



## Regional Parks

**BEAHTA R. DAVIS**  
Director

**MINUTES  
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY  
REGIONAL PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION  
2:30 P.M.  
Wednesday, July 14, 2021**

**1.0 MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

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

**2.0 ROLL CALL:**

Commission Members Present:

Victoria Jones, Second District  
Louis Gamache, Third District  
Patty Espinoza, Fifth District  
Bob Mitchell, Member-At-Large

Staff:

Beahta Davis  
Beverly Pickens

Commission Members Absent:

Doug Robertson, First District  
Michael Kreeger, Fourth District  
Steven Farrell, Member-At-Large

**3.0 GUESTS/MEDIA**

Joy Bancroft, Topock Arizona resident  
Gary Bancroft, Topock Arizona resident

**4.0 MINUTES APPROVED – Wednesday, June 9, 2021**

Motion: Commissioner Jones  
Second: Commissioner Espinoza  
Minutes approved.

**5.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**6.0 DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL PARKS REPORT**

Mrs. Davis provided an update on the Santa Ana River Trail (SART) regarding the reports of vehicles on the trail. Regional Parks partnered with Code Enforcement and the Sheriff's

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Department over Memorial Day Weekend for patrolling the trail. Code Enforcement and park staff continue to patrol the trail. On July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend the concerns were in the wash area and not on the trail. Some of the concerns involve access issues. Areas of access in San Bernardino County have been addressed. Colton and Public Works partnered on the last area of access. There will continue to be random patrols on the trail to continue to address the concerns. Commissioner Mitchell asked if Mrs. Davis was aware there was a death on the trail. Mrs. Davis responded no she was not aware. Commissioner Mitchell stated a razor going in excess of 80 miles per hour flipped, the rider was killed. Commissioner Mitchell provided areas of the trail that have been used for access by vehicles. Commissioner Mitchell stated the following areas have been used for access: Riverside Avenue around the fence, the hills west of the dump, the apartment complex by Rancho Cooley, and Mt. Vernon near the mobile homes. Commissioner Gamache stated he believes it is Washington. Mrs. Davis requested that Commissioner Mitchell encourage the cyclists to contact Regional Parks when these incidents happen. This would allow the department to have knowledge of these incidents closer to when they occur. Commissioner Mitchell stated his suggestion would be to place signage on the trail with the contact information. Mrs. Davis responded there is signage at the access points on the trail.

Mrs. Davis stated SART Phase III is moving forward. The department is waiting for the official grant award letter from CTC and ATP. We are anticipating receipt of the letter in the next two weeks, and shovels in the ground in April 2022.

Mrs. Davis provided the following information regarding park events: July 4<sup>th</sup> Community Appreciation Day was held at Glen Helen and Mojave Narrows. At Mojave Narrows we partnered with Special Districts. Movies in the park are scheduled as an additional activity for campers while they are staying at the park. Wilderness Wednesdays have concluded. Swim facilities have been open. We have not had enough guards to open Cucamonga Guasti. Glen Helen has been open on weekends only.

Mrs. Davis provided the following staffing update. The department was able to fill all the open General Services Worker positions at the hiring event held on June 30<sup>th</sup> at Glen Helen. The candidates are going through the hiring process. Interviews are scheduled for Park Ranger II and Park Superintendent. These positions should be filled by the middle to end of August, depending on who is selected.

Mrs. Davis stated events are starting to come back to the parks. Staff are processing submitted applications.

Mrs. Davis stated with the low staff numbers have put the department behind on some maintenance projects at the parks. Staff are working hard to complete projects.

Mrs. Davis distributed the event list to the commissioners. The Teddy Bear Picnic contest was successful. The department received more entries than last year. The entries were from every age group. There is a BMX Freestyle Show at the end of the month at Cucamonga-Guasti. Mrs. Davis stated Kristie Stevens is doing a great job attracting new events and activities. Commissioner Jones asked about the National Night Out event in

Ontario. It states that Regional Parks will have a booth there, manned by staff. Commissioners are always welcome to assist. Mrs. Davis stated she would have Ms. Stevens contact Commissioner Jones regarding the event.

Commissioner Mitchell requested an update on the trailers that were at Glen Helen during the pandemic. Mrs. Davis stated the trailers have been distributed to other parks in the system for the RV camping program. The RV rental rules are being finalized. Sixteen of the twenty trailers were distributed four to each of the following parks: Mojave Narrows, Calico, Prado and Yucaipa. Four trailers were reserved for replacement. Staggered rental availability is planned based on current reservations for the site the trailers will be placed. Yucaipa will be later than some of the other parks. Commissioner Mitchell asked if the trailers would be towed in or in place. Mrs. Davis responded the trailers will be placed in designated sites at the parks. Rental rates range from \$150-\$250 per night with a \$300 deposit.

Commissioner Mitchell requested an update on the Golf Course. Mrs. Davis stated the Golf Course is one of the few concessions that continued to operate during the pandemic. The Golf Course had no concerns making their lease payment. Commissioner Mitchell asked if they were still doing foot golf. Mrs. Davis responded that she was not sure if the golf course was still implementing foot golf.

Commissioner Jones asked what impacts the severe drought was having on Regional Parks. Mrs. Davis responded currently there is no impact or concerns. Most of the irrigation in the parks uses lake water or reclaimed water. Mrs. Davis stated she would provide an update to the commission if this changes.

Mrs. Davis provided the following information regarding the rails on the trail at Lake Gregory. The rails support the integrity of the trail. The Department of Public Works are currently removing the damaged pieces and fixing the rail so that they still provide support for the trail.

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

Chairman Gamache requested the following be included on the agenda for the next meeting: Meetings at other locations and site visits.

8.0 **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Joy Bancroft stated she is a resident of Topock Golden Shores across the river from Moabi Regional Park also known as Pirate Cove Resort. Speaking on behalf of the boating community of retired and weekend residents. They use the launch ramp at the park. Pirate Cove increased the launch fee to \$35 on July 1st. To give you a little background at the beginning of the season the launch fee was \$15 and increased to \$20 all of a sudden on July 1<sup>st</sup> the fee increased to \$35. Some of the residents of Golden Shores use the launch ramp every day. Fees at other facilities in the area are Topock 66 \$15, Jack Smith (Needles) \$18, and Needles Marina \$20. For Golden Shores Pirate Cove is the most convenient location. Since the pandemic the use of the waterways has increased during the week and on weekends. Not sure what the reason for the increase, currently Pirate Cove has reduced the launch fee to \$20.

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Greg Stone, Pomona Valley Model Airplane Club – We are working on planning for our Toys for Kids fun fly and collection event in December. The collegiate design, build, fly competition is planning to resume this fall and we will be supporting local engineering programs for building and testing aircraft for the events. These will start with building activities from September through November, then testing and flights through the spring competitions.

We appreciate everyone's support and continue to do our part to support educational activities.

9.0 **COMMISSION COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Espinoza stated thank you to Mrs. Davis and her staff. Commissioner Espinoza stated she loves coming to the meetings. You give me all the information I need. I am still learning and appreciate the input, help and knowledge.

Chair Gamache reminded the commissioners when requesting an item be added to the agenda, the request needs to be timely to comply with the Brown Act. The agenda is distributed one week before the meeting. Keep in mind that some items may involve the potential for litigation can't be commented on.

10.0 **NEXT MEETING:**

August 11, 2021

11.0 **ADJOURNMENT:**

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

The meeting adjourned at 3:03 p.m.