

# **CALIFORNIA STATE PARK and RECREATION COMMISSION**

Sebastopol Veterans Memorial Building  
282 High Street  
Sebastopol, California

## **Minutes of the Meeting - Friday, May 4, 2007**

### **COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

Jack Baylis  
Clint Eastwood, VICE CHAIR  
Caryl Hart  
Sophia Scherman  
Bobby Shriver, CHAIR  
Acquanetta Warren  
Paul Junger Witt

### **COMMISSIONERS ABSENT**

Gail Kautz

### **CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS STAFF**

Ruth Coleman, DIRECTOR  
Bill Herms, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, LEGISLATION  
Louis Nastro, ASSISTANT TO THE STATE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
Linda Rath, ACTING SUPERINTENDENT, RUSSIAN RIVER DISTRICT  
Rick Rayburn, CHIEF, NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION  
Paul Romero, CHIEF DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
Roy Stearns, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, COMMUNICATIONS  
Kathryn Tobias, SENIOR STAFF COUNSEL  
Bradly Torgan, GENERAL COUNSEL  
Wayne Woodroof, CHIEF, PLANNING DIVISION

### **CITY OF BRENTWOOD**

Craig Bronson, DIRECTOR, CITY OF BRENTWOOD DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

### **SPEAKERS REGISTERED/REPRESENTING**

Craig Anderson/LandPaths  
Ann Cassidy/Self  
Steven Chatham/Self  
Tom Cruckshank/Sonoma County Mycological Association (SOMA)  
David Dillman/Willow Creek Road Homeowners Group  
Kate Fenton/Self  
Colleen Fernald/Self  
Gillian Greensite/Self  
John Klimasheski/Self  
Lynne Paulson/Self  
Bob Rawson/SOMA & Graton Community Services District  
Rick Ryan/Self

**SPEAKERS REGISTERED/REPRESENTING** continued

Elinor Twohy/Self  
Grant Weseman/Lighthouse Field Beach Rescue

**CALL TO ORDER**

Legal notice having been given, this meeting of the California State Park and Recreation Commission was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Commission Chair Bobby Shriver. Chair Shriver introduced the commissioners and State Parks staff who were present and announced the first agenda item.

**AGENDA ITEM 1:**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 3, 2006, MEETING IN GARBERVILLE, AND THE FEBRUARY 8 AND FEBRUARY 9, 2007 MEETINGS IN BORREGO SPRINGS**

Chair Shriver asked for a motion to approve the draft minutes of the November 3rd, 2006 meeting in Garberville, and the February 8th and 9th, 2007 meetings in Borrego Springs. Motion Commissioner Scherman, second Chair Shriver. The commissioners voted unanimously to approve the minutes as submitted.

**AGENDA ITEM 2:**

**CHAIR’S REPORT - RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEE RETIREMENTS**

Chair Shriver asked Commissioner Acquanetta Warren to read the names of staff members who had recently retired from California State Parks. Commissioner Warren thanked the following individuals for their many years of dedicated service:

- Lewis E. Alsop, Gold Fields District ..... 6 years, 7 months
- Peter G. Braudrick, Mendocino District ..... 31 years, 5 months
- Christine I. Brazzil, Capital District ..... 6 years, 5 months
- Thomas G. Coombe, Monterey District ..... 21 years, 10 months
- Grace Daniel, Partnerships & Consumer Strategies ..... 10 years
- Laura V. Itogawa, Colorado District ..... 29 years, 9 months
- Ross Koonce, Colorado District ..... 31 years, 1 months
- Maureen Larson, Russian River District ..... 11 years, 7 months
- Jose A. Martinez Jr., Hollister Hills District ..... 28 years, 8 months
- Denise McKowen, Hollister Hills District ..... 18 years, 5 months
- Richard C. Over, North Coast Redwoods District ..... 5 years, 8 months
- David Quijada, Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Division ..... 24 years, 11 months
- Jackie L. Rusher, Grants and Local Services ..... 9 years, 7 months
- Stephen Shifflet, Grants and Local Services ..... 32 years, 4 months
- Marvin Steinman, Sierra District ..... 34 years, 1 months
- Rosemary Thielke, Administrative Services ..... 18 years, 4 months
- Michael S. Tucker, Capital District ..... 27 years, 10 months
- Albert Wilhelm, San Luis Obispo District ..... 29 years

