

CALIFORNIA STATE PARK and RECREATION COMMISSION

Ghirardelli/Union Square Room of the Radisson Hotel San Francisco Airport
5000 Sierra Point Parkway
Brisbane, California

Minutes of the Meeting - Friday, January 18, 2013

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Caryl Hart, CHAIR
Maurice Johannessen
Tommy Randle
Paul Junger Witt
Elva Yanez

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

None

CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS STAFF

Ronie Clark, ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR PARK OPERATIONS
Major General Anthony Jackson, USMC (Ret.), DIRECTOR
Karl Knapp, CHIEF, FACILITIES MANAGEMENT DIVISION
Claire P. LeFlore, CHIEF COUNSEL
Ann Menneguzzi, SUPERVISING RANGER, CANDLESTICK POINT STATE RECREATION AREA
Steve Musillami, CHIEF, PLANNING DIVISION
Louis Nastro, ASSISTANT TO THE STATE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Aaron Robertson, CHIEF DEPUTY DIRECTOR
Danita Rodriguez, ACTING SUPERINTENDENT, MARIN AND DIABLO VISTA DISTRICTS
Kathryn Tobias, SENIOR STAFF COUNSEL

SPEAKERS REGISTERED/REPRESENTING

Keith Angell/Self
Allen Baylis/Naturist Action Committee and Friends of San Onofre State Beach
Terese Brekke/Lennar Urban
Alan Carlton/Sierra Club
Mack Casterman/California Native Plant Society & The Knowland Park Coalition
Laura Davick/Crystal Cove Alliance, Cooperating association/concessionaire Crystal Cove State Park
Sara Feldman/California State Parks Foundation
Maureen Gaffney/Association of Bay Area Governments - San Francisco Bay Trail
Elizabeth Goldstein/California State Parks Foundation
Nancy Graalman/Defense of Place
Gillian Greensite/Self
David Hardy/Sonoma County
Cecily Harris/San Mateo County
Patricia Jones/Citizens for East Shore Parks
Thor Kaslofsky/San Francisco Redevelopment Agency - Registered but did not speak
Sheila Nelson/Self
Lynn Paulson/Washoe Meadows Community
Richard Rothman/Self

CALL TO ORDER

Legal notice having been given, Commission Chair Caryl Hart called this meeting of the California State Park and Recreation Commission to order at 9:01 a.m. Chair Hart welcomed everyone in attendance and introduced the commissioners and California State Parks staff who were present, including new Director of California State Parks Major General Anthony Jackson, USMC (Retired), and State Parks' Chief Deputy Director Aaron Robertson.

AGENDA ITEM 1:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 28, 2012 MEETING IN SANTA MONICA

There being no changes or corrections to the draft minutes of the September 28, 2012 meeting in Santa Monica, the Chair noted that reading of the minutes would be waived and the minutes of this meeting hereby approved by the Commission.

AGENDA ITEM 2:

CHAIR'S REPORT, COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS, RECOGNITIONS

Chair Hart explained that the Commission wished to honor those who had served at California State Parks for the remarkable longevity of their service. The Chair asked Commissioner Paul Junger Witt to read the list of recently retired employees.

Commissioner Witt read the following list of recently retired employees:

Joanne Aasen, Museum Sector	8 years, 10 months
Joseph Argentine, Museum Sector	27 years, 1 month
Diane Arlin, Lake Tahoe Sector	7 years, 5 months
Pamela Armas, Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Division	37 years, 3 months
Lynda Austin, Capital District	10 years, 2 months
Bradley Barker, Orange Coast South Sector	22 years, 2 months
Brian Bashore, San Diego Historic Sector	26 years, 3 months
Charlotte Bertrand, Calaveras Sector	5 years, 1 month
Patricia Bost, Training Section	26 years, 9 months
Maureen Brack, Hungry Valley District	27 years, 11 months
Richard Brooks, Chino Sector	3 years, 4 months
Sydney Brown, Natural Resources Division	31 years, 8 months
Elizabeth Buxton, Silverado Sector	13 years, 3 months
Gary Coles, San Luis Obispo Coast District	30 years, 5 months
Scott Cramolini, Carpinteria Sector	33 years, 1 month
Kristi Darby, Central Valley District	20 years, 9 months
Kathleen Dolinar, Ocotillo Wells District	32 years, 11 months
Milford Donaldson, Office of Historic Preservation	8 years, 3 months
Susan Dower, North Coast Redwoods District	21 years, 5 months
Heidi Doyle, Lake Tahoe Sector	15 years, 10 months
Dwight Dutschke, Office of Historic Preservation	35 years, 1 month
Debra Feldman-Medina, Bay Sector	28 years, 2 months
Kevin Forrester, Law Enforcement/Emergency Services	29 years, 10 months

