



## Regional Parks

BEAHTA R. DAVIS  
Director

**MINUTES**  
**SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY**  
**REGIONAL PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
**2:30 P.M.**  
**Wednesday, January 8, 2020**

Held at: General Services Building  
Regional Parks/Airports Conference Room  
777 E. Rialto Avenue  
San Bernardino, CA 92415

**1.0 MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

Chair Mitchell called the meeting to order at 2:30 P.M.

**2.0 ROLL CALL:**

San Bernardino County

Commission Members Present:

Robert L. Kinzel, Second District

Louis Gamache, Third District

Michael Kreeger, Fourth District

Nicole R. Van Winkle, Fifth District

Bob Mitchell, Member-At-Large

Steven Farrell, Member-At-Large

Staff:

Beahta Davis

Casey McPheron

Mary Sheehan

**3.0 GUESTS/MEDIA**

Greg Stone, Pomona Valley RC Club

Tony Mejia, First District, Board of Supervisors

Jeff Sorenson, Fourth District, Board of Supervisors

Marven Norman, IEBA

**4.0 MINUTES APPROVED – Wednesday, December 11, 2019**

Motion: Commissioner Kreeger

Second: Commissioner Farrell

Minutes approved

**5.0 INFORMATION ITEMS - OLD BUSINESS**

Chairman Mitchell spoke about the event brochures the Department is using for marketing the events that were provided for the Commissioners. Chairman Mitchell stated the brochures are available to any Commissioner who wants to disperse them. Commissioner Gamache stated he had a question regarding the Hold Harmless wording

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under the rules and regulations on the junior fishing workshop flyers. Ms. McPheron stated she believed County Counsel reviewed the language. Ms. McPheron stated she would contact County Counsel and make sure the language is accurate. Commissioner Kreeger stated the flyers were great. Commissioner Kreeger asked if the flyers were distributed to the surrounding cities. Ms. McPheron stated that was a great idea and she would check on that. Chairman Mitchell asked if the flyers were available online. Ms. McPheron stated she would find out. Commissioner Kreeger would like all the Board of Supervisor's offices to have the flyers as well.

Chairman Mitchell asked for a brief overview of the banners that were displayed in the room. Ms. McPheron stated the banners are part of the Department's hiring efforts and are used at hiring events. The Department is reaching out to local high schools, cities, other county departments, and communities for summer hiring, especially for lifeguards for the swim facilities. The banners are also used for promotional events and special events. The banners help broaden the information about our parks for potential new hires and customers. Tammy Gann, Community Services Communications Officer has been a great help in developing these banners and some other projects.

### **Tour**

Chairman Mitchell stated he likes the idea of touring the parks and then following the tour up with a Commission meeting at a designated park. He also likes the idea of touring only one park at a time instead of trying to see three parks in one day allowing more time for updates. This would accommodate guests in the area being able to attend the meeting at the park at a set time. Commissioner Kinzel stated it makes sense, he would like to see more parks. Commissioner Gamache stated he sees the value in touring multiple parks with no meeting. He can serve his constituents better by seeing the parks. Chairman Mitchell stated the Grand Jury is not mandating changes. They are only making recommendations. Commissioner Farrell thinks it is in our guidelines to have meetings in the community. Commissioner Gamache likes the idea of replacing the meeting here with a meeting at a park and doing site visits. Commissioner Van Winkle stated she sees the value in both would like to see two parks that are near each other but the public meeting might be low attended. Chairman Mitchell would like to hold the meeting at Mojave Narrows that way we may get a better public turnout another park would be Lake Gregory that would have community turnout. Also, we want to promote one park that would render more community involvement. Cucamonga Guasti has homes around the edge of the park. Chairman Mitchell stated he agrees with Commissioner Gamache and would like to see more of the parks. Chairman Mitchell stated he sees there is value in reaching out to those communities. Chairman Farrell stated he agreed that communities near Mojave Narrows would benefit from this. Additional discussion was held regarding site visits and meetings. Mrs. Davis stated she would like to start with Mojave River Forks and Mojave Narrows. Mrs. Davis stated she would like to spend time at each park for at least one to two hours. This would allow us to walk some of the trails in the parks. The time frame for leaving the office is 11 a.m. with the meeting after the tour between 4 and 5 p.m. The meeting time would help facilitate community members who may want to attend the meeting. The Commissioners stated they would like to see the dog handler/rattle snake area at Mojave

River Forks during the park tour. Mrs. Davis stated she would make an appointment with this concessioner.

Mrs. Davis demonstrated the reservation system for the Commission. Commissioner Kreeger stated the pictures of the sites are very helpful in selecting the site. Commissioner Farrell had made several comments before that are still not addressed on the reservation system. Mrs. Davis requested Commissioner Farrell send her his comments and she will work with the vendor to address them. Commissioner Farrell stated the site is not compatible with Firefox. Commissioner Kreeger stated he has used the website and has not had issues. He stated uses his cell phone.

