

CALIFORNIA STATE PARK and RECREATION COMMISSION

Grand Room, Los Banos Community Center
645 7th Street
Los Banos, California

Minutes of the Meeting - Friday, August 9, 2013

A complete video archive of this meeting is available on the Internet
at www.cal-span.org/cgi-bin/media.pl?folder=CSPRC

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Ernest Chung, CHAIR
Maurice Johannessen
Tommy Randle
Myrian Solis Coronel
Paul Junger Witt, VICE CHAIR
Elva Yanez

COMMISSION EX-OFFICIO LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS

Diane Colborn, REPRESENTING Assemblymember Anthony Rendon
William Craven, REPRESENTING Senator Fran Pavley

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

None

CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS STAFF

Jess Cooper, SUPERINTENDENT, CENTRAL VALLEY DISTRICT
Major General Anthony Jackson, USMC (Ret.), DIRECTOR
Karl Knapp, CHIEF, FACILITIES MANAGEMENT DIVISION
Teresa Montijo, ACTING CHIEF, CONCESSIONS, RESERVATIONS, AND FEES DIVISION
Steve Musillami, CHIEF, PLANNING DIVISION
Louis Nastro, ASSISTANT TO THE STATE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Aaron Robertson, CHIEF DEPUTY DIRECTOR
Kathryn Tobias, SENIOR STAFF COUNSEL

GUEST PRESENTERS

Lance Conn, CO-CHAIR, PARKS FORWARD COMMISSION
Ken Wiseman, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PARKS FORWARD INITIATIVE

SPEAKERS REGISTERED/REPRESENTING

Mike Cardoza/Department of Water Resources
Sheryl Carter/U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation
Dennis Fox/Self
Elizabeth Goldstein/California State Parks Foundation
Monica Hudson/Self
Stuart Langdoc/Self
Jeffrey Lenore/California Parks Hospitality Association
Carol Milam/Self

John O'Neil/Self
Richard Pasco/Bay Area Naturists & Naturist Action Committee
Lynne Paulson/Washoe Meadows Community
Alyssa Ravasio/Hipcamp.com
Nancy Runyon/Self

CALL TO ORDER

Legal notice having been given, Commission Chair Ernest Chung called this meeting of the California State Park and Recreation Commission to order at 9:00 a.m. Chairman Chung introduced the commissioners present as well as Diane Colborn and William Craven, respectively representing Commission ex-officio legislative members Assemblymember Anthony Rendon and Senator Fran Pavley. The Chair also introduced the California State Parks staff who were present and explained that the commissioners would be participating in an open-to-the-public “lunch workshop” to discuss administrative matters during the noon hour. Chairman Chung also explained the process for members of the public to address the Commission. The Chair also explained that the Commission would be conducting a short closed session to discuss legal matters just prior to the lunch workshop.

AGENDA ITEM A1:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MAY 17, 2013 MEETING IN SCOTTS VALLEY

The Chair introduced Senior Staff Counsel Kathryn Tobias, who explained that she wished to clarify statements made by Planning Division Chief Steve Musillami on page 10 of the draft meeting minutes. Ms. Tobias explained that State Parks had received two letters from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. She explained that it was important for the commissioners to understand that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service position regarding new activities or facilities in marbled murrelet habitat, especially in old growth forest areas of Big Basin Redwoods State Park, should be coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to ensure that species “take” would be avoided. Ms. Tobias stated that the draft minutes had been revised to clarify Mr. Musillami’s statements regarding the position of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Chairman Chung noted that the commissioners had each received a copy of the revised draft minutes. He asked if there were any changes to these minutes. There being none, the Chair asked for a motion to adopt the revised draft minutes. Motion Commission Johannessen, second Commissioner Solis Coronel. The commissioners voted unanimously to adopt the revised draft minutes as presented.

AGENDA ITEM A1:

CHAIR’S REPORT, COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS, RECOGNITIONS

Chairman Chung asked if the commissioners had any reports or comments to share. Commissioner Maurice Johannessen stated that as a veteran he would appreciate having a flag present during a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance at Commission meetings.