Chair Shriver recognized Commissioner Paul Witt, who stated that those who served on the Commission were fortunate to work with such incredibly dedicated people. Commissioner Witt noted that it was quite fitting that these many years of service and dedication be publicly recognized and honored. The Commissioner thanked the retirees and added that the each of the commissioners were humbled by their service.

**AGENDA ITEM 3:  
APPROVAL OF SPECIAL REDWOOD GROVES**

Chair Shriver asked Commissioner Sophia Scherman to read the special redwood grove proposals requested by Save-the-Redwoods League. Commissioner Scherman acknowledged the donors of the following groves:

The Illes Family Grove – Sandor, Etel, Theodora & Rex  
in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park  
*Mrs. Doris Illes, donor*

The Carl Moseley Grove  
in Sinkyone Wilderness State Park  
*Estate of Carl William Moseley, donor*

The William and Hazel Gilman Memorial Grove  
in Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve  
*William and Hazel Gilman Trust, donors*

The Babcock Family Grove  
in Redwood National Park  
*Guilford and Gwen Babcock, donors*

Mandello Maxwell Family Grove  
in Wilder Ranch State Park  
*Gerald & Marcia Mandello, and Mr. Richard Maxwell, donors*

Edward E. Becker Grove, in memory of his mother, Luella S. Becker  
in Navarro River Redwoods State Park  
*Edward E. Becker Trust, donor*

Lucien & Ruth Revol Memorial Grove  
in The Forest of Nisene Marks State Park  
*Estate of Ruth Revol, donor*

Chair Shriver asked for a motion to approve these grove dedications. Motion Commissioner Scherman, second Commissioner Warren. The commissioners voted unanimously to adopt the resolutions establishing these special redwood groves.

**AGENDA ITEM 4:  
DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Chair Shriver introduced State Parks Director Ruth Coleman to present her Director's Report.

Director Coleman noted that the commissioners had already received a printed copy of her report, which provided updates on current achievements and challenges at California State Parks. The Director added that she would be using her time today to update the commissioners on two subjects on which there had been significant developments since the printed report had been prepared.

**Climate Change** – Director Coleman reported that Governor Schwarzenegger had recently signed Assembly Bill 32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006. This new law directs state agencies to take all possible actions to minimize agencies' contributions to climate change. The Director noted that State Parks staff had been brainstorming on the subject of climate change, with the following results: State Parks would actively seek opportunities to strengthen the message delivered to the public through the department's various educational venues, State Parks met and would continue to meet with potential partners to identify sources of private funding that could be employed through partnerships to better deliver

information related to climate change, and State Parks would investigate methods for increasing growth rates in its 1.5 million acres of coastal redwood forest, thereby increasing carbon sequestration. The Director informed the commissioners that there were many roles California State Parks could play in minimizing climate change and that they would be hearing more about this in the future. Director Coleman also suggested that the Commission conduct a workshop to further explore creative methods to address climate change, and that to conserve resources the workshop could be held in conjunction with the California State Park Foundation's Golden Poppy gala honoring the commissioners and former commissioners Joseph Cotchett and Phil Tagami for their efforts to prevent the construction of the Foothill-South toll road through San Onofre State Beach.

Chair Shriver recognized Commissioner Caryl Hart.

Commissioner Hart noted that she had been working with Director Coleman and State Parks Natural Resources Division Chief Rick Rayburn to develop a climate change initiative for California State Parks. Commissioner Hart suggested that the Commission establish a committee on climate change, which she volunteered to chair. The Commissioner added that climate change was an exceptionally pressing and important issue, supported by studies indicating that over 80% of Californians believed climate change was a major cause for concern.