Mrs. Davis went over the new parks website. The site is still under development. The improvements were well received. The site was developed by the County's ISD Department not an outside source. Commissioner Farrell suggested from the individual park pages when you select reserve now you are directed to the parks reservation page and not the home page for the reservation system.

**6.0 DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Mrs. Davis stated she spoke with Daniel Flores in Vice-Chair Gonzales' office regarding the resolution for Barbara Wormser. Mr. Flores recommended the Commission should write a letter to the Chairman and copy Vice-Chair Gonzales' and Supervisor Rowe, asking for a resolution in Mrs. Wormers honor. When the resolution is ready for presentation at the Board of Supervisors meeting, Mrs. Wormser's family and the Advisory Commission should attend. Mrs. Davis stated that Regional Parks staff can provide assistance with the letter if needed.

Mrs. Davis provided the following update regarding Lake Gregory. The prior concessionaires lease expired on December 31, 2019. The Department is still in negotiations with the new concessionaire, however, the negotiations are going very well. During the transition period the park is being staffed by Department staff who have been temporarily re-assigned from other parks. There is no parking fee being charged at the transition time. At the time of the meeting fishing was still closed due to algae concerns. The algae level is at a danger level at Lake Gregory. Commissioner Kinzel stated fishermen are still fishing at the lake. Mrs. Davis stated that signs have been posted and staff stop fisherman if they have been observed fishing.

Mrs. Davis stated the Department has been receiving complaints regarding the reduction in trout stocking. The stockings are less than in the past. The Department is currently stocking 609 pounds per week. The reduction was due to a lack of competition during the bid process. The Department only received one bid and the vendors' prices were higher than in past years. Mrs. Davis stated hopefully there will be more competition for next year. Chairman Mitchell stated the County has considered opening their own hatchery which is commendable. However, the cost was too high to ever consider this as an option. Chairman Mitchell commended Mrs. Davis and her staff for the way they have been addressing the concerns. Mrs. Davis distributed the derby results to the commission. Mrs. Davis stated Kristie Stevens has done an excellent job in developing and running the fishing programs.

Mrs. Davis informed the commission that today new staff were training to run the Environmental Science Program at Yucaipa. The program will run on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at Yucaipa through May. Ms. Stevens is also working to develop a new Summer Camp Program for Cucamonga Guasti, Prado and Mojave Narrows Regional Parks. The Camp will run for two weeks at each park for a total of six weeks. The camp will be a one week program. The program will provide crafts, games and interpretive program activities this summer. If the program is successful it would be expanded next year to some of the other facilities. Commissioner Van Winkle asked when registration would start for the camps and if registration will be available on line. Mrs. Davis responded hopefully in April, at this time they may not be able to register online.

Mrs. Davis stated that FOR Parks will be having a fundraiser in March at Canyon Lanes in Cabazon.

Mrs. Davis informed the commission that she will not be in attendance for the February meeting, she will be on vacation. Commissioner Gamache stated he will not be able to attend the February meeting.

#### **Park Staffing**

Mrs. Davis informed the Commission that the Department started advertising for the Deputy Director position.

### **7.0 NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson**

Voting ballots were distributed to the Commissioners. Ms. McPheron tallied the ballots.

##### *Election of Chairperson*

Commissioner Mitchell was elected as Chairperson.

##### *Election of Vice Chairperson*

Commissioner Van Winkle was elected as Vice Chairperson.

### **8.0 PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Sorenson stated provided additional information regarding the bowling fundraiser FOR Parks is having on March 15<sup>th</sup> at Canyon Lanes in Cabazon.

Mr. Stone invited the commissioners to attend an event at the Model Airplane Club on May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 8 to noon to see what they will be doing for the 80-100 students in to do some testing and demonstrations.

Mr. Norman stated his comments were regarding SART. Commissioner Farrell was aware of the proposed project that was an extension that will connect the City of Highland and the City of Redlands. Mr. Norman mentioned the bridge over Orange

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Street. Chairman Mitchell stated that the cost involved to build the bridge over Orange Street was so costly and the project would not be moving forward. Mr. Norman also brought up the fact that ATV's are riding on the trail and shared pictures and dates with Mrs. Davis. One of the days was a Friday. Mrs. Davis stated she would touch base with the agencies and bring that to their attention for. Code Enforcement is often on the trail on weekends. Mrs. Davis will share information with them about Fridays.

### 9.0 **COMMISSION COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Kinzel stated he liked to see the staff at Lake Gregory working so hard and in uniform. Mrs. Davis stated the department is trying to accomplish a smooth transition.

Chairman Mitchell told the Commissioners if there is anything they would like added to the agenda to let him know. He would like to really be active this year. Chairman Mitchell stated he is grateful to all the Commissioners for what they have done so far. Chairman Mitchell thanked Commissioner Farrell for his feedback and input on the reservation system. If there are any concerns or directions needed Chairman Mitchell stated he will get them addressed. Chairman Mitchell thanked the Commissioners for voting him back in as Chair.

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.