Roland Gaebert, Bay Sector	16 years, 1 month
Michelle Gardner, Eel River Sector	24 years, 3 months
Thomas Gomez, Perris Sector	5 years, 3 months
Lucio Gonzalez, Marin Sector	25 years
Nina Gordon, Interpretation & Education Division	30 years, 6 months
Niall Gow, Santa Cruz Mountains Sector	12 years, 3 months
Victor Herrick, Heber Dunes Sector	29 years
Robert Hillis, Montane Sector	18 years, 3 months
Steven Houghton, Facilities Management Division	24 years, 3 months
Lorenzo Jaquias, Russian River Sector	30 years, 2 months
Margaret Khan, Legal Office	14 years, 8 months
Leonard King, Folsom Sector	30 years, 3 months
Kenneth Kramer, Orange Coast District	30 years, 7 months
Blaine Lamb, Archaeology, History & Museums Division ...	26 years
Brenda Livingstone, Accounting Services Section	19 years, 3 months
Jose Lopez, Jr., Coastal Sector	28 years, 3 months
James Luscutoff, Concessions Reservations and Fees	40 years, 1 month
Lisa Lynds, Natural Resources Division	34 years, 8 months
Nedra Martinez, Montane Sector	30 years, 8 months
Roy Mc Namee, Marin District	36 years, 5 months
James McAlister, Audits Office	32 years, 3 months
James McGlynn, San Diego North Sector	18 years, 7 months
Vicente Mendoza, Silverado Sector	29 years, 1 month
Deirdre Milosch, Orange Coast District	24 years, 10 months
Terry Murphy, Orange Coast South Sector	31 years, 8 months
Darlene Neal, Marin District	32 years, 11 months
Gary Nelson, Central Valley District	24 years, 3 months
John O'Rourke, Eel River Sector	28 years, 11 months
Dennis Pruitt, Capital District	18 years, 7 months
Linda Rath, Russian River Sector	27 years
Allyn Schafer, Marin Sector	36 years, 3 months
David Schaub, Natural Resources Division	36 years, 1 month
Denise Schaub, Personnel Services Section	22 years, 5 months
David Sollenberger, Northern Service Center	27 years, 4 months
Lawrence Spejna, Pajaro Coast Sector	13 years, 9 months
Eric Sturm, Monterey Sector	28 years, 7 months
Lorr Thomas-Dossett, Diablo Vista District	33 years, 2 months
Joan Tripp Stephens, Inland Empire District	31 years, 5 months
Martin Urbach, Orange Coast South Sector	11 years, 7 months
Jose Vasquez, San Diego Coast District	26 years, 9 months
Victor Walsh, San Diego Coast District	11 years, 6 months
Donald Wilder, Cascade Sector	28 years, 7 months
Andrew Zilke, Oceano Dunes District	39 years, 6 months

Commissioner Witt noted that this list and the many long years of service illustrated how beloved Califor-

nia State Parks is to its employees. The Commissioner thanked the retiring employees for their dedication. Commission Chair Caryl Hart also expressed her thanks to the retirees, adding that this list also served as an illustration of how badly “new recruits” to California State Parks were needed. She encouraged young people and their parents to consider careers with California State Parks.

The Chair asked if the commissioners had anything to report. There being no reports from commissioners, Chair Hart delivered her report. She explained that she had been very active, on behalf of the Commission, in the rejuvenation of California State Parks. The Chair noted that State Parks was entering a new era, and that those attending the meeting would be hearing about this today from new State Parks Director Major General Anthony Jackson. She added that this was the first Commission meeting for Director Jackson, as it was for Chief Deputy Director Aaron Robertson and new Chief Counsel Claire LeFlore.