Commissioner Hart echoed Director Coleman's comments regarding the department's many acres of redwood forest, adding that it was possible that California State Parks owned more old-growth redwood forest than any other entity in the state. The Commissioner added that State Parks as an agency needed to investigate methods by which it could become carbon-neutral and explore the possibility of contributing carbon offsets to the environment. Commissioner Hart also stated that research had indicated that habitats were changing along with the climate and that this was yet another serious issue that State Parks should investigate. The Commissioner indicated that the subject would provide many challenges but that she looked forward to establishing a committee and facing these challenges.

Chair Shriver asked for a motion to establish a Commission committee on climate change.

Commissioner Hart moved that the Commission establish a committee on climate change to address the subjects that were raised today and to plan for a Commission workshop on climate change in fall 2007. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Paul Witt. The commissioners agreed to establish a committee on climate change and to develop a climate change workshop for the fall of 2007. Chair Shriver added that other commissioners who wished to join Caryl Hart on the committee should contact her directly.

**Sunrise Powerlink Project in Anza-Borrego Desert State Park** – Director Coleman noted that the commissioners had received a memo from Bradly Torgan, State Parks General Counsel, which outlined recent actions by the federal government to establish the National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor and the effects this could have on the proposed Sunrise Powerlink project. Director Coleman then introduced Bradly Torgan, who provided an update for the commissioners.

Mr. Torgan stated that the federal government had recently established two National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors, one of which crossed seven counties in Southern California. Mr. Torgan explained that although recent news stories on this subject made it appear that the designation of the corridor reinforced the case for constructing Sunrise Powerlink, this was not the case. He stated that while the establishment of the corridor could increase pressure on the California Public Utilities Commission to approve Sunrise Powerlink, such pressure could not extend to any specific route through Anza-Borrego Desert State Park because the establishment of the corridor created no new federal rights with respect to state land. Mr. Torgan provided a brief history of the federal action and the relationship of this action to the Public Utilities Commission. He explained that these actions may have little legal relevance with respect to either State Parks or the Commission, as the act did not create a right of federal eminent domain over state lands. Mr. Torgan further explained that a recent federal Department of Energy report stated that routing of power transmission lines would be subject to the consent of the appropriate federal or state land

managing agency. He concluded that the establishment of the National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors made essentially no changes related to State Parks and the Sunrise Powerlink project: The Commission was still identified as a responsible agency should the project come before it in the form of an amendment to the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park general plan, or as a request to redesignate established state wilderness areas. Mr. Torgan concluded that State Parks would likely be submitting extensive comments on the draft environmental impact report for the Sunrise Powerlink project.

Chair Shriver thanked Mr. Torgan and asked if the commissioners had any questions for Mr. Torgan or Director Coleman. There being none, Chair Shriver asked Commissioner Jack Baylis to comment on the recent dedication of Rio de Los Angeles State Park.

Commissioner Baylis stated that April 20th, 2007 was an exciting day for California State Parks and the City of Los Angeles. The Commissioner noted that the City of Los Angeles, in partnership with the County of Los Angeles and others, was engaged in a project to revitalize the Los Angeles River. Commissioner Baylis described how Director Ruth Coleman and Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa had participated in a ribbon-cutting ceremony that christened Rio de Los Angeles State Park on the site of what was once an industrial “brownfield,” making a very important contribution to the Los Angeles River project. Commissioner Baylis commended the efforts of California State Parks in this achievement.

Chair Shriver agreed that the opening of this park was big news for the City of Los Angeles.

Chair Shriver made several comments on the printed Director’s Report, joking that the report included a photograph of California’s First Lady, Maria Shriver, and that the practice of including such photos should continue (Chair Shriver is the First Lady’s brother). Commissioner Caryl Hart remarked that her photo also appeared in the Director’s Report, which caused Chair Shriver to joke about the serious nature of today’s meeting, adding that his photo had not been included in the report.

