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Minutes For March 9, 2006

SOLANO COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING, HELD THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2006 AT THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER FLOOR HEARING ROOM, LOCATED AT 675 TEXAS STREET IN THE CITY OF FAIRFIELD

Commission Members Present: Laevastu, Leong, Hermsmeyer & Riddle

Commission Member Excused: Alvarez

Staff Present: John Taylor, Tanner-Linne, Fiack

1. Chair Hermsmeyer called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM. A quorum was confirmed.
2. Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Laevastu made a motion to approve the minutes for the February 9, 2006 Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Leong and was approved unanimously.
3. Approval of Agenda: Commissioner Leong made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Laevastu and was approved unanimously. (The agenda was changed to include under #4 an introduction of John Taylor the new Interim Director of General Services.)
4. Chair Announcements: Chair Hermsmeyer introduced John Taylor, Interim Director of General Services.

John Taylor told of his background and his work with Parks Departments earlier in his career. John said Tony Norr is no longer Park's Manager, Marilea Linne will be the Commission secretary and Pam Ogle will fill in if he is unable to attend the Commission.

Chair Hermsmeyer stated that the commission needed guidelines on the Kinder-Morgan funds.

John Taylor indicated that he had been in contact with the First 5 Children and Families Commission and that they have a grant application and evaluation process that may be useful as a model in developing procedure for the Parks and Recreation Commission. John indicated that he would obtain copies of relevant materials from the First 5 Commission. Mr. Taylor indicated that it is likely that the monies from Kinder-Morgan will not be the last funds received related to incidents in the Marsh and having an objective process to invite and evaluate grant funding requests is necessary.

5. Commissioner and Staff Comments

Commissioner Leong said an Audubon society would like to lead a group on Mt. Vaca. Who should they contact to obtain access? Staff will follow up on the procedure to obtain access to the site.

Commissioner Laevastu said she had been appointed to the Solano County Citizen's Board on General Plan including

Commissioner Hermsmeyer asked if she would still be able to help with the Park & Recreation Commission. Commissioner Laevastu indicated that the schedule of meetings for the General Plan Update will not be in conflict with her duties to the Commission.

6. Public Comments. Felicia Flores-Workman & Robin Cox spoke regarding Chapter 19 and the Smoke Free Parks. They said Tony Norris had helped and worked very hard on the Smoke Free Parks and Chapter 19. They were very pleased with the wording in Chapter 19 for the Smoke Free Parks. They also praised the Commission for their part in this project and were obtaining more community support for the project and was looking forward to working with Parks in the future. The Commission a big "Thank You."

7. Reports from any of the other committees: There were none.

8. Future Agenda Items:

- A. Staff report on ADA policy for campsite reservations.
- B. Hear report on Mare Island Regional Park.
- C. Consider new park sites.
- D. Consider new funding sources for County Parks.
- E. Joint parks planning with the Yolo County committee.
- F. Consider appropriate memorial at Sandy Beach Park.
- G. Consider next steps for recreational reuse of the Mount Vaca property through public hearings.
- H. Commissioner training in press and media relations.
- I. Consider rating methodology for Fish & Wildlife Fund.
- J. Consider revision of the Commission By-Laws.

Commissioner Laevastu said she would like to add the General Plan - Trails ad hoc to the Future Agenda Items.

The Commission discussed if Mt Vaca was officially part of the Solano County Park System now? Commissioner Laevastu said the Commission would like to go up Mt. Vaca. John Taylor said they would work on access for the Commission. It was decided that a visit to Mt. Vaca by the Commission would best take place later in the Spring.

Commissioner Riddle mentioned the Kinder-Morgan funds. Mr. Taylor reiterated that the Plea Agreement provided the Solano Fish and Wildlife Commission to have an active part in approval of projects funded by proceeds of the fund. It should be understood, however, that only the Board of Supervisors can appropriate funds in the County's budget.

Jim Fiack was introduced as the new Analyst in the County Administrator's Office whose duties now include the General Services Department, including the Parks and Recreation Division.

The subject of the Brown Act was brought up by Commissioner Leong. Commissioner Leong asked if the County Counsel had classes on the Brown Act. John Taylor said County's County Counsel gave classes on the Brown Act and if the Commission members attend these classes they could have access to them.

The Commission discussed the information in their packets regarding news coverage. John Taylor informed the Commission that Andrew Kotch was the new Public Communications Officer for the County. Staff will invite Mr. Kotch to a future meeting of the Commission to provide an overview of the County's public relations protocols.

Commissioner Hermsmeyer said several months ago a meeting with other Counties Park & Recreation Committees was scheduled and then cancelled. He felt it was a good idea and would like to see a meeting take place. Staff agreed accordingly.

10. The Commission confirmed the next regular meeting of May 11, 2006 at 5:30 PM. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM.

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