Chair Hart discussed Assembly Bill 1478, which became law on September 25th, 2012. The Chair explained that this new law changed how members of the Commission would be selected and introduced requirements for their experience and expertise. The Chair also noted that AB1478 addressed the expenditure of the undocumented funds discovered at State Parks during the summer of 2012. Chair Hart stated that she had been very involved with how AB1478 would be interpreted to ensure that all the non-profit groups that had worked so hard to keep parks that were threatened with closure open would be recognized, and that these valuable partnerships would continue in the future. She also noted that the general plan for Candlestick Point State Recreation Area that the Commission would be considering this day provided an excellent example of how partnerships can benefit parks.

AGENDA ITEM 3:

APPROVAL OF COMMEMORATIVE REDWOOD GROVES

Chair Hart requested that Commissioner Elva Yanez read the requests to establish commemorative redwood groves in units of the State Park System. Commissioner Yanez read the following grove requests and made a motion to approve these groves. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Paul Witt.

Commemorative groves as requested by Save the Redwoods League:

George and Nina Traub Family Grove
in Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park
George and Nina Traub, donors

Family of Henry and Imelda James Grove
in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park
anonymous donor

The commissioners voted unanimously to adopt the resolutions establishing the above commemorative redwood groves in the specified units of the California State Park System.

AGENDA ITEM 4:

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Commission Chair Caryl Hart introduced Major General Anthony Jackson, USMC (Ret.), Director of California State Parks, to present his Director’s Report.

General Jackson thanked the Chair and all those who were present at the meeting. The General noted that he was in his eighth week as Director of California State Parks, and that during this time he had met literally hundred of individuals. He recognized the exceptional passion, love, and giving nature of California State Parks’ staff and many partners. The General added that this dedication was reflected in the retirees’ years of service that had been read, noting that many of them had served for 30 to 40 years.

The General provided background information on how he came to be Director of California State Parks.

He recognized that some may be curious as to why he would come out of retirement to take such a job after over 36 years in the United States Marine Corps. He explained that soon after his retirement from the Marine Corps in January 2012, he purchased a recreational vehicle so he and his wife could enjoy visiting parks: state parks, national parks, and regional parks. The General stated that in less than six months he accumulated 9,700 miles visiting parks in his RV. He described how when he had joined the Marine Corps in 1975 it had not been his intention to serve for so many years, but that he had discovered “service before self” provided an exceptionally rewarding experience. General Jackson stated that he had joined California State Parks for this same reason: To enjoy service before self in helping to preserve and protect the precious natural and cultural resources of California for future generations.

Unaccounted for funds – General Jackson stated that he was intimately aware of the headlines associated with the reporting of unaccounted for funds at California State Parks that had made headlines over the previous six months. The General reported that his key mission was to re-establish public trust in the State Park System so that California’s precious parks would survive – and progress – in the future. General Jackson stated that he wished to assure the public, the commissioners, and all of State Parks’ employees and partners that he would work unselfishly to make the California State Park System a 21st Century model that would be the envy of park users all over world.

Audits and investigations of California State Parks – The General noted that while he recognized that there had been personal tragedies associated with the recent changes at California State Parks, he believed the situation and the audits and investigations that had been conducted provided an opportunity to create a positive response. General Jackson explained that while there was a prominent negative finding, that an employee had inappropriately authorized payments for accumulated leave, it was also discovered that while there were funds that were unreported and not properly applied these funds were still available to California State Parks and had in fact earned \$3.9 million in interest. He also stated that the state legislature had made the \$20.5 million in question available to State Parks, and that \$10 million of this would be provided as matching funds for donations from partner organizations, thereby doubling the ability to keep parks open for visitors, and \$10 million would be used to improve infrastructure projects like failing water treatment facilities in park units. The General also explained that the previously unreported \$34 million in Off-Highway Motor Vehicle (OHV) funds would remain with State Parks’ OHV Division for the benefit of the Off-Highway Vehicle community.