**AGENDA ITEM 5:  
PUBLIC HEARING**

Chair Shriver opened the public hearing portion of the meeting at 9:25 a.m. The Chair requested that speakers register if they wished to address the Commission, and then introduced Wayne Woodroof, Chief of State Parks’ Planning Division, to provide a brief report on the agenda items related to Sonoma Coast State Beach. The Chair and staff elected to address agenda item 5B prior to consideration of item 5A.

**ITEM 5B:  
Consideration and action on the Department of Parks and Recreation’s  
recommendation for approval of a Preliminary General Plan and Draft Environmental  
Impact Report for Sonoma Coast State Beach**

Wayne Woodroof, Chief of State Parks’ Planning Division, explained that there were two actions before the Commission concerning Sonoma Coast State Beach, and that he would first present for the Commission’s consideration the proposal to adopt a general plan for this unit.

Mr. Woodroof noted that the commissioners had received copies of the draft general plan, which included the project’s environmental impact report, public comment letters, and State Parks’ responses to those letters. He also noted that the Commission had taken part in a briefing on the general plan during the previous day’s visit to Sonoma Coast State Beach.

Mr. Woodroof then provided a brief history of the process employed to develop the Sonoma Coast State Beach general plan. He explained that the general plan process began in 2003, when the property consisted of 19 miles of coastline and was only a collection of beach and small day use areas. Mr. Woodroof also explained that in the interim State Parks had acquired what was known as the Willow Creek property, which added almost 3,400 inland acres to the existing coastal property. He provided details of how State

Parks then reconsidered its plans for this park, which after the Willow Creek acquisition consisted of nearly 10,000 acres, and how public meetings were employed to assess possible public uses for the park. Mr. Woodroof addressed the potential for providing public access to previously inaccessible areas, and the protection of species habitat and other sensitive resources within this watershed. He specified that the general plan was conceptual in nature, and that prior to the development of specific projects thorough studies would be conducted in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act. Mr. Woodroof also noted that the proposed general plan did not provide for continued grazing of animals within the park.

Mr. Woodroof spoke of the important partnerships with the LandPaths organization and the State Coastal Conservancy that allowed portions of the Willow Creek property to be opened to the public via a permit process well in advance of the availability of staff to manage this area. He also mentioned the benefits provided by the organization Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods, which provided regular docent-lead hikes on the Willow Creek property for those who may not have the time to apply for a permit. Mr. Woodroof asked the Chair to consider the resolution to adopt the general plan for Sonoma Coast State Beach.

Chair Shriver explained that the Commission would now hear public comment on this item. He added that the Commission welcomed public comment, and he requested that speakers recognize the Chair's authority with regard to conduct of the meeting, and noted that speakers would be limited to three minutes each. The Chair then called ten registered speakers and one unregistered speaker on this agenda item.

After the last speaker, Chair Shriver asked if there were any additional registered speakers or any unregistered speakers on this agenda item. There being none, Chair Shriver closed public comment on agenda item 5B at 10:01 a.m. The Chair then opened this item for discussion by the Commission.

Commissioner Sophia Scherman noted that during the Commission's field trip to Sonoma Coast State Beach she had been impressed with the coastal areas but even more impressed with the wealth of inland property that could be opened to public use.

Commissioner Acquanetta Warren stated that growing up in Los Angeles her only chances to enjoy open space had been at Girl Scout camp and visiting her grandmother in Alabama. The Commissioner noted that her grandmother lived near a large grove of trees, and she shared the special feelings she experienced when visiting the grove. Commissioner Warren said that her visit to Sonoma Coast State Beach had provided this same feeling, a feeling that she had not otherwise experienced in a long time. She added that as a member of the State Park and Recreation Commission she felt a responsibility to share these special resources with all of California, and that it was her honor to do so.

Commissioner Jack Baylis noted that public speakers had addressed the subject of identifying wild mushrooms and of water quality within the park. The Commissioner noted that he was pleased to hear comments from the public regarding not only public access to the park but also health and safety concerns. He suggested that staff consider employing educational kiosks or other methods to further educate visitors on these important topics.