The Chair introduced Lance Conn, Co-Chair of the Parks Forward Commission, adding that Mr. Conn would be sharing the status and plans of the Parks Forward Initiative later in the meeting. Chairman Chung added that the State Park and Recreation Commission would be working cooperatively with the Parks Forward Commission and State Parks’ staff to provide venues through which members of the public could provide comments and play an active role in guiding the future of California State Parks.

The Chair then asked Commissioner Myrian Solis Coronel to read the list of employees who had recently retired from careers with California State Parks. Commissioner Solis Coronel read the following:

- Theresa Armas, La Purisima Sector 27 years, 11 months
- Frank Balthis Jr., San Mateo Coast Sector 20 years, 3 months
- Eileen Bielecki, Law Enforcement & Emergency Services ... 28 years, 11 months

Elizabeth Caldwell, Museum Sector	5 years, 2 months
Daniel Carroll, Santa Cruz Mountains Sector	26 years, 5 months
Barbara Fosbrink, Channel Coast District	14 years, 11 months
Gaynell Francis, Budget Section	6 years
John Gardiner, Museum Sector	7 years, 6 months
Cheryl Grout, Anza-Borrego Sector	17 years
Pauline Hughes, Southern Communications Center	10 years, 1 month
Rosalie Keena, Four Rivers Sector	17 years, 2 months
Elizabeth Kettering, Chino Sector	27 years, 1 month
Jana Koble, Eel River Sector	14 years, 9 months
Bruce Lund, OHMVR Division	25 years, 10 months
Beth Manwaring, Personnel Services Section	28 years, 7 months
Albert Orellana, Hungry Valley Sector	17 years, 7 months
Joe Ramos, OHMVR Division	29 years, 10 months
Arcadio Reyes, Office of Historic Preservation	18 years, 10 months
Roy Stearns, Communications Office	13 years, 1 month
Kathleen Tarby, Museum Sector	17 years, 11 months
Lorian Titcomb, Orange Coast North Sector	15 years, 4 months
Linda Van Staaveren, Ocotillo Wells District	6 years, 2 months
Michael Verlangieri, Museum Sector	10 years, 9 months
Franklin Wong, Information Technology Office	36 years, 3 months

Commissioner Solis Coronel congratulated these employees and wished them well. Chairman Chung added his own good wishes for the future of these dedicated employees.

**AGENDA ITEM 3:
DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

The Chair introduced Major General Anthony Jackson, USMC (Ret.), Director of California State Parks, to present his Director’s Report. General Jackson noted this day marked his nine month anniversary at California State Parks. The General also expressed his admiration and respect for California State Parks’ uniformed staff, particularly for their achievements during such challenging economic times.

General Jackson’s complete slide presentation is available as an Adobe Acrobat Portable Document Format (PDF) document online at www.parks.ca.gov/pages/843/files/DirectorsReport8-9-13.pdf.

At the conclusion of his report/slide presentation, General Jackson introduced Steve Musillami, Chief of State Parks’ Planning Division, to provide an update on the status of the development of general plans for units of the State Park System.

Mr. Musillami provided an update on current general plan projects that would be presented to the Commission for their consideration and approval in the coming year. Upcoming general plans included those for Old Sacramento State Historic Park, Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, Point Lobos State Natural Reserve, Carmel River State Beach, the Point Lobos Ranch and Hatton Canyon properties in the Carmel area, Colusa-Sacramento River State Park, and Red Rock Canyon State Park.

Chairman Chung asked if the commissioners had any questions for Mr. Musillami. Commissioner Paul Junger Witt noted that the commissioners were interested in becoming more involved with the general plan process and would make themselves available to contribute to the process whenever possible.

Commissioner Elva Yanez inquired about the backlog of general plans for units of the State Park System. Mr. Musillami replied that approximately 90 of the 280 units of the State Park System were without a general plan or other guiding document. He further explained that California State Parks lacked the staff and other resources to develop plans for each of these park units. Commissioner Yanez and Mr. Musillami discussed the funding of general plans and how at the present time the only funds available for general plan work were those made available through Proposition 84, a bond act passed by voters in 2006. Commissioner Yanez expressed her hope that the Parks Forward Initiative and State Parks leadership would be able to make future general plan work a priority.