General Jackson explained that the investigations that had been conducted provided an opportunity for State Parks to take a close look at itself and how the department manages its budget. The General stated that the state Department of Finance would be conducting annual reviews of State Parks’ budget and that “down to the nickel” accountings would be produced and available to anyone who wished to review them. The General spoke of the new leadership at State Parks, and referenced organizational changes that would make the department more flexible and responsive, which he described as key components in developing a “silver lining” 21st Century model for California State Parks.

Department of Boating and Waterways joining California State Parks – The General offered his assurance to boating enthusiasts and the staff of the Department of Boating and Waterways that when they joined with California State Parks on July 1st, 2013 their interests would receive the same dedication and “tender loving care” as that received by units of the State Park System.

State Parks Funding – General Jackson stated that California State Parks must become self-sufficient. He explained that only ten years ago the department was receiving approximately 91% of its funding from the state’s general fund, while the portion of the department currently receiving general fund support had been reduced to only about 27%. He added that to survive, the State Park System must practice good business sense. The General named the successful examples of Crystal Cove State Park and Asilomar State Beach and Conference Grounds, and he acknowledged the importance of the generous contributions of the department’s many partner foundations and cooperating associations. He also spoke of the new opportunity to contribute to California State Parks provided on the 2012 California Resident Income Tax

Return/Form 540, Code 423, the State Parks Protection Fund/Parks Pass Purchase, and he encouraged all taxpayers to take advantage of this opportunity to contribute to California State Parks.

The General stated that as Director he would be responsible for California State Parks, signing off on decisions just as he had been personally responsible for those who reported to him in the military. He explained that at this time he was not making decisions; rather he was educating himself in California State Parks and state business. The General described how he had been spending at least one day a week traveling throughout the state visiting State Park System units and meeting employees, partners, and park users. He referred to himself as a “student for life” and noted that he brought to California State Parks “a lot of optimism.” General Jackson stated that in his military career he had often found himself in miserable places, but that by building the best team, by surrounding himself with competent individuals, he could make the most of any situation. He added that he would be listening to the public, commissioners, and staff before making decisions, and that he looked forward to hearing from everyone. The General thanked all for their efforts thus far in keeping California State Parks open and available, and noted that he was merely part of the team that would contribute to the success of California State Parks in the 21st Century.

General Jackson explained that a written Director’s Report had been provided to the commissioners and that this report was also available to the public. He then introduced Senior Staff Counsel Kathryn Tobias, who reviewed the requirements of Assembly Bill (AB) 1478 (Public Resources Code Section 535.5) related to the departments deferred maintenance projects.

Ms. Tobias explained that AB1478 required the Commission to “...evaluate and assess the department's deferred maintenance obligations...” and “...establish the relative priority of prospective deferred maintenance projects.” She also read aloud the remaining sections of the new law related to the State Park and Recreation Commission. Ms. Tobias introduced Ronie Clark, Acting Deputy Director of Park Operations, to make a presentation to the Commission on the department’s deferred maintenance obligations.

Deputy Director Clark introduced Karl Knapp, Chief of State Parks’ Facilities Management Division, who joined her for the deferred maintenance presentation. It was explained that AB1478 provided an opportunity for the Commission to evaluate and assess the department’s deferred maintenance obligations. The presenters provided background and history on the department’s deferred maintenance backlog and described the process by which projects were identified for funding and the various funding sources which were available for use in addressing deferred maintenance projects, including the \$10 million for critical infrastructure projects allocated by AB1478. At the conclusion of the presentation Ronie Clark returned to the Chair and commissioners for questions.

Commission Chair Caryl Hart thanked Ronie Clark and Karl Knapp for an excellent presentation. The Chair then asked for questions from the commissioners.

Commissioner Elva Yanez asked if there was a timeline for identifying deferred maintenance projects, and whether a median project cost had been determined for the high priority infrastructure projects. Deputy Director Clark replied that it was the department’s objective to proceed with identifying projects as quickly as possible, and that the cost of projects varied greatly depending on the size of the project. She added that some “critical” projects like park water systems could require as much as \$1 million to complete, while others may cost \$100 to \$200 thousand each.

Commissioner Maurice Johannessen complemented the presenters. The Commissioner added that the legislation – AB1478 – did not provide nearly enough funding to address the department’s deferred maintenance needs. He stated that the selection of projects would undoubtedly involve political considerations.

