

Regional Parks

BEAHTA R. DAVIS Director

MINUTES SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY REGIONAL PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION 2:30 P.M.

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

Held via Conference Call

1.0 **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

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

2.0 **ROLL CALL:**

San Bernardino County Commission Members Present: Doug Robertson, First District Victoria Jones, Second District Louis Gamache, Third District Michael Kreeger, Fourth District Patty Espinoza, Fifth District Bob Mitchell, Member-At-Large Steven Farrell, Member-At-Large

Staff: Beahta Davis **Beverly Pickens**

3.0 **GUESTS/MEDIA**

Helen Tran, Trails Committee

4.0 MINUTES APPROVED – Wednesday, January 13, 2021

Motion: Commissioner Farrell Second: Commissioner Mitchell

Abstained: Commissioner Robertson, Commissioner Espinoza

Minutes approved.

5.0 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

6.0 **DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL PARKS REPORT**

Mrs. Davis welcomed the new commissioners. Mrs. Davis stated there are a couple of new repairs one is the replacement of the blue slide at Glen Helen, we hope to have it

replaced before July 4th. At Yucaipa, we are resealing of the pool and completing pool entry area improvements. The entry area should be completed by March 31st. Mrs. Davis shared photos of repairs and projects completed during the pandemic with the Commission. Projects completed included restoration of one of the boats at Lake Gregory, installing a tankless water heater at Calico re-roofing the gatehouse and installing new group tent shelters at Yucaipa, and Glen Helen staff installed a restroom at the gatehouse and a new ramp at the back of the gatehouse. Guasti ADA parking lot project is underway. The pool project at Guasti is complete, the pool should be ready to open for swim season.

Mrs. Davis distributed an example of a new brochure to the Commission.

Mrs. Davis announced there is a new concessionaire for Lake Gregory Regional Park, Lake Gregory Community Recreation Company, a subsidiary of Thousand Pines. The agreement was approved at the Board of Supervisors meeting yesterday. We are looking forward to working with them. This is an exciting opportunity for the park. Commissioner Farrell stated there is appreciation from the community side.

Mrs. Davis stated we are still working on finalizing projects for the per capita grant. There is no report regarding the ATP grant, we hope to have a report at the next meeting. The department will be applying for the Prop 68 Regional Parks grant. The grant is due in September.

Mrs. Davis distributed the event list to the Commission. There are not many events going on due to the pandemic. We do have a few activities. We have been participating in activities with the County Museum that have been virtual. Kristie Stevens is working on some virtual activities in our parks for posting on the website, in addition to those activities, she is also looking at taking some of the special events at Calico and turning them into virtual events so that people can still experience Calico.

Mrs. Davis stated fishing has been popular throughout the pandemic. Calaveras Trout is our supplier this year. The fishermen are extremely pleased with the fish they have been catching. We are looking forward to the trout derbies. The derbies will be different this year, we put some rules in to keep everyone safe. The derby will be a month long. You pay your entry fee, fishing fee and derby fee when you enter the park. You must weigh your fish by 2:00 p.m. that day. At the end of the month, we will have prizes for the three largest fish at each park and one overall prize for the largest fish. We are only having the derby at three parks Cucamonga Guasti, Glen Helen, and Mojave Narrows. Calaveras is also providing some special trout at each park, 100 pounds per stocking will be Calaveras Trout Goldens. Commissioner Mitchell asked why Yucaipa was not included in the derby. Mrs. Davis responded Yucaipa will be preparing for the swim season, we have to lower the lake for pool preparation and the pool will be under construction. We also worked with Fish and Wildlife regarding the month-long derby, they recommended only having the derby at 2 to 3 parks.

Mrs. Davis distributed the scavenger hunt flyer to the commission. Throughout the season we have been doing monthly scavenger hunts at parks. Mrs. Davis distributed

the Fish and Wildlife Festival flyer to the commission. In partnership with the Fish and Game Commission and Museums we will hold the Fish and Wildlife Festival it will start airing on the website on June 19th. The festival will be virtual this year.

Commissioner Kreeger asked if Mrs. Davis could talk about Top Golf. She stated she is extremely excited to share that Top Golf will be coming to Cucamonga Guasti Regional Park. The area just north of the park proper they are building a Top Golf. Mrs. Davis thanked Commissioner Kreeger. Commissioner Kreeger stated he heard they are paying rent or a land lease for that. Commissioner Kreeger stated he heard \$600,000 a year or five years, what is the rent. Mrs. Davis stated beginning third year it will be \$625,000 per year and it will go up from there. Commissioner Kreeger stated fantastic, great job. Commissioner Jones asked is the completion date this year or next? Mrs. Davis responded next year. Mrs. Davis will provide the exact timeline at the next meeting.

