

CALIFORNIA STATE PARK and RECREATION COMMISSION

Auditorium of the Natural Resources Building
1416 9th Street
Sacramento, California

Minutes of the Meeting - Thursday, October 8, 2009

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Caryl Hart, CHAIR
Alice Huffman
Gail Kautz, VICE CHAIR (elected during this meeting)
William "Bill" Kogerman
Paul Junger Witt

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Lindy DeKoven

CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS STAFF

Maria Baranowski, SENIOR ARCHITECT
Brian Cahill, ASSISTANT DEPUTY DIRECTOR, PARK OPERATIONS
Ruth Coleman, DIRECTOR
Jim Micheaels, PROJECT MANAGER, FOLSOM LAKE AND FOLSOM POWERHOUSE GENERAL PLAN
Scott Nakaji, GOLD FIELDS DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT
Louis Nastro, ASSISTANT TO THE STATE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Dan Ray, CHIEF, PLANNING DIVISION
Roy Stearns, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, COMMUNICATIONS
Kathryn Tobias, SENIOR STAFF COUNSEL

SPEAKERS REGISTERED/REPRESENTING

Mike Applegarth/El Dorado County Board of Supervisors
Linda Bailey/Self
Katie Barofka/Self
Crystal Barber/Self
Jackie Childers/Self
Susan DeBruin/Self
Lois Fortress/Gold Discovery Park Association
Stephen Green/Save the American River Association
Jeffrey Haagenson/Self
Randy Hackbarth/Self
Jay Jensen/Self
Roberta Long/El Dorado County Economic Development Advisory Commission
Art Marinaccio/Taxpayers Association of El Dorado County
Linda McDonald/Friends of Lakes Folsom and Natoma – FOLFAN
Michael Meyer/Self
Jaede Miloslavich/Self
Sharon Roseme/Self
Robert Schroeder/U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Robert H. Sydnor/Loomis Basin Horsemen's Association
Alan D. Wade/Save the American River Association – SARA
Donna Williams/Self
Dan Winkelman/Self

CALL TO ORDER

Legal notice having been given, this meeting of the California State Park and Recreation Commission was called to order at 9:04 a.m. by Commission Chair Caryl Hart. Chair Hart introduced the commissioners and California State Parks staff.

AGENDA ITEM 1:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 31, 2008 MEETING IN PESCADERO, AND THE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS OF JUNE 12, AND JUNE 30, 2009

Chair Hart asked for a motion to approve the draft minutes of the three meetings. Motion Commissioner Kautz, second Commissioner Witt. The commissioners voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the three meetings as submitted.

AGENDA ITEM 2:

CHAIR'S REPORT/RECOGNITIONS

Chair Hart noted that she wished to acknowledge the recent passing of Keith Demetrak, former Chief of California State Parks Planning Division, who had been tremendously helpful both to Caryl Hart personally and to the Commission. The Chair noted that Mr. Demetrak had had a long career with California State Parks and that he had played several key leadership roles. Chair Hart added that Mr. Demetrak was missed by all who had known him at California State Parks.

The Chair then thanked those who had contributed to the Commission's briefing and interpretive program the previous day, including the Gold Country Park Association from Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park, Cindy Dulgar, Brian Dulgar, and Bob Whitford of the California State University Sacramento Aquatic Center, and Interpretive Specialist Terri Lopez of California State Parks' Gold Fields District.

Recognition of Retiring California State Parks Employees

Chair Hart announced that the Commission would recognize employees who had recently retired from California State Parks. Because of the exceptional number of retirees, the Chair asked Commissioners Bill Kogerman, Gail Kautz, and Paul Junger Witt to each read a portion of the following list:

Christina Aceituno, Accessibility	29 years, 2 months
Elizabeth Allancorte, San Diego Coast District	26 years, 7 months
David Augustine, Santa Cruz District	29 years
Manoushan Azam, Northern Service Center	21 years, 3 months
David Babcock, San Luis Obispo District	25 years, 11 months
Jean Baird, Mendocino District	20 years, 4 months
Robert Basura, Capital District	32 years, 2 months
Bruce Beck, Historic Sites	6 years
Karen Broderick, Russian River District	17 years, 4 months
Jon Brown, Water & Sewer	32 years, 6 months
Paul Brown, Capital District	20 years, 9 months
Jeffrey Bruck, San Diego District	25 years, 9 months
Guy Burnett, Mendocino District	38 years, 10 months
Evelyn Bush, Historic Sites	22 years

List of retiring California State Parks employees, continued:

