



Regional Parks

Behta R. Davis
Director

José F. Cañedo
Deputy Director

**MINUTES
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
REGIONAL PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION
2:30 P.M.
Wednesday, March 13, 2024**

1.0 MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Chair Espinoza called the meeting to order at 2:31 P.M.

2.0 ROLL CALL:

Commission Members Present:

Thurston Smith, First District
Louis Gamache, Third District
Michael Kreeger, Fourth District
Patty Espinoza, Fifth District
Bob Mitchell, Member-At-Large
Steven Farrell, Member-At-Large

Staff:

Behta Davis
Jose Canedo
Mary Sheehan

Commission Members Absent:

Anahi Perez, Second District

3.0 GUESTS/MEDIA

None

4.0 REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 14, 2024

Commissioner Mitchell stated that his comments are in the minutes twice and the second portion should be struck out of the minutes.

Motion: Commissioner Gamache

Second: Commissioner Kreeger

Minutes approved as revised.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

None

6.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

TRAILS

Regional Parks is working with CalPoly Pomona to develop a 5-year Permit to Enter to conduct trail mappings at all parks.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COL. PAUL COOK (RET.)
Vice Chairman, First District

JESSE ARMENDAREZ
Second District

DAWN ROWE
Chair, Third District

CURT HAGMAN
Fourth District

JOE BACA, JR.
Fifth District

Luther Snoko
Chief Executive Officer

SART III is estimated to be completed in April 2024, except for the Mission Zanja section, which will be completed by December 2024. Regional Parks was approved for a \$6.9 million grant from Coastal Conservancy for SART IV A. Regional Parks is working with DPW and SBCTA to complete an ATP cycle 7 grant application to fund design and construction for SART IV B/ C.

PARK MAINTENANCE PROJECT UPDATES

Mr. Canedo reported that. Ag Weights and Measurements are assisting with three phases of pesticide training for Regional Parks staff. Stump grinding is continuing at Mojave Narrows Regional Park. Cucamonga-Guasti Regional Park has started trenching on the South end of the Lake.

Mr. Canedo provided information regarding a trip to the City of La Puente and the Toro Company to view their state approved equipment. Regional Parks is working with Fleet Management to replace the existing tractors that are no longer state compliant. Commissioner Smith recommended Mr. Canedo to contact Mojave Desert AQMD for funding and supplied Mr. Canedo with their contact information.

7.0 DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL PARKS REPORT

Mrs. Davis provided information on the Spring events. Two Easter Egg Hunts will be done at each of the Regional Parks. A golden egg will be hidden in all parks except Calico Ghost Town Regional Park. In addition to Easter there will be a scavenger hunt, crafts, and Earth Day event and other nature education programs throughout Spring. In April, there will be a stargazing party at Mojave River Forks Regional Park with Jose Hernandez possibly in attendance. California Days at Calico Ghost Town Regional Park had a nice turn out. Heather Hill did a great job with planning the event.

Mrs. Davis went over the Board Agenda Items (BAI) that were approved by the Board of Supervisors. The BAIs consisted of a request to increase the Mojave Narrows Regional Park Dry Campsite Path of Travel project by \$55,000 for new restrooms, an Interim Use Permit for Skyline Country Campout to return in October 2024, approval of KTUA to make updates to the Prado Regional Park Masterplan, and the contract for Silver Rush Burger at Calico Ghost Town Regional Park.

Regional Parks also received approval from the Board of Supervisors to change the payment processing system from Clover to FIS Global.

Mrs. Davis provided an update regarding the proposed changes to Regional Parks fees. The following fees will be revised, camping fees, Glen Helen swim facility fees, and pet deposits for cabin and RV rentals.

Mrs. Davis provided photographs and information regarding the design of the Mojave Barn at Mojave Narrows Regional Park. March is budget season and Regional Parks has requested the following Capital Improvement Projects; Yucaipa Regional Park Snack Bar renovation, Prado Regional Park Sports Court, Big Morongo Preserve Boardwalk renovation, Mojave Narrows Regional Park Boathouse/Snack Bar renovation, and Mojave River Forks Regional Park Restroom renovation/replacement. Also, in the budget for next

year, Regional Parks is focusing on maintenance equipment, staff certifications, and trainings.

Commissioner Mitchell made his recommendations regarding the sports park at Prado Regional Park. Commissioner Farrell spoke about his concerns with the Friends of Big Morongo Preserve's website and the lack of mention of the San Bernardino County. Mrs. Davis stated the signage is being updated with more San Bernardino County recognition.

Mrs. Davis stated the WiFi project within the parks is ongoing. The Innovative Technology Department has identified a vendor and will be moving forward with this project.

The hiring event was conducted on February 21, 2024. During this hiring event Regional Parks hired 9 Park Rangers, full-time General Service Workers, and interviewed candidates for Assistant Park Superintendent vacancies. A hiring event for Lifeguards and Managers will be held on March 23, 2024. A discussion regarding lifeguards commenced at this time.

The next Regional Park Advisory Commission meeting will be on April 10, 2024, at Lake Gregory Regional Park. Mrs. Placencia will be reaching out to the Commission with additional details on the visit.

8.0 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

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

Continue Trails Discussion

Update on parks maintenance projects

10.0 **COMMISSION COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Smith provided an update on the wastewater treatment plant that was previously discussed in the Commission meeting. This treatment plant will not be moving forward inside of Mojave Narrows Regional Park.

Commissioner Mitchell is pleased to hear about the SART trail.

Commissioner Farrell asked for an update regarding the water sampling. Mrs. Davis expressed that it is being sent to County Counsel for review.

11.0 **NEXT MEETING:**

April 10, 2024. This Commission meeting will be held at Lake Gregory Regional Park located at 24171 Lake Drive in Crestline. The tour will commence at 11:00am. The Advisory Commission meeting will be conducted at 2:30pm.

12.0 **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Kreeger, seconded by Commissioner Gamache.
Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:21 P.M.