William Craven, representing Commission Ex-Officio member Senator Fran Pavley, asked if future general plans would include a comprehensive discussion of revenue generating opportunities. Mr. Musillami replied that typically general plans did not include details related to revenue generation, as the plans were designed to provide guidance for management of a specific park for as long as ten or twenty years. Mr. Musillami explained that general plans were intended to provide a vision of the park, along with goals and guidelines for park management. Mr. Craven and Mr. Musillami discussed both the prioritization of general plan amendments for parks where the current general plan may present obstacles to revenue generation, as well as the potential opportunities for regional general plans like that being developed for the Carmel area parks. Mr. Musillami explained that there were not many opportunities for combining parks for the purposes of planning, as most park units were separated by great distances. Mr. Musillami also confirmed that general plan amendments to provide greater revenue generation opportunities were a priority for the general plan staff, and that such amendments would be developed in the coming year.

Commission Chair Ernest Chung stated that he wished to reiterate the comments of Commissioner Witt regarding the willingness of commissioners to assist with the general plan process. The Chair also noted that given State Parks' extremely limited capacity to produce general plans, and the number of park units that lacked such plans, a fundamental rethinking of the general plan process should be undertaken.

General Jackson stated that State Parks' resources were indeed severely limited. He explained that even if the funding existed to permit the hiring of additional staff, the capacity of State Parks' personnel unit was so limited that any such hiring would be delayed for an extended period of time.

Commissioner Tommy Randle asked about the status of critical maintenance projects he had reviewed as member of a committee created for this purpose during 2012. The General replied that the critical maintenance projects in question were currently being addressed to the greatest extent possible with the available funding.

Commissioner Myrian Solis Coronel stated that she was excited about the creation of the Marketing and Business Development Division at State Parks. She inquired about the goals for the new division.

General Jackson replied that the goals for the new Marketing and Business Development division were many and varied. As an example of the types of opportunities he planned to explore, the General related his personal experience of purchasing a fishing license from a private retailer, adding that it was his goal to also make State Parks' admission available through these same sources. The General added that while there were many, many such opportunities it must not be forgotten that the mission of California State Parks is not to generate revenue, and that the integrity of this mission – along with the development of healthy collaborations – would serve as the foundation for increased revenue generation opportunities.

A short discussion took place during which Commissioner Tommy Randle, Commissioner Myrian Solis Coronel, Chair Ernest Chung, General Jackson, and State Parks' Chief Deputy Director Aaron Robertson discussed the public outreach efforts to be conducted by the new Marketing and Business Development Division, revenue generation goals and legislatively mandated targets, budget categories, and the project to develop performance measurement guidelines at California State Parks.

There being no further questions for General Jackson or State Parks' staff, Chair Ernest Chung adjourned the meeting for a short break at 10:38 a.m.

**AGENDA ITEM 4:
PARKS FORWARD PRESENTATION**

Chair Ernest Chung reconvened the meeting at 10:45 a.m. The Chair then introduced Lance Conn, Co-Chair of the Parks Forward Commission, to provide an introduction to his Commission and the Parks Forward Initiative.

Lance Conn described his personal passion for parks and the reasons for his involvement with the Parks Forward Initiative. Mr. Conn also provided details of the background and structure of the initiative and the Parks Forward Commission. He stated that Parks Forward would be gathering facts and reaching out to anyone who could add value to the process of improving California State Parks. Mr. Conn stated that Parks Forward would be developing a specific and actionable implementation plan designed to create a sustainable future for State Parks, adding that a draft plan should be completed in April 2014, with a final plan presented during October 2014. Mr. Conn introduced Ken Wiseman, Executive Director of the Parks Forward Initiative, to provide information related to how the initiative is organized and how the initiative's outreach to both the public and State Parks' staff would be conducted.

Mr. Wiseman provided information on the organization of the Parks Forward Initiative. He also listed the four basic categories of inquiry: *What is your vision for the future of State Parks? What is needed to achieve that vision? Sustainable funding of State Parks, and How can partnerships be leveraged to help State Parks and achieve sustainable funding?* Mr. Wiseman also described how the State Park and Recreation Commission could participate in the Parks Forward Initiative's public outreach efforts, and he announced that the Parks Forward Commission would meet for the first time on September 18, 2013.

Lance Conn concluded by stating that once the Parks Forward report was completed he would see that the report's recommendations were implemented.

