



Regional Parks

BEAHTA R. DAVIS
Director

**MINUTES
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
REGIONAL PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION
2:30 P.M.
Wednesday, May 13, 2020**

Held via Conference Call

1.0 MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Chair Mitchell called the meeting to order at 2:31 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

Beverly Pickens

3.0 GUESTS/MEDIA

Greg Stone, Pomona Valley RC Club

4.0 MINUTES APPROVED – Wednesday, March 5, 2019

Motion: Commissioner Kreeger

Second: Commissioner Kinzel

Minutes approved

5.0 INFORMATION ITEMS - OLD BUSINESS

Commission Guidelines - Discussion was held regarding the guidelines. Motion by Commissioner Farrell to adopt the revised guidelines with additional changes to Section II B 2 to read "Election shall be by open vote for each office. Election for Vice-Chair shall follow election of the Chair. In each case, the commission member with the highest number of votes shall be declared elected." Seconded by Commissioner Kinzel. The motion carried. Additional discussion was held regarding changes to Section II A 4. Motion by Commissioner Gamache to change the section to read: "Chair calls meeting to order, roll call, recognition of guests and media, review and acceptance of minutes, unfinished business, new business, Director of Regional Parks report, commission proposed business by title for next meeting, public comments, commissioner comments

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and adjournment. Seconded by Commissioner Kreeger. Motion carried with one no vote. Motion by Commissioner Van Winkle to accept the revised guidelines seconded by Commissioner Kinzel. Motion carried. Mrs. Davis stated the guidelines would be submitted to County Counsel for review. After review by County Counsel the guidelines will be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

6.0 **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Mrs. Davis provided the following information to the Commission:

The parks reopened with limited amenities available on April 25th. Playgrounds, swim facilities, splash pads, picnic shelters, picnic tables, barbecues and restrooms were not available. Effective today, limited restrooms are open at each facility. Signage is posted at each park and is posted on our website. As the County continues to move through the different phases, additional amenities will be available. Chair Mitchell asked if camping was available. Mrs. Davis responded not at this time. Commissioner Gamache asked if restroom cleaning procedures were updated. Mrs. Davis responded yes, the department worked with Public Health and has provided PPE for staff. Commissioner Gamache asked if we were letting the public know what amenities are available. Mrs. Davis responded yes, signage is available at each park and information is available on the website and social media.

Staff Update – Some Regional Parks staff have been redeployed. Some staff from the Administrative Office are telecommuting.

Commissioner Kreeger asked when camping would be open. Mrs. Davis responded she should have an update later today.

Glen Helen – Twenty trailers are at the facility. The trailers were placed for the homeless population who were high risk for the corona virus. There are some people in the trailers. Human Services and Office of Emergency Services are handling the program. The trailers are the property of Regional Parks. Once the trailers are no longer needed for the program they will be sanitized and relocated to other parks and made available for reservations.

Commissioner Farrell asked about Moabi. Mrs. Davis stated Moabi was charged with the following same policies as the other Regional Parks. Mobile home owners were able to stay. Snowbirds were allowed to shelter in place. The restaurant is closed. The boat launch is open for boating with family members.

Annual Passes – Mrs. Davis stated an item to extend annual passes that were valid during the closure for the six weeks the parks were closed will be presented to the Board of Supervisors on May 19th.

Commissioner Farrell asked if any expressions of concern have been received from staff dealing with the public. Mrs. Davis responded no, as time has gone on staff have had to remind people about wearing masks when they were required. People seem to be

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respectful and happy to be back in the park. People were catching fish the first weekend the parks were open.

Swim season prep has continued during this time. Glen Helen both slides were worked on and should be operational this season. The pool is ready to go. Slides at Cucamonga Guasti are ready for the season. We are in phase 2 of the pool repair at Cucamonga Guasti. Yucaipa is a little behind, slides are ready and the pool should be ready by next week. Lake Gregory beach is ready, the slides need repair. Hiring has resumed for the summer. Enough guards have been hired to open the valley swim complexes. Guards are still needed for Lake Gregory.

