

Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission

**County Administrative Center
Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams
Wednesday, January 20, 2021
6:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

A meeting of the Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission was held on Wednesday, January 20, 2021. Chairman Osby presided.

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

Absent: None

Staff: 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 eighteen (18) others present

NOTE: Br, Ch, Ar, Ce, and Os are abbreviations for Commissioners Bray, Chapman, Arnold-Chambers, Cervantes, and Osby. 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.

1. Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission – Reorganization

Ar – Ch to appoint Ucedrah Osby as the Chairman of the Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission for the 2021 calendar year. 5 Ayes, 0 Opposed. Motion carried.

2. Approval of the Minutes of November 18, 2020

The minutes from November 18, 2020, were reviewed. Ar - Ce, to approve the minutes as amended. 5 Ayes, 0 Opposed. Motion carried - minutes were approved as amended.

3. Public Presentations

Harry Love was present before the Commission to discuss the history of Lake Ming and to provide his understanding of the issues that exist at Lake Ming.

Eddy Laine was present before the Commission to discuss his concerns regarding Proposition 68 funding.

Grady LaCamp was present before the Commission to provide comment to Harry Love's early presentation and to inform the Commission that the photos Harry Love provided as part of his presentation were not from the National Jet Boat Association (NJBA) website, nor are they NJBA boats.

Bill Cooper was present before the Commission to discuss his concerns with speeding along Alfred Harrel Highway and around Lake Ming. Mr. Cooper also had questions regarding park hours of operation.

Nadine Escalante was present before the Commission to request that Heritage Park be updated.

Deysey was present before the Commission to report that she felt that park in her community was unsafe and needed to be updated.

Edith Mata was present before the Commission to discuss an issue she had with a Ranger at Lake Ming.

John Knox was present before the Commission to report that the Disc Golf Course at Hart Memorial Park has been heavily used over the past eight to ten months. Due to the heavy usage, Mr. Knox is requesting a trash can be placed on the west end of the maintenance yard for users to dispose of their trash.

Emma De La Rosa was present before the Commission to request that the meeting minutes from prior Commission meetings be posted to the website in the timely manner.

4. Public Requests

There were no public requests before the Commission.

5. Correspondence

Staff provided the Commission with the written correspondence dated November 29, 2020, from Carol Lair regarding the recent cat statistics at Hart Memorial Park; the written correspondence dated December 7, 2020, from Eddy Laine to Ryan Alsop, Chief Administrative Officer for Kern County regarding a request for information pursuant to California's Public Records Act; written correspondence dated December 17, 2020, for Eddy Laine to Geoffrey Hill, Chief General Services Officer for Kern County regarding a request for information pursuant to California's Public Records Request; and written correspondence dated November 16, 2020, from Stephen Montgomery, Chair of the Kern-Kaweah Chapter Sierra Club regarding their vision of a Kern River recreational corridor and a west Kern recreational corridor. Ar – Ch, to receive and file the correspondence. 5 Ayes, 0 Opposed. Motion carried.

6. Department Staff Report

1. General Services – Status Update

i. Proposition 68 - Carl Brewer, Senior CAO Manager was present before the Commission to review and discuss the Statewide Park Program (SPP) Round Four and the park grant applications that will be submitted on or before the deadline date. Carl Brewer presented in-depth details and the conceptual designs, as devised by the community members for Heritage Park, Virginia Park, Potomac Park, Lamont Park, and Mojave East Park.

Additionally, Carl Brewer informed the Commission that the Per Capital funding award will be allocated to continuing with the execution of the Hart Memorial Master plan as presented to the Kern County Board of Supervisors.

ii. 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.

2. Park Ranger – Status Update

Shane Denton, Supervising Park Ranger provided the Commission with a verbal update regarding the 30-day Ranger Status Report.

3. **Park Showcase – Pioneer Park** – Staff provided with Commission with a showcase of Pioneer Park located in District 5 of Bakersfield, CA. Mojave East Park is a neighbor park a baseball field, restroom, picnic tables, basketball court, tot lot, and a spray pad.

7. New/Unfinished/Other Business

1. Lake Ming Guidelines / Closures – Committee Report/Follow-up - Ar – Ce to accept the committee as a resource to the Commission. 5 Ayes, 0 Opposed. Motion carried.

For clarification, Staff asked the Committee to provide a list of the Committee members: Kathleen Arnold-Chamber, Ucedrah Osby, Harry Love, Eddy Laine, Elizabeth Perez, and Emma De La Rosa.

2. California Ave. Vets Hall – Auction Results – Geoffrey Hill, Chief General Service Officer informed the Commission that the California Ave. Vets Hall remains in the County inventory following a auction that was held. Mr. Hill further advised that the property has a tenant in it and the County, and the tenant have a joint maintenance responsibility agreement.

8. Commission Comments

The Commission requested Staff to include an update from the sub-committee regarding Lake Ming, Per Capita/Per District budget; and an updated regarding the Proposition 68 SPP grant applications.

9. Dates and Locations of Future Meetings:

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

Future meeting dates and locations (subject to change):

- February 17, 2021, Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

9. Adjournment

Chairman Osby adjourned the meeting at 9:47 p.m.