Chair Ernest Chung facilitated questions-and-answers to the Parks Forward representatives from members of the State Park and Recreation Commission.

**AGENDA ITEM 7 (Taken out of sequence):
PUBLIC COMMENT**

The Chair then asked if members of the public would like to comment at this time on the morning's presentations or any other matters. The Chair called 10 speakers in the order they had registered to speak:

Elizabeth Goldstein, representing the California State Parks Foundation, regarding the proposed Foothill-South toll road and threats to San Onofre State Beach.

Dennis Fox, regarding keeping McGrath State Beach open.

John O'Neil, regarding the future of the Cooper-Molera Adobe in Monterey State Historic Park.

Monica Hudson, regarding the future of the Cooper-Molera Adobe in Monterey State Historic Park.

Nancy Runyon, regarding the future of the Cooper-Molera Adobe in Monterey State Historic Park.

Lynne Paulson, representing the Washoe Meadows Community, regarding the preservation of Washoe Meadows State Park.

Richard Pasco, representing Bay Area Naturists & Naturist Action Committee, regarding naturists and clothing optional use in California State Park System units.

Alyssa Ravasio, representing Hipcamp.com, regarding State Parks' outdated online resources and Hipcamp's offer to work cooperatively with State Parks to provide improved online services.

Stuart Langdoc, regarding the government's obligation to keep parks operating at a level that is beneficial to members of the public.

Carol Milam, regarding making State Park System units more accessible to schoolchildren.

There being no further speakers at this time, Chair Ernest Chung closed this public comment session at 11:52 a.m. The Chair then asked State Parks' staff if they wished to respond to the comments.

State Parks Director General Anthony Jackson asked Alyssa Ravasio of Hipcamp.com to meet with him during the lunch break. The General also stated that he had considered a great many new ideas along the lines of those suggested by the speakers. He explained that, among other ideas, it had been suggested that through legislation, support could be provided to public transportation agencies so that these agencies could develop improved services to State Park System units. The General also stated that Vicky Waters, State Parks' new Deputy Director for Communications, was working to provide services to park users that incorporated new technologies, adding that the General himself was responding to the negative comments received through the online State Parks blog.

The General noted he could not discuss the situation at Washoe Meadows State Park because of ongoing litigation in this matter. Regarding clothing optional use of State Park System units, the General explained that this subject was worthy of discussion, though he added that he had not seen any data to support or condemn support for clothing optional use. He added that an effort should be made to determine public opinion on the subject.

**AGENDA ITEM 5:
CLOSED SESSION**

Chair Ernest Chung explained that the Commission would now adjourn for a short closed session to discuss pending and/or potential litigation as permitted by law. The Chair apologized for this interruption to the meeting and noted that the commissioners would return in open session for the lunch workshop at approximately 12:20 p.m. The Commission adjourned to closed session at 11:58 a.m.

The Chair reconvened the lunch workshop portion of the meeting at 12:20 p.m. Chair Chung noted that there were no publicly-reportable items from the closed session.

LUNCH WORKSHOP

Commission Chair Ernest Chung explained that Commissioner Paul Junger Witt and others had raised the question of what precisely the role of the State Park and Recreation Commission is and should be. The Chair explained that the lunch workshop would explore, in discussion with commissioners and State Parks' staff, the authorities, responsibilities, and duties of the Commission. He added that the discussion would be aided by research that had been conducted by Commissioner Elva Yanez.

Commissioner Yanez read a list of Commission responsibilities and mandates as described in state law (Public Resources Code Sections 530-546). The Commissioner also referenced recommendations from the Little Hoover Commission's March 2013 report on California State Parks, and she reviewed pending legislation that could impact State Parks and the State Park and Recreation Commission.

The commissioners, along with State Parks' Director General Anthony Jackson and Chief Deputy Director Aaron Robertson, discussed Commission responsibilities and possible future activities.

Chair Ernest Chung concluded the lunch workshop at 1:24 p.m. The Chair noted that the workshop format would be employed during future Commission meetings to allow the commissioners to engage in open discussion.

**AGENDA ITEM 6:
PUBLIC HEARING**

Commission Chair Ernest Chung opened the public hearing portion of the agenda at 1:24 p.m. The Chair explained the process by which members of the public could address the Commission on agenda items and the time limits that would be imposed on speakers. He then moved directly to the first public hearing item.

