

**SOLANO COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
May 9th, 2019**

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

Members Present: Commissioners Riddle and Whited, Chairman Alvarez
Members Excused: Commissioners Hermsmeyer and Leong
Staff Present: Chris Drake, Parks Services Manager, Resource Management; Eva Rivera, Kelsey Brannigan, Resource Management

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

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

2. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of March 14th, 2019 were approved (motion by Chairman Alvarez, second by Commissioners Riddle and Whited).

3. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with the addition to discuss the topic of the location of the next meeting (motion by Chairman Alvarez, second by Commissioner Whited and Riddle).

4. Chair and Commissioner Comments

- Commissioner Riddle suggested to add an agenda item for the July meeting to discuss Board attendance.
- Chairman Alvarez suggested to add an agenda item for the July meeting to discuss the park tour.

5. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

6. Staff Report (Updates: Information and Possible Discussions)

A. Regional Parks Update:

Draft version of Administration and Finance Plan received from SCI consultants has been reviewed. The staff is working with County Counsel to understand how the connections exist between the district and divisions. Staff has also reached out to other districts to see how their contracts work, to use that information for a reference. County Counsel has started filtering out the information and putting it into terms that everyone can understand. The staff will be presenting to the Board of Supervisors sometime in June 2019. Commissioners will be notified of the date as soon as it is confirmed. Commissioners will also receive a hard copy of the Admin. and Finance plan that is being presented to the board. Once the plan is presented to the Board of Supervisors, they will either vote to go forward with the plan or deny it.

Commissioner Riddle inquired about which county counsel member is representing us. Staff replied that the county counsel appointed is Kim Glover.

Chairman Alvarez inquired about the future outreach and education program. Staff does not currently have the Outreach and Education plan together. Chairman Alvarez asked if we need approval from the Board of Supervisors to go forward with the outreach and education plan. Staff replied he is unsure of what the Board of Supervisors would need to approve for this plan.

Commissioners will be given more information about this plan and what will need to be approved by the board at the next meeting. November 2020 is the target date to present a public voting option by the Board of Supervisors for a Parks and Open Space District. Chairman Alvarez inquired about moving the target date out further into the future if possible. Staff stated that there is no limitation on the time it needs to be presented. It can be pushed later into the future or could be presented earlier. Commissioner Riddle disagrees with pushing the date further out.

The Board would have to allocate the funds for the outreach and education program. Commissioners suggest that the staff get an outside consulting group to help with the outreach and education plan.

B. Attendance and Revenue Summary

At 75% of the fiscal year we are at 77% of revenue goals. This doesn't include the last two weeks of April 2019. We are on track to meet or exceed the yearly revenue goals.

Chairman Alvarez stated that the commissioners took a tour of two of the three parks, and that being there helped the commissioners to understand the revenue and attendance of the parks. The parks are in good shape and they are responsive to the users. Chairman Alvarez states that being out at Belden's landing and seeing the park he can understand why it generates \$44-45,000 a year. Commissioner Riddle states that Belden's landing was very interesting to see all the fire damage, and Sandy beach is a very nice facility.

Commissioner Riddle stated that he didn't realize that the dump stations at Sandy Beach were only 45 feet away from the wastewater plant. Commissioner Riddle asked if the public can use the dump site at Sandy Beach if they pay for it. Staff replied that the dump station is open for everyone to use when they pay a dump fee. Some members of the public have thought before that since the dump site is so close to the wastewater plant that they can use it and it's paid for by their sewage bill. Which is not the case, it is a separate dump station.

Chairman Alvarez inquired about the dump station and if in the future if there might be a solution to connect to the wastewater treatment plant. Staff states the big concern connecting to the city sewer is foreign materials getting into the wastewater. For example, if petroleum-based products got into their system it will throw off their processes. By having a secured system that's coming in we will perhaps be able to show some tracking of the amount of material that comes in. We can show the frequency of its use. There was concern about surging effluent materials coming in from our waste tank. Chairman Alvarez inquired about maybe moving the tanks to onto the wastewater plants land and having them test it, and if any petroleum is found back charging us for that to have a private company come out and pump it. Staff replied when the trucks come into Sandy Beach and take the waste out, they are tested at the facilities when they go to dump it. Sandy Beach has a very clean track record, and staff doesn't fault the wastewater plant for not wanting to take over the tanks because they are not secure. That is one of the reasons for the new automated system. To have some security to the dumping. It is the first attempt at showing that we are maintaining the security of the system. The kiosk is not up and running yet.