Commissioner Sophia Scherman stated that some of the members of the public who addressed the Commission expressed their displeasure with the possibility that park access roads could be constructed near their own private property. The Commissioner posed a question to those who objected: Where should park access roads be placed? She asked those who objected to development to consider that increased access to the park would be better for all, in that it would spread use throughout the area. Commissioner Scherman also noted that as a state park this property was meant for everyone's enjoyment, not that of a select few. She encouraged those who objected to the development of new access roads to not be selfish and to work with State Parks to make this a wonderful place in their own backyards, accessible to everyone.

Commissioner Caryl Hart noted that as a resident of Sonoma County she had been neighbor to many of those who attended today's meeting for almost 20 years. On behalf of the Commission and herself, Commissioner Hart expressed her sincere thanks to Brendon O'Neil, Breck Parkman, Linda Rath, and Rick Royer of California State Parks, and she also expressed her thanks to the many local residents who volun-

teered so much of their time to make this park special. The Commissioner stated that she treasured the fact that this land would be protected from logging, its creeks protected from further erosion, and its roadways converted to trails. She added that some of this was already taking place, and that she'd recently visited the park with Brendon O'Neil to view work on retiring old roads, adding that State Parks had recently received \$900,000 from Caltrans to continue this work. Regarding access to the park, Commissioner Hart noted that it was important to balance the needs of all users, including the members of the public, both statewide and in Sonoma County, who had invested so much in this park. The Commissioner noted that with a general plan in place park stakeholders could begin to work together to develop opportunities for public use. She also noted that she had often enjoyed this park as a user, riding her horse, bicycling, and hiking, adding that State Parks was responsible for balancing all of these uses. Commissioner Hart also noted that State Parks was considering a proposal for staff housing that would allow for a permanent staff presence, which she hoped would alleviate some of the public use concerns expressed by neighbors. The Commissioner listed her other concerns for the park: The possibility of providing shuttle service from the town of Occidental, repairing the park gate to provide access for equestrians and make the entrance more park-like, relocating the maintenance yard, and working with the watershed to make Willow Creek healthy. Commissioner Hart also expressed her thanks to Craig Anderson and Jonathan Glass of LandPaths, and to Michele Luna of Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods. Commissioner Hart concluded by saying that everyone involved with the park had a great deal to be thankful for. She thanked everyone again, adding that working with her neighbors on this park had been a wonderful experience.

Commissioner Clint Eastwood stated that the subject of access to the park should be addressed only after the traffic generated by park use had been evaluated, and that roads should not be built prior to establishing the need for them. The Commissioner also noted that while it was relatively easy to discuss relocating the existing park maintenance yard, such a project could be cost-prohibitive.

Chair Shriver noted that the current times placed many constraints on state park budgets. The Chair then asked if there was a motion to approve the Preliminary General Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report for Sonoma Coast State Beach. Motion Commissioner Hart, Second Chair Shriver. The Commissioners voted unanimously to adopt the resolution to approve the Preliminary General Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report for Sonoma Coast State Beach.

#### **ITEM 5A:**

#### **Consideration and action on the Department of Parks and Recreation's recommendation for reclassification of Sonoma Coast State Beach as Sonoma Coast State Park**

Chair Shriver asked Wayne Woodroof, Chief of State Parks Planning Division, to present this agenda item.

Mr. Woodroof explained that the Sonoma Coast State Beach property, a narrow strip along the coast, was initially acquired by the state in 1934. He noted that with the recent addition of the Willow Creek acquisition, the park's inland resources, both natural and cultural, had significantly increased in size. Mr. Woodroof further explained that during the process of acquiring the Willow Creek property and developing a general plan for Sonoma Coast State Beach, staff considered reclassifying the two combined properties as a state park. He added that there was a very strong public support for this reclassification and that State Parks had received no objections to this proposal during the public meetings conducted for the new general plan. Mr. Woodroof concluded that in addition to being more appropriate for a park with such vast inland resources, the classification of "state park" would provide a higher level of protection for the park's resources. State Parks was therefore recommending that the Commission change the classification of Sonoma Coast State Beach from state beach to state park.