AGENDA ITEM 6A:

Presentation and workshop/discussion of ongoing/deferred maintenance and capital outlay challenges at California State Parks

The Chair introduced Karl Knapp, Chief of State Parks' Facility Management Division, to provide an update on the department's maintenance program and deferred maintenance projects at California State Parks. Mr. Knapp reviewed the documentation that had been provided to the commissioners. He provided information on maintenance project funding, cyclic facility maintenance, changes in project status, "immediate need" projects, project selection criteria, and presented a brief introduction to State Parks' project infrastructure database ("PID").

Chair Ernest Chung facilitated discussion of this topic amongst the commissioners, Karl Knapp, Chief Deputy Director Aaron Robertson, and State Parks' Director Major General Anthony Jackson. The discussion included the unanimous agreement of the commissioners that a well-considered, deliberate, thoughtful process had been employed at California State Parks to identify and address deferred maintenance projects. Chief Deputy Director Robertson requested the commissioners' assistance in continuing to improve the process and make it more transparent and easier to comprehend.

Chair Ernest Chung concluded the deferred maintenance agenda item at 2:16 p.m. and called for a five-minute break.

ITEM 6B:

Consideration and possible action on the State Parks' recommendation to approve the General Plan/Environmental Impact Report/Resource Management Plan for San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area

Commission Chair Ernest Chung reconvened the meeting at 2:21 p.m. The then introduced Steve Musillami, Chief of State Parks' Planning Division, to provide an overview of the general plan for San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area.

Mr. Musillami thanked State Parks' Central Valley District Superintendent Jess Cooper and his staff for conducting the Commission's briefing on the general plan the previous day. Mr. Musillami reviewed the major points of the briefing: He pointed out that State Parks manages lands that are owned by other agencies. He noted that the purpose of San Luis Reservoir was to provide and transport water for the people of California, while California State Parks provided related recreational opportunities. Mr. Musillami explained some of the challenges of managing this park and the property's relationship to other park units and neighboring development projects. He noted that "reservoir parks" are utilized differently from other types of parks, with use highly concentrated on weekend days. Information was provided on proposals for additional group and individual campsites, the potential for the development of alternative lodging, and the plans for new multi-use trails in the park which would also serve as links to neighboring park properties. Mr. Musillami noted the portions of the briefing that touched on water level fluctuation, the planned ban on two-stroke powered watercraft, plans to accommodate contemporary, modern recreational vehicles, the opportunities to emphasize "paddlecraft" recreation, proposed campfire center improvements, and State Parks' desire to provide a variety of recreational experiences for park visitors. He also spoke of the parks' vegetation management plan, its small off-highway vehicle recreation area, and the challenges of managing invasive mussel species. Mr. Musillami added that he would be happy to answer questions on the general plan, and he formally requested that the commissioners consider and approve the draft resolution before them to adopt the general plan for San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area.

Commissioner Tommy Randle asked about protection for endangered species and cultural resources in the park. Central Valley District Superintendent Jess Cooper explained the safeguards that are employed to protect these precious resources.

Commissioner Maurice Johannessen noted that while many development opportunities existed in the park

and were described in the general plan, the current economic situation did not make it practical to for these projects to be realized in the near future.

Commissioner Elva Yanez stated that she appreciated the way that revenue generating opportunities had been incorporated into the Commission's briefing on the general plan. She added that she was surprised at how few public comments were received on the plan. Commissioner Yanez stated that a greater effort should be made to reach out to park users so that they may play an active role in park planning.

Superintendent Jess Cooper noted that State Parks' strategic action plan made this sort of outreach a priority, and that the department's new marketing office would provide greater opportunities to develop such relationships with park users.

Commission Chair Ernest Chung and Superintendent Cooper discussed the prioritization of the development projects proposed in the general plan. Superintendent Cooper explained that "opportunity funding" often provided a guide for prioritizing projects.

