

**SOLANO COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD  
THURSDAY, September 9, 2010**

**County Administration Center - First Floor Hearing Room,  
675 Texas Street, Fairfield, California**

**Commission Members Present:** Riddle, Hermsmeyer, Whited, Alvarez, Leong  
**Commission Member Excused:** none

**Staff Present:** Sykes , Tanner-Linne

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

Chair Hermsmeyer called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. A quorum was confirmed.

**2. Approval of Minutes for July 8, 2010**

Motion to approve (Leong), with second (Alvarez). Approved unanimously.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Motion to approve agenda (Whited) with second (Leong). Approved unanimously.

**4. Chair Announcements and Commissioner Comments**

Hermsmeyer mentioned that over the September 6<sup>th</sup>, Labor Day holiday, the beach at Sandy Beach Park was very full and attendance was pretty impressive.

Mike Whited stated he and his family had camped at Sandy Beach several weeks ago and enjoyed fishing at the beach. He said the park was 60% full at all times during that week. Whited said he had observed seven campers who had planned to originally camp at nearby Brannan Island State Park, but since it was closed, had come to Sandy Beach. He also said he enjoyed attending a Watershed Explorers class conducted by Solano Resource Conservation District at Lynch Canyon in September. He found it educational and interactive for the children attending. Some had never been out in an open space before. They learned about native plants and how the watershed works.

**5. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**6. Presentation: Solano Resource Conservation District's Education and Habitat Restoration Programs, by Katherine Holmes, Restoration Projects Manager.**

Katherine Holmes presented the Watershed Explorers Program, currently offered to third through six graders from Vallejo. She said the Solano RCD was able to do the program due to partnering with other organizations, and State and Federal grant funds. They are hoping to expand it to all third graders in Solano County soon. Katherine showed a presentation on several habitat restoration projects that had been funded with Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund (FWPF) grants and other agency grants. Katherine reported the upcoming Solano RCD plant sale on October 23, 2010.

**7. Re-schedule Date of Next Regular Commission Meeting**

Since the next Park and Recreation Commission meeting was scheduled for November 11, 2010 (Veteran's Day), the Commission decided by consensus to reschedule this meeting to November 18, 2010 at 5:30 p.m.

**8. Suisun Marsh Specific Fund (SMSF) Grant Program: Approve Timeline for Fiscal Year 2010/11 and Direct Staff to Distribute Procedural Guide**

The timeline was presented by Staff Sykes. The Procedural Guide would be distributed Friday, September 10, 2010. The Grant Applicant Workshops would be held October 1. Grant applications would be due November 3. Applicant presentations would be made at the November 18 Commission meeting. The Commission would recommend grant awards at its January 13, 2011 meeting.

Alvarez asked how it would be advertised. Staff said it would be advertised in local newspapers, sent by email to previous applicants, and be put on the County website.

Motion to Approve Timeline for Fiscal Year 2010/11 and Direct Staff to Distribute Procedural Guide (Leong), with second (Hermsmeyer). Approved unanimously.

**9. Chair to Appoint SMSF Evaluation Committee**

Chair Steve Hermsmeyer appointed Commissioner Mike Alvarez, Laureen Barthman-Thompson, and Steve Foreman as the ad hoc evaluation committee for the Suisun Marsh Specific Fund Grant applications.

**10. Parks and Recreation Division Staff Report**

Staff Sykes presented tables of attendance and revenue through August 2010 and noted that total revenues to date in FY 2010/2011 are up about 4% from FY 2009/2010 revenues at this point in the year. Sykes also presented tables with the status of projects funded with FY2010/11 FWPF grant awards and FY2008/09 SMSF grant awards. Sykes announced the upcoming dedication of interpretive panels at the Forrest Deaner Native Plant Garden on Sept. 18, 2010. The panels were funded by a FWPF grant.

Sykes will be contacting Commissioners Hermsmeyer and Riddle soon to reinstate the work of the ad hoc committee for Rental Use Policies for the Lake Solano Nature Center. Coincidentally, the County is establishing use policies for its new County Event Center, so we should be able to build off these efforts.

Riddle and Leong suggested having concessionaire sales at Sandy Beach and Lake Solano to increase revenues, such as canoes, hotdogs and cokes. Hermsmeyer asked whether they needed insurance and Sykes said yes. Hermsmeyer suggested they could come in with prepackaged food, and the preparation time would be less. Alvarez suggested contracting with a bait shop to sell bait, fishing equipment at Sandy Beach.

**11. The date of the next regular meeting was confirmed for November 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.**