Chair Shriver called the one public speaker who had registered to comment on this agenda item.

In response to the speaker's comments, the Chair explained that park classifications represented different land use designations under law, and that the classification of "state park" would provide the highest level of protection afforded a park property under state law. The Chair's explanation was in response to the

speaker's concerns that redesignating this property as a "state park" rather than a "state beach" would bring greatly increased visitation, off-highway vehicles, and pollution to the park. Chair Shriver reiterated that the "state park" classification would not affect the level of access available to the public, but that it would provide a higher level of resource protection for the property.

The Chair then asked if there were any other comments on this agenda item. There being none, the Chair asked for a motion to approve the proposal before the Commission to reclassify Sonoma Coast Beach as a state park with the name Sonoma Coast State Park. Motion Commissioner Hart, second Commissioner Scherman. The Commissioners voted unanimously to adopt the resolution reclassifying Sonoma Coast State Beach as a state park with the name Sonoma Coast State Park.

**ITEM 5C:**

**Consideration and action on the Department of Parks and Recreation's recommendation to classify the Cowell Ranch/John Marsh Home property as a State Historic Park**

Chair Shriver asked Wayne Woodroof to introduce this agenda item.

Mr. Woodroof provided background information on the Cowell Ranch/John Marsh Home property, including how the original acquisition consisted of only the Marsh home and surrounding property, and how the 2002 acquisition of the Cowell Ranch increased the property's size to approximately 3,650 acres. Mr. Woodroof also mentioned the property's natural resources, and the vast cultural resources that represented almost 7,000 years of Native American occupation. He also explained that a general plan for this property was currently being developed, and that in consideration of the Marsh home structure and the extensive cultural resources on the site, in conjunction with providing consideration to potential public uses of this property, staff recommended classification of the unit as a "state historic park."

Chair Shriver called on Craig Bronson, Director of the City of Brentwood Department of Parks and Recreation, who explained the city's partnership with California State Parks. Mr. Bronson expressed the city's support for classifying the Cowell Ranch/John Marsh Home property as a state historic park. Mr. Bronson also explained that the City of Brentwood was funding the general plan that was currently in development for this property, and that the city had contracted with a consultant to develop the general plan on behalf of State Parks. He thanked Craig Matson, Don Monahan and Brian Hickey of State Parks for their assistance and cooperation in matters related to the partnership.

Chair Shriver asked if there were any other registered or unregistered speakers for this agenda item. There being none, the Chair closed public comment on the item and asked if there were any comments or questions from the commissioners. There being none, the Chair made a motion to reclassify the State Parks property known as the Cowell Ranch/John Marsh Home as a state historic park. Second Commissioner Hart. The Commissioners voted unanimously to adopt the resolution classifying the Cowell Ranch/John Marsh Home property as a state historic park.

**ITEM 5D:**

**Consent Items**

Chair Shriver explained that if there were no objections the Commission could approve consent items all at once without discussion, adding that the commissioners had already received recommendations to approve the proposed concessions items from the Commission's Concessions, Enterprise & Fiscal Committee, along with recommendations from staff to approve the balance of the items. Chair Shriver then asked if anyone would like an item or items pulled from the consent list, and Commissioner Caryl Hart noted that she wished to discuss item 5D, III, the California Recreational Trails Committee request to name the trail corridor from San Francisco Bay to the Pacific Ocean (including the Skyline to the Sea Trail) the Tony Look Trail in honor of the late Claude A. "Tony" Look.