Commissioner Kinzel stated the fountains are working again at Lake Gregory. It's nice to see the water shooting up in the air again.

Commissioner Van Winkle asked if the applicants for lifeguards are certified or if that is something you are going to have to overcome. Mrs. Davis responded we will have to overcome. The majority of guards that we already have onboard are ones that are certified. Mrs. Davis stated the Red Cross has delayed expiration of certification for 6 months. Commissioner Van Winkle said she is seeing on line a lot of the agencies are doing the in water with portion with full body mannequins.

Lake Gregory – Mrs. Davis stated we are still in negotiations with ASM. Chair Mitchell asked if additional cabins like the wedding cabin would be in the new contract. Mrs. Davis stated the department acquired Camp Switzerland and camping/glamping in that area was discussed.

SART – Phases I & II – The Department of Public Works construction project for the flood wall repair has been delayed due to birds nesting in the area. The project will resume after nesting season ends. The project should be complete in November. The portion of the trail will remain closed until the project is completed.

SART – Phases III & IV - We are still looking for additional funding to move forward with those projects.

Items scheduled for Board of Supervisors approval on May 19th

Extension of Regional Parks annual passes

Budget Adjustment for the Glen Helen Amphitheater Pedestrian Fence Widening Project
Real Estate Activity Report for small events at Calico and Prado in December and January.

Regional Parks is working with Brightview, the landscape contractor, to address mowing schedules at facilities.

Mrs. Davis went over the event list that was provided to the Commission. Quite a few events have been cancelled due to COVID-19 and some events have been put on hold until we know if we are approved to have events at the parks. Chair Mitchell asked if the department had an estimated cost of the revenue lost due to the cancellation of

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events from COVID-19. Mrs. Davis responded she would bring the figure to the next meeting.

Mrs. Davis stated tables and chairs from Prado are being used by other departments at COVID-19 test sites. When the testing is complete the tables and chairs will be returned to the department if they are usable. If not they will be replaced with new tables and chairs by the department that is using them.

Commissioner Farrell asked about Blg Morongo being closed. Mrs. Davis responded the park is operated by the Bureau of Land Management. It was their decision to keep the park closed. We have been in constant contact with them. Commissioner Farrell asked if that was because they were following Federal guidelines. Mrs. Davis responded yes.

Mrs. Davis informed the Commission that the Fish and Game Commission is hosting a Fish and Wildlife Festival Father's Day weekend at Prado Regional Park, on June 19, 2021. Additional information will be provided at a later date.

7.0 **NEW BUSINESS**

None

8.0 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

9.0 **COMMISSION COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Gamache stated it was a productive meeting in an odd format. He stated he is happy with the way parks are handling the situation and taking care of business.

Commissioner Van Winkle stated she had friends that went to Yucaipa the first day the park reopened. They had a great time.

Commissioner Kreeger thanked staff for everything they are doing. Stay safe and keep it up.

Commissioner Kinzel stated staff at Lake Gregory are doing an excellent job. The community relies on the lake for summer activities and people coming to the mountain.

Commissioner Farrell stated he appreciates Beahta and staffs efforts and hopes the loosening of restrictions will not pay a negative dividend. Good luck to all. He appreciates everyone's efforts.

Chairman Mitchell stated he visited 5 of the parks in the last 3 weeks. He visited Mojave Narrows and Glen Helen the day the parks opened. Signs were placed, the coloring on the signs was good, and there was a tremendous amount of jubilation in the people that were there. Most people were wearing masks. Staff handled situations in a respectful way. He had a picnic by the lake at Glen Helen in his chairs. There were a lot of people at both facilities. People were happy and fishing. Chair Mitchell asked if the Commission could receive attendance numbers from the first couple of weeks. He visited Yucaipa

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on the next day the number of visitors was not as robust as the other parks. The second weekend he visited Prado and Cucamonga Guasti. People were waiting to get in at Prado, not as many were wearing masks and the groups were larger. Fishing was good the second weekend, people were catching their limits. Congratulations to Beahtha's staff at every park he went to.

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Farrell seconded by Commissioner Gamache.

The meeting adjourned at 3:37 p.m.