7.0 **COMMISSION PROPOSED BUSINESS BY TITLE FOR NEXT MEETING**

Commissioner Jones requested an update on the Santa Ana River Trail.

Commissioner Mitchell stated he spoke with Mrs. Davis regarding four-wheel drive vehicles on the trail. Commissioner Mitchell requested a report on what we are doing to curtail them from being on the trail. Mrs. Davis stated she could provide the information now. Mrs. Davis stated we do have Code Enforcement walk the trail on a regular basis. Department of Public Works staff and park staff are on the trail weekly, they report their concerns to Code Enforcement. Code Enforcement will change the days they patrol the trail based on the information received from staff. Mrs. Davis stated she will provide the information provided by Commissioner Mitchell to Code Enforcement so they can increase their patrols on Saturday and Sunday. Commissioner Mitchell asked if there is signage along the trail providing information on how to contact the County with concerns regarding the trail. Mrs. Davis stated we can look into signage.

8.0 **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

9.0 **COMMISSION COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Gamache welcomed the new commissioners and asked the commissioners to introduce themselves and provide background and interests in parks.

Commissioner Robertson stated he lives in Apple Valley and is the Town Manager for Apple Valley, he enjoys hiking and camping in all parks. He stated he has not been to all the Regional Parks. He appreciates being part of the team. At this point wants to listen and learn, and make sure our parks stay open to people of our County.

Commissioner Jones stated she echoed Commissioner Robertson's focus to support the County and visit all the parks. Since we are the largest County in the United States it is going to take some time, but she is looking forward to it. She enjoys bicycling and camping. She is the Outreach Director for the Friends of the Pacific Electric Trail. Looking forward to learning and seeing how she can be of service to the commission.

Commissioner Kreeger welcomed the new commissioners and thanked Mrs. Davis for working to bring new vendors to the parks. Looking forward to seeing what comes out of the Prado Master Plan. Excited with the direction things are going.

Commissioner Espinoza stated she is a resident of Fontana and loves the outdoors, hiking. Interested in parks because she was a Commissioner for the City of Fontana Park and Community Service Commission. Here to lend a helping hand.

Commissioner Mitchell stated he did not visit any parks last month. He drove past the Santa Ana River Trail which made him aware of the vehicles on the trail. Commissioner Mitchell stated he is grateful for a full commission and looking forward to the year. Commissioner Mitchell thanked the new commissioners for coming on.

Commissioner Farrell welcomed the new commissioners. Commissioner Farrell stated he serves on the Lake Gregory Community Advisory Committee. The Committee is pleased and excited to get started. Commissioner Farrell stated he expects to report back from the committee to the commission. He asked about the brochure that was distributed for the promotion of the parks, it included Lake Gregory and fixed prices. Mrs. Davis responded adjustments will be made to the draft brochure. This is one of the reasons it has not been distributed.

Helen Tran, Trails Committee, stated that she lives in the city of San Bernardino and is a former City of San Bernardino Parks Commissioner. Ms. Tran stated she is an avid mountain biker, loves being on the trails. She thanked everyone for having her here.

Chair Gamache stated this is an exciting time. It is fantastic to have a full commission. Based on the background and comments he is impressed and excited. Now more than ever we need those open spaces and recreational opportunities. Great parks don't just simply happen, it takes everyone. He sees their role to serve and enhance our Regional Parks and create quality of life in our communities into the future. Too often it goes unsaid to every member of the team we sincerely appreciate your participation. Keep moving forward, take a moment to stop and look around and appreciate what you have accomplished.

Commissioner Mitchell stated the fees that were distributed included Moabi. Mrs. Davis stated that will be corrected at the next fee review. Mrs. Davis stated regarding Moabi there are two sides to the park, State Lands Commission and Bureau of Land Management. The lease with the State Lands Commission ended July 1, 2020. The lease with the Bureau of Land Management will end June 30, 2021. The next review of fees will be effective May 2022.

10.0 **NEXT MEETING:**

March 10, 2021

11.0 **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Espinoza seconded by Commissioner Farrell. Motion carried.

REGIONAL PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES February 10, 2021 PAGE **5** of **5**

The meeting adjourned at 3:11 p.m.