

5. Commission Announcements, Introductions and Presentations – Information Only

5.1 Steve gave an update to the commission regarding current activities progressing within the San Benito County Parks and Recreation Commission. He noted they are working hard to create a master plan for the River Trail and specific elements to be included within this parkway. They are also working with the Library on forming a Park & Library district which the citizens of the county will have to approve by voting yes. Commissioner De La Cruz asked if the Veterans Commission would be affected by such a district. The answer would be yes. This commission was created by a vote of the people for recreation purposes and this vote of the people would be the only authority allowed to change the role of the commission. As to the exact details, staff would have to consult with county counsel.

6. Discussion Items

6.1 Hollister Heat Container Roof

A presentation was made to the commission by Hollister Heat representatives Jennifer Bagley, Dan Miller, and Kaycee Day regarding the construction of a roof over the existing containers as specified within the plans included in the commissioner's packets. Jaime wanted permanent project structures to become property of the county to alleviate any potential ownership issues in the future. Jerry wanted any project to have proper insurance and building permits. Ed stated the plans showed very little permanent construction and would be as portable as the containers it was attached to. Steve recommended, if the commission was in agreement as to the sight and architecture design of the project they make a motion to move forward with the project.

A motion to have staff work with the applicants in obtaining the necessary agreements and permits that would continue moving this project implementation forward was made by Commissioner Muenzer and seconded by Commissioner Hawkins. Motion passed 4-0.

6.2 Park Operations Update

Mike updated the commission on park operations covering the prior quarter. The rental usage statistics was presented. Signs of the ground squirrel population have shown lower levels than prior quarters. We had some vandalism in the restroom with someone stealing the bubble fan. We did not have any graffiti or user complaints reported. We did have a thank you note as mentioned earlier. Steve added the row of trees between the west side shelter area and the neighboring housing are becoming a safety issue. Finally, the operating budget compared to actual expenses is well within the first quarter expected results.

6.3 Park Water Supply

Steve gave a quick update on the approved Board of Supervisors capital improvement well project. This project is designed to reduce the non-potable water demand currently being supplied by the City of Hollister at higher potable pricing. During a prior meeting, public comment was taken that a possibility of a grant from the San Benito County Water District was available for water projects like this. Staff has been working with the Water District and there is no grant available, but we learned some other possible assistance may be realized. Staff is continuing to work with the Water District and City to leverage all possible financing before moving forward and expending park impact fee dollars. Commissioner Muenzer inquired if the county would be receiving a surprise bill from the City of Hollister for water usage? Steve answered stating this year's park budget was created with \$60,000 in user fee income to offset an estimated \$60,000 in water expenses thus ensuring a zero cost utility service. Due to the current County capital improvement movement on a well project, the City

of Hollister has not been charging park water usage. This situation will not be extended into the next fiscal year. If the situation should change prior to our next meeting, staff will request a special meeting. Public comment from Jennifer Bagley inquired as to the time frame of the County's fiscal year so the user groups could also budget water payments.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Veterans Memorial Park Commission, Commissioner St. John made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30p.m., seconded by Commissioner Hawkins. Motion passed 4-0.

The next regular meeting of the Veterans Memorial Park Commission will be held on Monday, February 4, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mike Hodges, Staff Analyst
San Benito County Veterans Memorial Park Commission