

**SOLANO COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
January 11, 2024**

**County Administration Center – 675 Texas Street,
1st Floor, MP Rooms 1600-1620, Fairfield
10:00 a.m.**

Members Present: **Chair Mike Alvarez
Vice-Chair Michael Whited
Commissioner Robin Leong
Commissioner Donta Kendrick**

Staff Present: **Parks Manager Chris Drake
Clerk Melissa Catron**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Alvarez called the meeting to order at 10:02am. A quorum was confirmed. Chair Alvarez advised that Commissioner Kendrick would be in attendance but was running late.

2. Approval of the Minutes

The meeting minutes for November 9, 2023 were approved.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Chair Alvarez recommended adjusting the agenda to move and hold item 7 until Commissioner Kendrick arrives. The agenda and adjustment to the agenda were both approved unanimously.

4. Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2024

Chair Mike Alvarez was nominated and re-elected as Chair. Vice-Chair Michael Whited was nominated and re-elected as Vice-Chair.

5. Chair and Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Leong stated he would continue to serve on the Commission until the current vacancy is filled. The current Commissioner vacancy is in District 4.

6. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

8. Staff Report

A. Attendance & Revenue Summary

Parks Manager Chris Drake reported that as of 1/02/2024, Parks revenues are sitting at 61% of the 2023/24 revenue goal (FY23/24 revenue goal is \$700,000). YTD, there have been over 112,000 estimated visitors to the parks. It is not known if the revenue goal will be increased

at mid-year, any updates will be reported at a future meeting. Chris Drake discussed current staffing levels and active recruitments with the Commission. Peak season begins April 1.

Commissioner Donta Kendrick arrived at 10:22am.

B. Status Updates

Public Access: Patwino Park is not yet open; it is not known at this time when the new park will open to the public. Discussion took place regarding the installation of infrastructure and other projects to be completed by Solano Land Trust in order to open the park to the public.

Chris Drake reported to the Commission that there was a wet weather closure at Lynch Canyon on 12/30/2023.

Projects and Initiatives: Parks Manager Chris Drake reported that the environmental review process is still ongoing regarding the ARPA funded projects at Lake Solano park and Sandy Beach park. Discussion took place on the various projects currently in the environmental review process, and how the estimated timing of those projects may affect the parks and the visitors to the parks (campground, boat launch, and day use areas).

Parks Staff are still working to renew agreements with property owners for the parks that Solano Parks operates; currently Belden's Landing and Lake Solano park.

7. FWPF Evaluation Committee Recommendation for Award

There were 8 total applicants for the 23/24 cycle; the FWPF sub-committee recommended funding 5 of the applicants. Next, the funding recommendation will be brought to the Board of Supervisors for final funding review and approval.

The Commission members discussed the total grant award amount (\$10,000) and expressed interest in reviewing the total award amount for the next FWPF cycle at a future meeting. Vice-Chair Whited made a motion to request that Parks Staff add discussion of the FWPF grant award amount onto a future Parks and Recreation Commission meeting agenda.

9. Confirm date of next regular meeting on March 14, 2024 and Adjourn

The next Commission meeting was confirmed for March 14, 2024. Since there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15am.