



COUNTY OF YOLO

Department of General Services
Parks Division

Kevin Yarris
Director

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PARKS, RECREATION AND WILDLIFE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PRWAC)

Summary of Minutes

September 21, 2020
Meeting via Teleconference

Members in Attendance: Nancy Ullrey (Chair), Eileen Allen (Vice-Chair), Anthony Volkar, Andrew Fulks, Ken Trott

Members Absent: Trini Campbell, Catherine Portman, Bridget O'Flaherty

County Staff in Attendance: Kevin Yarris, Director of General Services; Jeff Anderson, Sr. Parks Planner

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chair Ullrey called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda was adopted.

Motion: Volkar. Second: Trott. Motion carried unanimously.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the August 17, 2020 meeting were adopted as presented.

Motion: Volkar. Second: Allen. Motion carried unanimously.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

5. REGULAR AGENDA

5.1 Advisory Members appointments/reappointments/resignations

None.

5.2 Burrowing Owl Reserve Habitat Monitoring Update (John McNerney, City of Davis)

John McNerney, City of Davis Wildlife Resource Specialist, provided a brief history of the burrowing owl reserve at Grasslands Regional Park and presented 2020 monitoring results. McNerney explained that grazing efforts have been largely successful for maintaining herbaceous vegetation height and

density suitable for burrowing owl year-round occupancy. No breeding owls were detected in 2020, but transient burrowing owls use the site in late fall and winter months.

5.3 Impact of LNU Lightning Complex Fires on Yolo County Park Sites

County staff shared photos of fire damage at Putah Creek Fishing Access Sites, Valley Vista Regional Park and Cache Creek Regional Park Lower Site. The fire burned ground vegetation and some trees, irrigation lines, signs, and a plastic culvert, but there was no reported damage to structures.

6. PARKS DIVISION STAFF UPDATES

6.1 Cache Creek Campground

The campground reopened on September 10 after being closed for the past three weeks due to the LNU Lightning Complex fires. The fire burned in all directions around the campground, but there was no damage to the campground. The campground will close for the season on October 5.

6.2 Knights Landing Boat Launch Grant

The new dock was installed earlier today, and with that, most improvements have been completed. The parking lot will be chip sealed and restriped later this week. The site is expected to open to the public on or before October 30.

6.3 Grasslands HCF Grant

The shade structure was constructed today, and the concrete pad underneath will be constructed later this week. The interpretive panel signs have been finalized and the order has been placed. The parks maintenance crew is in the process of installing benches along the trail system. The new trail system is expected to open to the public late October or early November.

6.4 OHV Planning Grant

A survey was released to gather information from OHV enthusiasts that will help guide the market analysis and feasibility study. Over 1,400 survey responses have been received to date. Public online workshops will be held in late October/early November.

6.5 County Road 40/Low Water Bridge

Public Works Division released the CEQA Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for public circulation. Public comment period ends October 9, 2020. Construction of the bridge is still slated to commence in Spring 2021. Fulks recommended the Chair send a comment letter to Public Works recommending that Public Works maintain Road 40 once the bridge is completed. The committee expressed agreement and Chair Ulrey said she would send a letter with Fulks' assistance.

6.6 Rumsey Bridge (no staff update)

6.7 Parks Marketing and Branding (no staff update)

6.8 Knights Landing Park Project (no staff update)

6.9 Putah Creek Fishing Access Site #3 (no staff update)

6.10 Park Signs on County Roads and State Highways (no staff update)

7. COMMITTEE MEMBER AND DIRECTOR REPORTS

Director Report: Yarris suggested the PRWAC and staff focus on ways to increase advocacy for parks.

Committee Member Reports:

- Ullrey: The Cache Creek Conservancy is sponsoring cleanup days at Cache Creek Nature Preserve on September 26 & 27 and County Road 87 on October 3 & 4.

8. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- Road 40 maintenance
- Parks advocacy/marketing plan

9. NEXT MEETING

Next regular meeting scheduled for October 19, 2020

10. ADJOURN

Ullrey adjourned the meeting at 8:17 pm.

NOTICE

The Parks, Recreation and Wildlife Advisory Committee is responsible for providing advice and recommendations on matters within its jurisdiction to the Board of Supervisors, the County Administrative Officer, and the Director of General Services as appropriate. Any person who is dissatisfied with a recommendation of this committee may submit their comments to the Director of General Services prior to a final decision being made on the issue. The appropriate body for making a final decision on a given issue, whether it is the Director of General Services or the Board of Supervisors, may sustain, modify, reject or overrule any recommendations of the Parks, Recreation and Wildlife Advisory Committee. Final decisions may be appealed in accordance with Chapter 4 of Title 1 of the Yolo County Code.
