



# SAN BENITO COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Don Kelley Chair District 1	Jim West District 2	Daniel Dungy District 3	Ray Pierce Vice-Chair District 4	District 5	Janie Lausten Historical Society	Jesse Garza Vet's Park	Sarah Bartholf Youth Rep. San Benito HS	Bianca Vasquez Youth Rep San Benito HS
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*San Benito County Board Chamber – 481 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Hollister, CA 95023*

## REGULAR MEETING ACTION MINUTES May 18, 2010

**1. Call To Order** at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Don Kelley.

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Don Kelley.

1.2 Roll Call

Present: Don Kelley, Ray Pierce, Jim West, Daniel Dungy, Janie Lausten, Jesse Garza, Sarah Bartholf and Bianca Vasquez

Absent: None

Also Present: Public Works Administrator Steve Wittry; Administrative Services Manager, Linda McElroy; and Facility and Grounds Manager Ken Nattell

1.3 Acknowledge Certificate of Posting.

The agenda was posted on May 13, 2010 at the San Benito County Free Library, San Benito County Courthouse, and San Benito County Administration Building per Government Code Section #54954.2(a).

*A motion to acknowledge the certificate of posting was made by Commissioner Dungy and seconded by Commissioner Pierce. Motion passed 8-0.*

**2. Public Comment**

Bob Bies spoke on behalf of the Tremors regarding an incident resulting from a lack of fencing between the large softball field and the small field. Mr. Bies recommended enhancing fencing to avoid balls crossing fields and hitting other players. Mr. Bies stated a police report was filed when a fight ensued over the incident between players.

*A motion was made by Chairman Don Kelley and seconded by Commissioner Garza to be placed on agenda for discussion at the following meeting, and set a formal meeting with the Veteran's Park Commission to discuss potential solutions. The motion passed 8-0.*

**3. Consent Items**

3.1 Approval of Minutes of April 20, 2010 Meeting.

*A motion was made by Commissioner Pierce and seconded by Commissioner West to approve the Consent Items. The motion passed 8-0.*

**4. Staff Announcements – Information Only**

4.1 De Anza Trail Newsletter.

Linda provided Commissioners with the April 2010 De Anza Trail Newsletter.

4.2 Zebra Mussel update.

Linda informed the Commission that Harry Blohm of the SBCWD updated the Board of Supervisors on April 27, 2010 that the Water District is continuing to work with the Department of Reclamation and Fish and Game in finalizing the evaluation of the site, which is required to obtain permits and initiate eradication process. It was communicated that these efforts are projected to consume another 12 months of work. Once the evaluation process is completed, there is an interest in pursuing Potash (Potassium Chloride) treatment, which disrupts mussel's ability to filter food and, coupled with a draw down of the reservoir for exposure, treated mussels could die off in several weeks.

Steve also informed the Commission that total eradication using the methods Linda reported is not entirely definite and the use of such treatment has resulted in one total eradication of quagga mussels in a very small quarry. Due to the size of San Justo Reservoir, such treatment could provide a means of controlling the population.

4.3 Prop 84 Nature Education Facilities update.

Steve announced funding opportunities for Nature Education Facilities. Awards could range between \$1,000 and \$7 million dollars for facilities that are provided as a vessel to establish nature related education to the public. Steve requested ideas from the Commission for application creation and submission by July 1, 2010.

Commissioners deliberated regarding cooperative projects between the School District, Historical Society and or Service Groups for contribution of educational material that could be utilized in or on proposed trails with signage or an outdoor amphitheater for displays of nature and history related to San Benito County.

Public Comment: Don Pidd, Historical Park Caretaker, made suggestions for a trail leading from the playground area along the creek, with nature-related signage.

Steve advised the Commission that all suggestions will be reviewed against application requirements, and staff will provide an update next meeting.

4.4 Agenda request via web update.

Linda announced website changes are underway to release an online interested party request form for agenda announcements. Staff projects three to four weeks before live on the County website.

4.5 Commission Budget update.

Steve announced that in mid-year review, departments were directed to provide budget concessions where possible to assist in offsetting FY09-10 revenue deficit. Among Public Works concessions was a reduction of projected training for the Parks and Recreation Commission. This particular reduction was proposed due to the earlier decision of the Commission not to attend training in Palm Springs in light of the declining economy.

Commissioners' deliberated and understand the mid-year direction, but would like to see training funds re-established at the previous level in the recommended FY2010-11

Parks and Recreation fund and was championed by staff. They would also like it expressed in budget hearings the Commission's benefit to the County should be considered, as their work is substantial.

Steve said that the desire for training can be recommended to the CAO by staff, but ultimately the decision falls upon the CAO's recommendation to the Board of Supervisor in the budget process.

**5. Commission Announcements, Introductions, and Presentations – Information Only**

**5.1 De Anza Trail Dedication Sunday May 23, 2010 starting at 10 am.**

Commissioner West stated that the De Anza National Trail Dedication ceremony is scheduled for 10 a.m. Sunday, May 23, 2010 and a shuttle will be available just past the second cattle drive post, as the first part of the hike is steep and could impose a problem for some wishing to attend.

**6. Discussion Items**

**6.1 Parks and Recreation Master Plan**

Steve reported the Parks and Recreation Master Plan is in transit to the State for review and comments.

Commissioner Don Kelley had approached Lissette Knight of the Planning and Building Department, and County Counsel, regarding the processing of the Master Plan. Both department representatives communicated that they were unaware that this document was on a critical path to loose funding if the County did not process it through in a timely manner. Commissioner Kelley was concerned with inter-departmental communication.

**6.2 River Trail \ Regional Park**

Steve reported we are still pending a response from the State regarding our grant request application approval. The application is complete and is under review for potential award in the fall of 2010.

**6.3 Park Capital Projects**

Linda reported the Proposition 40 per capita funding for capital projects dollars needs to be prioritized for projects to be completed by Spring of 2011. Currently the County staff is proposing a split of \$150,000 toward the Veterans Commission projects and \$50,000 towards the SBCPRC projects.

Commissioner Janie Lausten provided a list of projects for consideration at the Historical Park via email and copies were distributed for review.

Steve requested the Commission prioritize a list of proposed projects for staff. Once prioritized, staff will present proposed projects and associated costs.

Commissioners deliberated on the proposed funding split and concerns regarding safety related projects and American Disability Act requirements for both Veteran's and Historical Parks.

Public Comment: Don Pidd, Historical Park Caretaker recommended that the Commission should have a specific plan in place so when grant funding is made

available to the County the Commission doesn't have to go through the process of identifying projects and prioritizing them for each application.

#### 6.4 New Park Request

Staff presented a report regarding the possibilities of placing a park area within the County Service Area 53, Riverview Estates. This was an affordable housing project that had no conditions of approval regarding park space. Currently the development has no available land that would accommodate a park. Staff added that the proposed River Trail/Regional Park would be located adjacent to this development and the northern corner of the development at Hospital Road would be an ideal site for a small picnic area with parking.

#### 7. **Adjournment**

*There being no further business to come before the San Benito County Parks and Recreation Commission, Commissioner West made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Lausten. Motion passed 8-0.*

The next regular meeting of the San Benito County Parks and Recreation Commission will be held on Tuesday, June 15, 2010 at 5:30 p.m.