Commissioner Paul Junger Witt stated that every effort should be made to avoid bureaucracy and develop as system for selecting and addressing deferred maintenance projects that incorporated as much streamlining and simplification as the law allowed.

Major General Anthony Jackson stated that he agreed with Commissioner Witt. The General added that

State Parks must act quickly to avoid further expenditures related to state fines imposed for water quality violations. He asked that the Commission provide its input related to prioritizing deferred maintenance projects as soon as possible so that projects could be undertaken during the current fiscal year.

Deputy Director Ronie Clark noted that lists already existed that documented park water systems that were failing or that could fail during the next 36 months, incurring citations and penalties.

Commissioner Elva Yanez, Ronie Clark, Karl Knapp, and Senior Staff Counsel Kathryn Tobias discussed the potential cost of water quality citations and fines. Deputy Director Clark noted that while the total potential cost of water quality-related fines was not available, she was aware that in State Parks' Angeles District (Los Angeles area) the amount was potentially as high as \$300 thousand per year. Commissioner Yanez and Kathryn Tobias explained that it was possible that State Parks could recuperate some of this amount in matching funds provided by the County of Los Angeles, though any amount recuperated would likely not equal the cost of fines paid.

Commission Chair Caryl Hart asked about the current budget for deferred maintenance outside of the \$10 million allocated in AB1478. Facilities Management Division Chief Karl Knapp replied that \$8.1 million was allocated for daily maintenance, along with another \$6 million specifically for wastewater projects.

Chair Hart, Ronie Clark, and Kathryn Tobias discussed how often State Parks staff met to work on developing the deferred maintenance list. It was noted that the current group had been meeting approximately once a month in an attempt to focus on utilizing the \$10 million provided by AB1478. It was decided that in the future quarterly meetings would be sufficient, though this being an annual process the group – and Commission involvement – would likely be concentrated during a specific time of year.

Chair Hart asked the Commission for volunteers to serve on a two-member Deferred Maintenance Committee. Commissioner Tommy Randle expressed his interest and Chair Hart established a committee with herself and Commissioner Randle as members. The Chair asked for concurrence from the other commissioners and there were no objections to establishing the Deferred Maintenance Committee.

Senior Staff Counsel Kathryn Tobias and Chair Caryl Hart discussed the timing of the process for identifying deferred maintenance projects and agreed that the current need for expediency had been made necessary by the passing of AB1478 in September 2012. They agreed that in the future the committee would be active during the process to identify projects but would likely be less active throughout the balance of the year. They also agreed that the committee and the Commission would have an ongoing role in this process beyond the current need to allocate the \$10 million of AB1478. Chair Hart stated that while the committee would facilitate Commission involvement in the deferred maintenance process it would be her preference to engage the full Commission whenever possible.

AGENDA ITEM 5: PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Hart opened the Public Comment agenda item at 10:16 a.m. The Chair explained the public comment process and proceeded to call sixteen registered speakers in the order they had registered:

David Hardy, representing Sonoma County, regarding the implementation of AB1478, “iron rangers” and the collection of fees at State Park System units in Sonoma County.

Elizabeth Goldstein, representing the California State Parks Foundation, regarding AB1478, modifications to operating and donor agreements, deferred maintenance, and public workshops related to California State Parks' budget.

Richard Rothman, regarding the operation of Asilomar Conference Grounds and his suggestion to have a non-profit organization operate the facility.

Allen Baylis, representing the Naturist Action Committee and Friends of San Onofre State Beach, regard-

ing the re-establishment of clothing optional use at California State Parks beaches.

Commissioner Maurice Johannessen addressed Mr. Baylis, stating that California State Parks did not have the authority to designate clothing optional areas and could be penalized for doing so. The Commissioner suggested that the naturist community approach the state legislature with their desire to make such designations. Mr. Baylis replied that Section 4322 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations did permit State Parks to designate clothing optional areas. Mr. Baylis requested an opportunity to discuss this matter with General Jackson. Chair Caryl Hart noted that at this time there were no comments from State Parks' attorneys on this subject and called the next speaker:

Gillian Greensite, regarding her objection to the growing number of large dogs running loose on State Park beaches.

Grant Weseman, representing Lighthouse Field Beach Rescue, regarding off-leash dogs at Lighthouse Field State Beach.