Chair Ernest Chung, Commissioner Maurice Johannessen, General Jackson, Superintendent Cooper, and Steve Musillami discussed the manner in which grazing had been addressed in the general plan. The Chair noted that the Commission policy on grazing stated that it may only be permitted if found to be fundamental to the enhancement of the visitor experience or resource values of the park. General Jackson stated that the question of grazing was currently being considered by all the departments of the Resources Agency. He suggested that any changes to the current grazing operation should be implemented gradually. It was pointed out that revised general plan language related to grazing had been provided to the commissioners, and that State Parks' field staff and Natural Resources Division staff had worked cooperatively to develop this clarification of the general plan language. State Parks' believed that the current grazing operation provided sufficient protection of resources to continue.

Senior Staff Counsel Kathryn Tobias explained that state park general plans are developed as high-level, "tiered" documents. She explained that grazing at San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area would be subject to the park's vegetation management plan, and any proposed projects or future changes would be individually evaluated for their environmental impacts. Ms. Tobias suggested that a grazing arrangement in one park may not be appropriate for another, and that such policy decisions should be considered separately from general plan-related decisions. She added that the Commission's policy on grazing dated from 1994, indicating that it could be evaluated and updated as desired.

Commission Chair Ernest Chung opened public comment on the San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area general plan at 3:05 p.m. The Chair called the following speakers in the order they had registered:

Mike Cardoza, representing the California Department of Water Resources, regarding the many positive cooperative roles California State Parks plays at San Luis Reservoir, including the inspection of watercraft for invasive mussels, operation of the high wind warning lights, and in a multitude of public safety matters that ensure safe use of the reservoir and forebay.

Sheryl Carter, representing the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, regarding the joint development of the general plan and California State Parks supportive relationship with her agency.

There being no further speakers, the Chair closed public comment on this agenda item at 3:08 p.m.

There being no further discussion, the Chair then asked if the commissioners wished to make a motion to adopt the general plan and EIR for San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area. A motion was made by Commissioner Tommy Randle, seconded by Commissioner Paul Junger Witt.

Senior Staff Counsel Kathryn Tobias noted that the commissioners may find it beneficial to reference the draft resolution before the Commission when making a motion for action. Chair Chung thanked Ms. Tobias for this comment and called for a vote. The commissioners voted unanimously to adopt the resolution before them to approve the general plan and environmental impact report for San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area.

ITEM 6C:

Concessions Items

The Chair introduced Teresa Montijo, Acting Chief of California State Parks' Concessions, Reservations, and Fees Division, to present three requests for determination of compatibility to the Commission.

Teresa Montijo explained that California State Parks was requesting that the Commission make a determination that each of three concessions proposals were compatible with the classifications and the approved general plans for their respective units of the State Park System. Ms. Montijo introduced the items, explaining that once a determination of compatibility had been made, each of these concessions would go through a competitive bid process before contracts were awarded. She asked if there were any questions from the commissioners.

Commissioners Maurice Johannessen, legislative ex-officio members Bill Craven and Diane Colborn, General Jackson, Chair Ernest Chung, and Teresa Montijo engaged in a discussion related to the golf course concession at Morro Bay State Park. It was explained that all revenues generated through operating agreements (the golf course at Morro Bay State Park is operated for State Parks by San Luis Obispo County) must be reinvested in the park. It was also clarified that provisions of the new contract would not be limited by the specifications of the previous contract. Teresa Montijo also explained that contract specifications must be carefully selected to encourage competitive bidding, since, for example, an unreasonably high percentage to be provided to State Parks would discourage bidders, whereas a lower percentage would attract bidders and encourage competition for the awarding of the contract. It was also made clear that the periodic evaluations of performance incorporated into the contracts were utilized in the development and awarding of new contracts. Ms. Montijo also explained that the significant adjustment to percentages received by State Parks from the golf course contract – from 10 percent to five percent – were the result of negotiations that transferred to California State Parks from the County of San Luis Obispo ownership of an access road, thereby facilitating the collection of additional visitor entrance fees by State Parks. She added that this exchange and the resulting entrance fees would more than compensate for the negotiated five percent reduction in concession returns.

State Parks' Director General Jackson pointed out while he understood and appreciated the comments related to revenue generation, the Commission's role with regard to concessions did not involve approval of the actual concessions contracts, but only the compatibility of concessions proposals with the classification and general plans of the park units in question. The General added that State Parks' newly-formed Marketing and Business Development unit would be providing additional resources for evaluating and developing concessions agreements to the benefit of the people of California.

