

**SOLANO COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
September 8, 2016**

**County Administration Center - First Floor Hearing Room  
675 Texas Street, Fairfield  
10:00 A.M.**

**Members Present:** Commissioners Alvarez, Whited, Leong, Riddle and  
**Members Excused:** Chairman Hermsmeyer  
**Staff Present:** Chris Drake, Parks Services Manager,  
Resource Management, Diane Gilliland, Resource  
Management

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Vice-Chairman Riddle called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was confirmed.

**2. Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes of July 14, 2016 were approved as prepared (motion by Commissioner Whited, second by Commissioner Leong).

**3. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved (motion by Commissioner Leong, second by Commissioner Whited).

**4. Chair and Commissioner Comments**

There were no comments.

**5. Public Comments**

Commissioner Leong noted that on September 14<sup>th</sup> through the 18<sup>th</sup> Visions of the Wild will be in Vallejo. He suggested that the commissioners set up a table to distribute Solano County Parks brochures at the event.

**6. Commissioner Outreach Reports**

Commissioner Riddle noted that he belonged to the Solano Resource Conservation District (SRCD) and that they are working with the City of Vacaville to improve Centennial Park. He asked if Solano County Parks had ever gotten involved with city parks. Mr. Drake stated that they had not worked with city parks but do work with SRCD at Lake Solano and Sandy Beach. Commissioner Leong stated that there is a park in the southern area of Mare Island that could be a nice part of a Regional Parks District. The park area is owned by the City of Vallejo and is operated by volunteers. It was also on the list of areas of interest for the proposed Regional Park District. Mr. Drake stated that at this point they don't have the resources to acquire and improve new sites.

**7. Chair appointment of ad hoc committee for FWPF Grant Evaluation**

Public announcements for the grant application process will go out in September and run once per week for three consecutive weeks. The ad hoc committee will make their recommendations in November/December. There is \$15,000 available for this year and possibly another \$15,000 for next year. The grant limit will be \$2500. Appointments to the committee will be made at a later date.

## **8. Status Reports:**

### **A. Attendance and Revenue Summary**

The attendance and revenue reports were current up to the first week of August. More current data was not available due to reconciliation issues with the Resource Management's yearly budget. The report for August is expected to be a little bit less than July. That report will be ready for the November meeting. It was noted that the majority of the campers at both Sandy Beach and Lake Solano parks are out of county users. Solano County residents are primarily day users.

### **B. Park Closures**

There were no red flag warning closures at any of the parks this year. Working with Solano Land Trust and Newell Open Space the ranger staff came up with protocols for closures for both Lynch Canyon and Newell Open Space. An agreement was made that if one park is closed the other park will also close. Newell is notified by CDF and Lynch Canyon is notified by Cordelia Fire District of red flag warnings. Red flag warnings are issued in the morning and staff posts closure notices at the sites, closure notices are also posted to the website and emailed to staff at American Canyon and Solano Land Trust.

There were multiple closures due to capacity levels at Sandy Beach. Over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend they occurred every day and every Sunday except the 24<sup>th</sup> in July. Lake Solano experienced a 24 hour closure and evacuation that impacted 24 campsites due to the Cold Fire on August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **C. Regional Parks Update**

A report will be presented to the Board of Supervisors on November 1, 2016 which will include a recommendations report, a resolution and an implementation plan. The Commission requested that they receive a copy of the report after it is presented to the Board. Mr. Drake stated that the report will be emailed to the Commission after the presentation and that he was hoping that a Park and Recreation Commissioner would be able to serve on the implementation committee if the Regional Park District plan goes forward.

### **D. Project Updates**

Many park projects involving staff have been put on hold during the busy summer season. The Lake Solano stair project is almost finished and was funded as a capital improvement project. The old drinking fountain is going to be updated with a new fountain and a bottle filling station. The Boating Improvement Project at Belden's Landing has been paused as the lowest bid came in approximately \$40,000 higher than expected so additional funds will be needed before completion. Mr. Drake is looking into other funding options.

The Rio Vista Waste Water Facility is no longer allowing Sandy Beach to connect its waste dump station to their facility. They were concerned about foreign materials getting into the waste dump and from there into their waste treatment facility. Because the existing leach field is undersized and no longer working it will be abandoned and an overflow tank will be installed. Funds for the project have already been allocated. Daily operations at all the parks have been impacted by many maintenance issues ranging from well pump failures to septic tank repairs.

## **9. Confirm Date of Next Regular Meeting, and Adjourn (Action Item)**

The Commissioners agreed by consensus to a regular Commission meeting on November 10, 2016 in its regular location, at 10:00 a.m. in the County Administrative Center, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Hearing Room. Meeting was adjourned at 11:21 a.m.