Norma Santiago, representing the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors, regarding State Parks' development of operational efficiencies, practices, and policies that enhance the park visitor experience while also creating more sustainable resources, her community's new economic model, her suggestion that the four Lake Tahoe area state parks be combined to enhance operational efficiencies.

Nancy Graalman, representing Defense of Place, regarding the proposed golf course holes at Washoe Meadows State Park.

Lynn Paulson, representing the Washoe Meadows Community, regarding the plan to move nine golf course holes into Washoe Meadows State Park.

Alan Carlton, representing the Sierra Club, regarding the Sierra Club's rejuvenation of its statewide State Parks Committee to support California State Parks, and advocating in the legislature for financial support of State Parks.

Mack Casterman, representing the California Native Plant Society & The Knowland Park Coalition, regarding connections between Knowland Park in Oakland, California and the State Park Commission, and the stewardship of this former state park property.

Laura Davick, representing the Crystal Cove Alliance, the cooperating association/concessionaire at Crystal Cove State Park, regarding the efforts to secure \$20 million to complete the remaining 17 overnight rental cabins at the park, \$5 million secured from the California Coastal Commission, and the overall success of overnight rentals in generating revenue for State Parks.

Cecily Harris, representing San Mateo County, regarding Fitzgerald Marine Reserve, recently completed trails projects, and an invitation for commissioners and General Jackson to attend an opening celebration.

Patricia Jones, representing Citizens for East Shore Parks, regarding her thanks to the commissioners for renaming Eastshore State Park as McLaughlin Eastshore State Park, and her request to provide East Bay Regional Park District greater authority in making decisions related to the operation of McLaughlin Eastshore State Park.

Keith Angell, regarding the growing number of off-leash dogs at Twin Lakes State Beach.

Sheila Nelson, regarding allowing dogs on California State Parks beaches.

There being no further registered speakers, Chair Hart asked if there were any unregistered speakers for Public Comment. There was one additional speaker:

Maureen Gaffney, representing the Marin County Bicycle Coalition, regarding her appreciation for State Parks' employment of programmatic environmental impact reports related to trail conversion and use.

There being no further speakers Chair Caryl Hart closed public comment at 11:13 a.m.

Chair Hart then asked if the commissioners would like to comment on any of the information provided by the speakers.

Commissioner Tommy Randle noted that he found the public comment portion of the Commission meetings to be most valuable. The Commissioner added that as representatives of the communities affected by Commission decisions, it was his hope that citizens would consider the many priorities the Commission must contemplate when making such decisions.

There being no further comments from commissioners, Chair Caryl Hart commented on Assembly Bill 1478 and the remarks of Elizabeth Goldstein. The Chair stated that she agreed with Ms. Goldstein, and that maximum flexibility by State Parks with regard to park operating agreements was the best way to manage these agreements. She noted that in the past the relationships between State Parks and its non-profit partners, including city and regional park districts, had been difficult, and that now was time to change this. She appealed to State Parks to avoid obstacles that would impede the process to develop operating agreements. Chair Hart stated that AB 1478, now Public Resources Code Section 535.5 Sec. 4 (3) (c), could only be interpreted as providing a dollar-for-dollar match for donor financial contributions. She reiterated that while State Parks should handle all such agreements with care, requiring audited financial reports, they should also provide maximum flexibility and serve as a model for future partnerships.

There being no further comments Chair Hart adjourned for a short break at 11:17 a.m.

**AGENDA ITEM 6:
PUBLIC HEARING**

Chair Hart reconvened the meeting and opened the public hearing portion of the agenda at 11:28 a.m. The Chair proceeded directly to the agenda's first action item:

**Consent Item - ITEM 6A:
Concurrence on the Director's appointment of Greg A. Neal to the board of the California Citrus State Historic Park Non-Profit Management Corporation**

Chair Hart explained that the Commission could approve consent items without discussion. There being no questions or comments on this item from commissioners or the public, the Chair asked for a recommendation to approve the item by Concessions, Enterprise, and Fiscal Committee member Paul Junger Witt. Commissioner Witt moved to approve the item, the motion seconded by Commissioner Elva Yanez. This consent item was approved unanimously by the Commission.