The Chair then asked if there were any objections to taking a vote on the three remaining consent items



before discussing item 5D, III. There being none, the Chair asked for a motion to approve consent agenda items 5D - I, II, & IV. Motion Chair Shriver, Second Commissioner Scherman. The commissioners voted unanimously to approve each of the following consent items as presented:

**ITEM 5D-I:**

**Determination that the concession contract for a new bed & breakfast-style inn at the 1850 Franklin House is compatible with the classification and approved general plan for Old Town San Diego State Historic Park**

**ITEM 5D-II:**

**Determination that the concession proposal for the sale of alcoholic beverages at the new bed & breakfast-style inn at the 1850 Franklin House in Old Town San Diego State Historic Park is consistent with Commission policy**

**ITEM 5D-IV:**

**Concurrence on the Director's appointment of Otillia J. Bier, Charlie Coggins, Jo Hord, Robert C. Knight, Aleta Laurence, and Larry Paulsen to the Board of Directors of the California Citrus State Historic Park Non-Profit Management Corporation**

Consent item 5D, III *Approval of the California Recreational Trails Committee request to name the trail corridor from San Francisco Bay to the Pacific Ocean (including the Skyline to the Sea Trail) the Tony Look Trail in honor of the late Claude A. "Tony" Look*, was pulled from the consent list at the request of Commissioner Caryl Hart.

A discussion took place amongst Commissioners Hart and Warren, Chief Deputy Director Paul Romero, and Chair Shriver. Commissioner Hart emphasized the importance of the name Skyline to the Sea Trail and referenced the Commission's policy that discouraged the naming of parks for individuals. Mr. Romero answered questions pertaining to the proposal and explained the significance of Tony Look's contributions to the Sempervirens Fund, the California Recreation Trails Committee, and the Skyline to the Sea Trail itself. Commissioner Warren suggested that there were other methods by which Mr. Look could be honored, adding that a sign on the trail could be dedicated to his memory and his contributions. Mr. Romero asked if the commissioners would consider such a sign to be posted at each entrance to the trail, to which Commissioner Hart replied in the affirmative. Commissioner Hart continued that as Tony Look was involved with the establishment of the trail, and the name "Skyline to the Sea Trail," it was unlikely that Mr. Look would condone renaming the trail after himself; she added that this proposal could be in conflict with Mr. Look's own wishes. She added that she would not want something similar to happen to her after her death, to which Chair Shriver responded, partially in jest, that there would never be a Caryl Hart trail.

Mr. Romero stated that he would refer this item back to the California Recreational Trails Committee. Chair Shriver reiterated that this item would be referred back to the Trails Committee and that the State Park and Recreation Commission would take no action on it at this time.

**ITEM 5E:**

**Discussion & possible action to address vacancies on existing Commission committees**

Chair Shriver noted that the Commission's Concessions, Enterprise & Fiscal Committee had one vacant position along with member Commissioner Eastwood. The Chair noted that Commissioner Jack Baylis had volunteered to join Commissioner Eastwood on this committee, and, with concurrence from Commissioner Eastwood, Chair Shriver appointed Commissioner Jack Baylis to serve as the second member of the Commission's Concessions, Enterprise, & Fiscal Committee.

Commissioner Caryl Hart noted that a new committee on climate change had also been established. Chair Shriver reminded the commissioners that those who wished to join Commissioner Hart on this committee should contact Commissioner Hart or Director Coleman.

**AGENDA ITEM 6:  
OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chair Shriver introduced this agenda item, noting that this portion of the meeting served for the Commission to hear matters that were not on the agenda but fall within the Commission's jurisdiction. The Chair then called five registered speakers:

Colleen Fernald, concerning renewable energy.

Gillian Greensite, concerning the return of the prohibition of off-lease dogs at Lighthouse Field State Beach in Santa Cruz.

John Klimaszewski, concerning Washoe Meadows State Park in El Dorado County near Lake Tahoe.

Lynne Paulson, concerning Washoe Meadows State Park in El Dorado County near Lake Tahoe.

Grant Weseman, concerning the return of the prohibition of off-lease dogs at Lighthouse Field State Beach in Santa Cruz.

After the speakers' testimony Chair Shriver asked if staff would like to respond to those who commented on the project to relocate portions of a golf course in Washoe Meadows State Park.

