

**SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MARCH 26, 2009
SAN LUIS OBISPO VETERANS HALL
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA**

Commissioners Present: Pandora Nash-Karner, Paul Teixeira, Deanne Gonzales and Bruce Hilton

Commissioners Absent: Rick Matthews

Staff Present: Pete Jenny and Ernie Del Rio

Other Staff: None

Call to Order: 6:00 p.m.

OPENING

1. Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Public Comment. Bridget Ready thanked the leadership for getting the Jack Ready Park Helping Hands Foundation the start they needed.

3. Commissioner Comments. Commissioner Hilton attended the Trails Committee meeting; trails on the SML map through private property should be noted; discussion took place on a potential Bob Jones Trail survey being performed; he talked to County Parks Volunteer Coordinator Holly Sletteland of ECOSLO about development of the survey instrument; he thought a trails needs assessment might be useful; he also attended a meeting of the Backcountry Horsemen and thought they do a good job promoting the backcountry trail. **Commissioner Gonzales** has been looking into economy issues; she is concerned about acquisition verses maintenance and development of existing facilities; she said conservation districts are formed all over the state to maintain parklands. **Commissioner Teixeira** commended the Jack's Helping Hands Foundation; he attended SCAC and spoke regarding the Nipomo Park environmental impact report. **Commissioner Nash-Karner** reported that there are now two non-profit groups working on pool development in the Los Osos/ Morro Bay communities; she said there will be two weeks of talks on the Botanical Garden development from May 1-15; she said **Commissioner Matthews** will help to maintain temporary sustainable gardens for the event.

4. Approve minutes of February 26 meeting. Motion to approve February 26, 2009 minutes was made by **Commissioner Teixeira**, seconded by **Commissioner Hilton**. Motion approved 4-0.

STAFF REPORTS

5. **Deputy Director-Parks' Report. Pete Jenny** gave an update 1) on the budget; right now it is a very fluid situation; 2) Ranger II recruitment is on hold while we determine whether a County employee due for lay-off could meet the requirements; 3) recruitment for Deputy Director—Parks opens Monday; **Janette Pell** spoke a little about the process; 4) Board of Supervisors approved a new Joint Powers Agreement with CMC that will benefit both Morro Bay GC and, potentially, the Botanical Garden at El Chorro Regional Park; 5) staff is working on a lease with Dana Adobe that should be before the Commission soon; 6) the agreement with the Avila Business Association for management of the Front Street Plaza will end April 30; Parks staff will take over all operations of the Plaza on May 1; 7) an update on delays facing implementation of the new Parks reservation system were outlined with new “go live” date of October 1.

BUSINESS ITEMS

6. **Discussion of recommendation to Board of Supervisors regarding property lease to Jack's Helping Hands foundation. Jenny** gave a brief overview and introduced **Bridget Ready**. She talked about providing the quality of life for children, especially those with special needs. This was the catalyst for the vision for Jack's Helping Hands and the Jack Ready Park. **Supervisor Achadjian** talked about the process and how the development plans came to fruition. **Jenny** said he expected this effort would provide a model for others throughout the country. **Supervisor Hilton** asked about a trails plan, showing trails through the park; **Jenny** said the development of the park would provide easement for the Nipomo Bluff Trail. **Commissioner Gonzalez** moved to accept the Jack Ready lease project; motion seconded by **Commissioner Teixeira**; approved 4-0.
7. **Discussion of Trails Committee mission and makeup. Jenny** gave an historic context of how the Trails Commission was formed. The question proposed is what should the Trails Commission be doing? **Commissioner Hilton** will share information with the Trails Commission and report back to PCOMM. **Commissioner Gonzales** thought education on trail etiquette is important. Item will be returned to Commission following review by the Trails Committee.
8. **Discussion of Annual Report to Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Nash-Karner** presented the 1st draft of the annual report to the BOS, which included all components submitted by Commission members. Discussion ensued about what is the intent of the message. She will write an executive summary and bring the entire report back to the Commission for review next month.
9. **Scheduling of Commission's annual retreat and spring field trip.** The field trip was scheduled for April 10th meeting at Vet's Hall at 8:00 a.m., going to Santa Margarita Lake, Chalk Mountain Golf Course, and Rios-Caledonia Adobe. The retreat will be scheduled once the new Deputy Director—Parks is available.
10. **Approve letters of donation.** None.
11. **Adjourn meeting.** The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.