**ITEM 6B:
Consideration and possible action on the Department recommendation to approve the general plan and environmental impact report for Candlestick Point State Recreation Area**

The Chair stated that before she introduced the primary action item on the agenda she wished to thank all the State Parks staff and partners that had made the general plan for Candlestick Point State Recreation Area and the Commission's briefing in the park on the previous day possible. She then introduced Steve Musillami, Chief of State Parks' Planning Division, to provide an overview of this agenda item.

Mr. Musillami summarized the Commission's briefing in the park and the proposals of the general plan for Candlestick Point State Recreation Area, noting that the unusual nature of the park had made it possible for the commissioners to see virtually the entire property in the course of a single day. He provided a short history of the park, referencing the property's acquisition by State Parks in 1972, and the park's original general plan adopted in 1978 and amended by the Commission in 1987. Mr. Musillami explained how the proposal for the Candlestick Point-Hunters Point Shipyard Phase II development project had prompted the need for an entirely new general plan for the park. He explained how Senate Bill 792 reconfigured the

park's boundaries, transferring a total of 26.9 acres to the development project but adding desired acreage in critical areas of the park. He further explained that Senate Bill 792 provided \$10 million to State Parks for operation of the park along with an additional \$40 million specifically for the development of park improvements. Mr. Musillami reviewed the various challenges addressed in the general plan, including the employment of adaptive management techniques in addressing increased visitation, and parking management options. Mr. Musillami stated that State Parks was requesting Commission approval of this general plan and environmental impact report, and he asked if the commissioners had any questions.

Chair Hart thanked Mr. Musillami and asked if any of the commissioners wished to comment. There being no comments from commissioners, the Chair opened public comment on this agenda item. She then proceeded to call four individuals who had registered to speak on the Candlestick Point State Recreation Area general plan:

Lynn Paulson, regarding her appreciation of the information provided, and her concern that the loss of parkland at Candlestick Point State Recreation Area could set a precedent for such actions at other State Park System units.

Chair Caryl Hart addressed speaker Lynn Paulson. The Chair explained that the reconfiguration of the Candlestick Point State Recreation Area property had been mandated by law, approved by the legislature and signed by the Governor Schwarzenegger. The action had not been instigated by California State Parks. The Chair added that she believed California State Parks and the Commission were equally concerned about such matters, and she stated that she understood this project to provide significant benefit to Candlestick Point State Recreation Area. The Chair then called the next speaker:

Sara Feldman, representing the California State Parks Foundation, regarding the Foundation's involvement with Candlestick Point State Recreation Area, the Foundation's raising of over \$14 million for the restoration of the park's Yosemite Slough, and the successful and continuing partnership at this park between the Foundation and California State Parks.

Commission Chair Caryl Hart thanked Ms. Feldman and the California State Parks Foundation for contributing over \$14 million to Candlestick Point State Recreation Area and the Yosemite Slough restoration. The Chair noted that it was difficult to express sufficient thanks for such a contribution. She then called the next speaker:

Terese Brekke, representing Lennar Urban, regarding the importance of public, private, and non-profit partnerships to the future of parks, and the excellent example of successful partnership that existed at Candlestick Point State Recreation Area. Ms. Brekke also expressed her thanks to State Parks staff and the California State Parks Foundation.

Maureen Gaffney, representing the San Francisco Bay Trail Project and the Association of Bay Area Governments, regarding the completed 330 miles of the planned 500 miles of trails around San Francisco Bay, much of it through State Park System units, and the exemplary work by State Parks staff in fostering highly successful partnerships.

Chair Hart asked if there were any other registered or unregistered speakers. There being none, the Chair closed public comment on this agenda item at 11:59 a.m. The Chair asked if State Parks staff had anything to add in response to the comments received.

State Parks' Planning Division Chief Steve Musillami stated that he wished to clarify that the action before the Commission was the adoption of a general plan for Candlestick Point State Recreation Area. He explained that while the commissioners had also seen a conceptual master plan for the park, they were not being asked to approve the conceptual plan, only the general plan which included management zones. He explained that while this general plan could potentially be realized as the alternative illustrated by the conceptual master plan, the conceptual plan was not what the Commission was being asked to approve.