Director Coleman referred the commissioners to the written Director's Report they had received prior to the meeting, noting that the report provided a general history of the proposed project to relocate a portion of the existing 18-hole golf course at Lake Valley State Recreation Area adjacent to Washoe Meadows State Park. The Director noted that the golf course generates about \$600,000 in annual revenue for California State Parks, adding that there were very few other opportunities for affordable golfing in the Lake Tahoe area. She also noted that the ongoing project to restore the Truckee River required relocating some of the existing golf course holes. The Director explained that as California State Parks' mission included both mandates to provide natural resource protection and recreation opportunities, State Parks was working to develop a project alternative that would allow both, adding that the environmental impact report for the project included the alternative of closing the golf course. She then called on Kathryn Tobias, State Parks Senior Staff Counsel, to provide further information.

Ms. Tobias responded to questions posed by the speakers. She noted that a general plan existed for Lake Valley State Recreation Area, but that there was not a general plan for Washoe Meadows State Park. She added that State Parks was currently in the process of preparing environmental impact documents for the golf course relocation project. Ms. Tobias stated that a stable and finite project description would be provided as required by law. She also stated that the project as described thus far would not necessarily be the final project that would be proposed, and that other alternatives would be considered. Ms. Tobias explained that she had spoken with the members of the public that were present at today's meeting, and that she would be communicating with them to ensure that all feasible and reasonable project alternatives were included in the final documents prepared for the project.

Chair Shriver recognized Commissioner Jack Baylis.

Commissioner Baylis stated that he was aware that the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) was one of the leading agencies in the U.S. in developing best management practices related to water quality. The Commissioner asked if State Parks staff had communicated with TRPA, and if TRPA recommendations and findings were available on the subject.

Kathryn Tobias replied that it was her understanding that this project had involved extensive coordination with other agencies in the Tahoe Basin. Ms. Tobias added that she did not know if TRPA or others had taken a formal position on the project. She stated that she believed there had been general agreement on the project's goals in terms water quality, and that all parties agreed that a solution would have to be developed for the erosion problems on the site. Ms. Tobias concluded that she was not aware that a specific solution to resolve the water quality issues had been proposed by any of the agencies involved.

Commissioner Baylis stated that he looked forward to hearing the recommendations proposed by partner agencies and staff.

Chair Shriver thanked staff and asked if there were any unregistered speakers for open public comment. The Chair recognized Carol Sklenicka, who thanked the commissioners for today's actions concerning Sonoma Coast State Beach. Ms. Sklenicka also noted that State Parks should proceed with caution when developing projects for the park.

There being no other speakers the Chair closed open public comment.

**AGENDA ITEM 7:**

**CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS PENDING LITIGATION**

**As permitted Government Code section 11126(e) and specifically Government Code section 11126(e)(2)(C)(i), which authorizes a state body to confer with legal counsel when the state body has decided to initiate or is deciding whether or not to initiate litigation, regarding a project approved by Tulare County to allow construction of two commercial dairy operations near Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park.**

Chair Shriver announced this agenda item and noted that the room would be cleared for the closed session. The Chair adjourned to closed session at 10:54 a.m.

**AGENDA ITEM 8:**

**PUBLIC ACCOUNT OF REPORTABLE ITEMS, IF ANY, FROM CLOSED SESSION**

Chair Shriver reconvened the Commission in open session at 11:24 a.m.

The Chair announced that the closed session consisted of a meeting to discuss litigation as described on the agenda, and that there were no reportable events from the closed session.

**AGENDA ITEM 9:**

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Shriver adjourned the meeting at 11:24 a.m.

ATTEST: These minutes were approved by the California State Park and Recreation Commission on August 24, 2007, at its duly-noticed public meeting in Morro Bay, California.

By:           ORIGINAL SIGNED BY           Date:   8-24-07  

Louis Nastro  
Assistant to the Commission  
For Ruth Coleman, Director  
California Department of Parks and Recreation  
Secretary to the Commission