Commissioner Riddle stated that the wastewater plant's real concern is that it is small facility. That if Rio Vista has any development that they might not be able to maintain all the waste with Sandy Beach being connected and having a possible surge.

C. Project Updates

Belden's Landing: Maintenance is done around the public coming in and out of the park. It is a little slow for attendance right now, and staff has some time to do the maintenance.

Attendance may pick back up at the end of May 2019 when the striped bass run happens. If there are late season rain storms, then the sturgeon will be possibly biting again.

We may get a surge of attendance out at Belden's Landing, otherwise we anticipate maintaining

the current levels of attendance.

Staff is working on getting some of the fire damage repairs going. Repairing not only the pier, but also the fencing, signs and concrete that had been damaged by the fire.

Commissioner Whited inquired if the work has been contracted out to a third party. Staff replied that the damage will be covered through a claim with insurance. Commissioner Riddle inquired about where we stand with the claims. Staff replied that an engineer and a claims adjuster recently came out to see what the scope of work is. They will put together a plan for the scope of work for repairing the pier. Which is the biggest asset that was damaged.

Chairman Alvarez inquired about an estimated date that the repairs will start on the pier at Belden's Landing, if the work would be completed within the year, and if we will need new permits for this project. The work on the pier will be completed within the year if permitting allows. The engineer and staff are researching to find out if they will need new permits as quickly as possible. The portion of the pier that was damaged is a segment in between both ends. There will not be an extension to the pier.

Staff is working to make sure the approval process goes smoothly, and they don't miss anyone. (For example: Fish and Wildlife, BCDC, Fish and Game.) Chairman Alvarez inquired if Chris has explored the option of finding a company that will contact everyone for him. Commissioner Riddle suggested the RCD may be able to help with the process. Staff noted that they are working with Suisun RCD on the restoration out at Belden's Landing.

Sandy Beach: Sandy Beach and Lake Solano did not have an off season for mowing. Both parks were affected in the middle of a huge growth with maintenance needing to be done to both tractors and both mowers. There is not a lot of companies that will service one of the pieces of equipment. The nearest dealers are Tracy and Sacramento. Staff noted they are looking for local options.

Commissioner Whited inquired if the equipment is owned by the Parks Division or if the equipment belongs to the Public Works Division, and how old the equipment is. Staff replied that equipment is owned by the Parks Division, and the tractors and mowers are less than 10 years old. The equipment should be able to be fixed. It should not need to be replaced.

Lake Solano: Working with Bureau of Reclamations to get the management agreement for Lake Solano straighten out. The agreement should be complete within the next three months. That will extend the contract out, so staff can continue to apply for grants without having to ask for a letter of intent to extend our contract every year.

Chairman Alvarez inquired about Fish and Game not allowing Fish plants in Lake Solano because they are not native fish. Asking if that will ever change in our lifetime. Staff replied that he doesn't suspect that is going to change. Chairman Alvarez inquired them being planted in Berryessa. Staff advised that fish planting is not allowed between the two dams, he is unsure of Lake Berryessa.

Lynch Canyon: Doing prep work for the Trail Run on June 1st. Just finished up the kite festival which had a good number of people attend.

Chairman Alvarez asked what the trail run is. Staff replied Lynch Canyon trail run has been labeled the toughest trail run in Solano County. It started the very first year Lynch Canyon opened. There is a 10k, 5k, and a community hike on the same day. There is a good amount of people that come out to participate, and it is a very rigorous course.

Chairman Alvarez inquired if Solano County sponsors the Trail run. Staff replied it is has been operated by volunteers from the Solano Land Trust in cooperation with the Parks Division, Solano County Search and Rescue and Cordelia Fire also typically assist. The event does generate revenue for the park.

- D. Park Closures
No park closures.

7. Confirm Date of Next Regular Meeting and Adjourn

The Commissioners agreed by consensus that a meeting will be held July 11th, 2019 at Lake Solano, at 10:00 a.m. in the Nature Center with an optional tour at 9:00 a.m. Chairman Alvarez and Commissioner Riddle suggested reaching out to the Putah Creek Counsel and Solano Resource Conservation District to have a presentation of their efforts. (Motion Approved by Chairman Alvarez, second by Commissioner Whited and Riddle)

Meeting was adjourned at 10:51 am.