The Chair addressed the commissioners and called for a motion to adopt the resolution before the Com-

mission to approve the general plan and environmental impact report for Candlestick Point State Recreation Area. Chair Hart explained that if she received a motion and a second she would then entertain discussion of the action. A motion was made by Commissioner Paul Junger Witt, with a second by Commissioner Tommy Randle. Chair Hart then asked if there were any comments from commissioners.

Commissioner Elva Yanez stated that the Candlestick Point State Recreation Area general plan was an amazing project. She expressed her thanks to staff, and noted that she believed urban parks and the connection they provided citizens to the rest of the State Park System were essential to the future of the State Parks. Commissioner Yanez explained that the small number of speaker comments received illustrated the high quality of the community outreach effort that had been conducted by State Parks staff. She congratulated State Parks staff on an excellent project.

Commissioner Paul Junger Witt noted that growing up in New York City he especially appreciated the connectivity that urban parks like Candlestick Point State Recreation Area provided young people who would otherwise not be exposed to park resources. Commissioner Witt expressed his enthusiasm for what he described as an exciting and important project.

Chair Caryl Hart stated that she found her visit to Candlestick Point State Recreation Area to be her favorite State Parks outing. The Chair described the dramatic contrast of the under-served community surrounding the park and the positive future provided by the general plan. She added that it was particularly satisfying to know that funding existed to begin implementation of the general plan. Chair Hart also thanked California State Parks staff and the important partners at Candlestick Point State Recreation Area, including Literacy for Environmental Justice (LEJ).

There being no further comments Chair Hart called for a vote. The commissioners voted unanimously to adopt the resolution before the Commission to approve the general plan and environmental impact report for Candlestick Point State Recreation Area.

Chair Hart recognized Planning Division Chief Steve Musillami, who stated that he wished to acknowledge the team who had made the general plan possible. Mr. Musillami thanked Acting Diablo Vista District Superintendent Danita Rodriguez and her staff, Supervising Ranger Ann Menneguzzi, Landscape Architect Julia Cox, consultant Donna Plunkett, and the many others who had either retired or moved on since the project began.

**AGENDA ITEM 7:
ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, comments, or questions, Chair Hart adjourned the meeting at 12:06 p.m.

ATTEST: These minutes were approved by the California State Park and Recreation Commission on May 17, 2013, at its duly-noticed public meeting in Scotts Valley, California.

By: ORIGINAL SIGNED BY Date: 5-17-13

Louis Nastro
Assistant to the Commission
For Major General Anthony Jackson, Director, California Department of Parks and Recreation
Secretary to the Commission



Meeting of the
CALIFORNIA STATE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Ghirardelli/Union Square Room, Radisson San Francisco Airport
5000 Sierra Point Parkway, Brisbane, California
Friday, January 18, 2013 - 9:00 a.m.

AGENDA of the MEETING

1. Approval of minutes of the September 28, 2012 meeting in Santa Monica.
2. Chair's Report, Commissioner reports/comments, Recognitions.
3. Approval of Special Redwood Groves – as requested by Save the Redwoods League and Sempervirens Fund.
4. Director's Report, including:
 - Update on the state of State Parks, including status of staffing.
 - Implementation of the changes of AB1478:
 - How AB1478 affects the budget of State Parks and the Commission.
 - New roles and budget for the Commission.
 - Overview and discussion of department-wide deferred maintenance projects.
5. Public Comment (on subjects other than the listed agenda items)
6. Public Hearing:
 - A. Consent Item** (reflecting staff recommendations)
Concurrence on the Director's appointment of Greg A. Neal to the board of the California Citrus State Historic Park Non-Profit Management Corporation.
 - B. Consideration and possible action on the Department recommendation to approve the general plan and environmental impact report for Candlestick Point State Recreation Area.
7. Adjourn.

Copies of this agenda and the public notice of the meeting are available on the Internet
at www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=936

** The Commission may approve consent items all at once without discussion. Any person requesting an opportunity to be heard with regard to consent items must complete a Speaker Registration Form (names are not required) prior to the announcement at the meeting of agenda item 6A, Consent Items. If such a request is made, the item(s) in question shall be pulled from the consent list for discussion and/or public comment.