



MEETING MINUTES
VENTURA COUNTY
PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION (PAC)
REGULAR MEETING

PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION
800 South Victoria Avenue, L#5140
Ventura, California 93009-1030

Government Center
Hall of Administration, Atlantic Conference Room
800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, CA

January 22, 2024

4:00 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
Proceedings called to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**
Commissioners: Carin Kally, Bruce Thomas, Harold Schneider
PAC Staff: Colter Chisum, Jeri Cooper

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
Kally presides as Chair.
Minutes of the October 16, 2023, PAC meeting were approved by a motion made by Schneider, seconded by Thomas. All in favor.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
Lori Siegmund commented on the condition of the Ojai Valley Trail (OVT) Landscape maintenance – would like to get a volunteer program to assist with maintenance. Adopt a Trail Program – recommends updating program to include not only litter, but organic matter.
Designate unpaved section to include pedestrians and dogs.
Requested contact information from PAC commissioners.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Tree Mortality
Phase I tree removal at Soule Park is complete. Phase II Scoping at Oak Del and Kenney Grove in process. No published report from Ag Commission to date.
 - B. Rent & Fee Changes Process Overview
No public or external comments received to recommended minor changes. CEO has reviewed.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Final Rent & Fee Proposed Changes
Chisum presented summary of changes. Fees remain at or slightly below comparables. Commissioners agreed unanimously to support proposed changes.
 - B. Project Updates
 - i. Rincon Paving – Mostly complete and open to reservations as of January 12.
 - ii. Soule Park Golf Course – Storm damage major phase I work is done. Work continues with FEMA.
 - iii. Foster Park Day Use – Entire park of 10.5 acres damaged in storms. Will be reopening as pilot without internal parking. Parking capacity to be about 70 at front entrance to park. Awaiting SCE for power.
 - iv. Nyeland Acres – Designer selected and kick-off meetings going well.

- v. Ojai Valley Trail – Scope will include all needed hazard tree removal and brushing.
- C. Park Staffing
- i. Project Manager – Candidate selected for mid-level projects, grants, encroachments.
 - ii. Chief Ranger – New hire is retired Coast Guard, exceptional supervisory experience.
 - iii. Maintenance Engineer – Reclassification of positions to assist with supervision and work-release program.
- D. Storm Updates – No damage reported in latest storms.
- E. Use Trends – Camping down 9% this year before Rincon closure. Day use and facility rentals increased slightly.

7. STAFF COMMENTS

Chisum thanked the commissioners for their time and remaining transparent.

9. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

- A. Thomas inquired if the EVCCA is still operative. Not in over a decade, per Chisum. Currently MRCA with similar joint powers authority, honors commitments of EVCCA education programs and management of trailheads.
- B. Thomas inquired about the encroachment issue adjacent to Happy Camp. It has been reported to County, but Parks does not have jurisdiction over particular parcel.
- C. Kally asked about the status of pickle ball courts at Soule Park. Chisum has received recommendation from informal group to renovate two tennis courts into six pickle ball courts and two paddle ball courts. Fundraising would come from the group. Chisum supports the idea.
- D. Schneider suggested that the commission review the Nyeland Acres Community Center activity and have an opportunity to provide feedback at the next PAC meeting.
- E. Schneider inquired about the Conejo Canyons Bridge. Chisum clarified that it is not within the Santa Rosa Valley Park. It is a new bridge that will eventually increase trail connectivity.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.