Teresa Montijo noted that while the U.S. National Park Service operated approximately 500 concessions with about 200 staff members supporting these operations, California State Parks administered 258 concessions and operating agreements with just seven staff members. All agreed that State Parks could improve concessions operations if additional resources could be dedicated to this goal.

There being no further discussion, Chair Ernest Chung asked for a motion to determine that the three concessions proposals were compatible with the classifications and general plans for their respective park units. Motion Commissioner Randle, second Commissioner Witt. The Chair called for a vote which resulted in the following:

ITEM 6C-I:

To renew the concessions contract for food/beverage sales and equipment rentals at the Morro Bay State Park golf course (operated by the County of San Luis Obispo)

The commissioners voted unanimously to make a determination that the concession contract for food and beverage sales and equipment rentals at the Morro Bay State Park golf course was compatible with the classification and approved general plan for this park.

ITEM 6C-II:

To renew the concessions contract to operate the El Fandango restaurant at Old Town San Diego State Historic Park

The commissioners voted unanimously to make a determination that the concession contract to operate the El Fandango Restaurant at Old Town San Diego State Historic Park was compatible with the classification and approved general plan for this park.

ITEM 6C-III:

To renew the concession contract for equestrian operations at Will Rogers State Historic Park

The commissioners voted unanimously to make a determination that the concession contract for equestrian operations at Will Rogers State Historic Park was compatible with the classification and approved general plan for this park.

AGENDA ITEM 7:

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Ernest Chung noted that at this time he wished to once again provide an opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission. The Chair called two additional speakers:

Jeffrey Lenore, representing the California Parks Hospitality Association (CPHA), regarding concessions operations and his organization's relationship with in California State Parks.

Dennis Fox, regarding invasive mussels species in the river and delta, vectors of invasive species, grazing, and the potential for spreading valley fever associated with the mining of silica for cat litter.

State Parks' Director General Jackson noted that he had made a record of these comments and would address them with the appropriate staff.

The Chair asked if there were any other registered or unregistered speakers. There being none, the Chair closed the final open public comment period at 3:34 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 7:

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business Chair Ernest Chung adjourned the meeting at 3:35 p.m.

ATTEST: These minutes were approved by the California State Park and Recreation Commission on November 8, 2013, at its duly-noticed public meeting in Sacramento, California.

By: ORIGINAL SIGNED BY Date: 11-8-13

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
August 9, 2013 - Los Banos

AGENDA of the MEETING

1. Approval of minutes of the May 17, 2013 meeting in Scotts Valley.
2. Chair's Report, Commissioner reports/comments, Recognitions.
3. Director's Report, including:
 - Presentation/discussion of California State Parks' fiscal year 2013-2014 budget.
 - Presentation/discussion on State Parks' Performance Measurement System.
 - Update on the status of park unit general plans and concession proposals.
4. Parks Forward presentation by Lance Conn of the Parks Forward Commission.
5. CLOSED SESSION* to discuss pending and/or potential litigation as permitted by Government Code section 11126 et seq.
- * LUNCH WORKSHOP: Meeting attendees are invited to observe the Commission during the first of what is planned as a regular series of lunch workshop/discussions. The Commission Chair will adjourn the formal business meeting for approximately 45 minutes between noon and 1:00 p.m. to conduct the workshop. Please note that lunch will NOT be provided but meeting attendees are welcome to bring a lunch to enjoy during the workshop.
6. Public Hearing:
 - A. Presentation and workshop/discussion of ongoing/deferred maintenance and capital outlay challenges at California State Parks.
 - B. Consideration and possible action on the State Parks' recommendation to approve the General Plan/Environmental Impact Report/Resource Management Plan for San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area.
 - C. Concessions Items - The following proposals are presented to the Commission so that a determination may be made that these proposals are compatible with the classification and approved general plan for the relevant park unit:
 - I. To renew the concessions contract for food/beverage sales and equipment rentals at the Morro Bay State Park golf course (operated by the County of San Luis Obispo).
 - II. To renew the concessions contract to operate the El Fandango restaurant at Old Town San Diego State Historic Park.
 - III. To renew the concession contract for equestrian operations at Will Rogers State Historic Park.
7. Public Comment (on subjects other than the listed agenda items).
8. Adjourn.