News Release



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Marin County Resident Elected Chairman of State Park and Recreation Commission

Los Angeles Film Producer Elected Vice Chair

Ernest Chung, 60, of Kentfield, was elected chairman of the State Park and Recreation Commission at its May 17 meeting in Scotts Valley, Santa Cruz County. Chung's term expires January 15, 2015.

Chung was managing director at KPMG Consulting and BearingPoint Inc. from 2001 to 2009. He held multiple positions at the Chevron Corporation from 1979 to 2001, including principal consultant, general manager, business development manager, area business development manager and technology research and development manager. Chung serves as chairperson of Friends of China Camp and as board member of the Marin State Parks Association. He earned a doctorate degree and Master of Science degree in chemical engineering from the California Institute of Technology and a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of California, Los Angeles.

"It is an honor first to be a member of the Commission, but it is an even greater honor to be chosen as the new Chairman of the Commission," said Chung. "Our park system is at a crossroads, with new challenges and new opportunities that will require collaboration and cooperation with all of our partners, from the local level to the Legislature and the Governor. I am excited about a new direction and confident that all of us together can move forward to solve problems and re-establish the greatness of California's extraordinary park system."

Paul Junger-Witt was elected to the position of vice chairman of the commission. Witt's term on the commission expires January 15, 2015.

Commissioner Witt is a successful television and film producer. His television work includes "Soap", "Benson", "Empty Nest", the Emmy Award-winning "The Golden Girls", and the Emmy Award-winning television film "Brian's Song." His feature film work includes producing "Dead Poets Society," "Three Kings," "Insomnia," and "A Better Life." He is a partner in both Witt Thomas Productions and Witt Thomas Harris Productions.

The Commission has been without a vice chair since the expiration of the appointment of Commissioner William "Bill" Kogerman on March 15, 2012. Caryl Hart has served as Commission Chair since her election on May 16th, 2008. Hart was reelected as Chair by a vote of the commissioners on September 13, 2010.

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