that due to a work conflict, he will not be able to attend the meetings from February to April.

8. Dates and Locations of Future Meetings:

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

Future meeting dates and locations (subject to change):

- February 19, 2020, County Administrative Center, 1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield,
1st Floor - Board of Supervisors Chambers.

9. Adjournment

Chairman Bray adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.