Allen Cameron, Channel Coast District	34 years, 8 months
Donald Castle, Inland Empire District	29 years, 2 months
Alison Chandler, Administration	21 years, 4 months
Ishman Clarke, San Diego South Sector	29 years, 10 months
Gregory Cooke, North Coast Redwoods	27 years, 8 months
Linda Cooper, Northern Buttes District	25 years, 11 months
William Dall, Santa Cruz Mountains Sector	32 years, 7 months
Dennis Daughtery, Capital District	20 years, 5 months
Timothy, Davis, Valley Sector	28 years, 9 months
Wayne Deese, Sierra District	21 years, 7 months
Stephen Drew, Capital District	35 years, 3 months
Robin Ettinger, Northern Service Center	33 years, 6 months
Josan Feathers, Southern Service Center	29 years, 5 months
John Foster, Park Operations	34 years
David Gates, Administration	31 years, 11 months
Olen Golden, San Diego District	24 years, 5 months
Victor Graves, Marin District	29 years, 6 months
Suzan Grimm, Diablo Vista District	15 years
Michael Gross, Folsom Sector	20 years, 2 months
Izell Gunner, San Diego Coast District	32 years
Joann Hancock, San Diego Coast District	11 years, 7 months
Douglas Harding, Orange Coast District	30 years, 10 months
R. Wayne Harrison, Central Valley District	36 years
Mary Helmich, Interpretation & Education	36 years, 4 months
Brett Hoffman, Orange Coast District	10 years, 10 months
Brit Horn, Russian River District	26 years, 5 months
Leo Humphrey, Tehachapi District	33 years, 1 month
Frederick Jee, Anza-Borrego Sector	34 years, 5 months
Brent Johnson, Angeles District	20 years, 1 month
Mark Jorgensen, Colorado Desert District	35 years, 3 months
Jody Kummer, San Diego Coast District	26 years, 7 months
Raymond Lagoy, Pajaro Coast Sector	34 years, 4 months
Ronald Larson, Orange Coast District	14 years, 2 months
Cynthia Lee, Museum Sector	6 years, 2 months
Rodi Lee, Folsom Sector	14 years, 3 months
Jeffrey Lee, Colorado Desert District	28 years, 9 months
Modesta Leong, Administration	36 years, 8 months
Daniel Martin, Marin District	24 years, 2 months
Howard Mcguin, Russian River District	8 years, 4 months
John Mello, Capital District	25 years, 1 month
James Mentgen, San Luis Obispo District	9 years, 11 months
Richard Michaely, Sierra District	34 years, 6 months

List of retiring California State Parks employees, continued:

Donald Monahan, Diablo Vista District	29 years, 2 months
Woodrow Nackley, Diablo Vista District	21 years, 1 month
Mark Nowlin, Silverwood Sector	21 years, 5 months
Timothy Olmstead, Information Technology	31 years, 3 months
Lawrence Pace, Silverado Sector	29 years, 3 months
Olaya Paschal, Administrative Services	32 years, 2 months
Michael Penner, Southern Service Center	19 years, 4 months
Christopher Platis, Marin District	28 years, 1 month
Judith Polanich, Sierra District	11 years, 3 months
Karl Poppelreiter, Park Operations	27 years, 10 months
David Powers, Diablo Vista District	31 years, 4 months
Kim Preston, Northern Buttes District	32 years, 9 months
James Ramsey, Asilomar Sector	34 years, 11 months
Terry Reeves, San Luis Obispo District	21 years, 11 months
Diona Roja, Northern Service Center	8 years, 1 month
Betty Ross, SURCOM	20 years, 3 months
Richard Royer, Russian River District	32 years, 2 months
Carol Shiras-Breese, Business Services	11 years, 11 months
Gregory Shupek, Inland Empire District	26 years, 1 month
Irvin Smith, San Luis Obispo District	20 years, 11 months
Melinda Smith, Administration, Personnel	17 years, 3 months
Miles Standish, Santa Cruz District	36 years, 7 months
Kenneth Switras, San Luis Obispo District	20 years, 9 months
Tonette Templeton, Southern Communications Center	14 years, 7 months
Daniel Tynan, Gold Fields District	26 years, 5 months
Arlene Valencia, Inland Empire District	11 years, 4 months
James Van Cott, Silverado Sector	29 years, 4 months
William Watts, Inland Empire District	30 years, 7 months
Douglas Wick, Gold Fields District	36 years, 4 months
Douglas Wilber, Planning Division	21 years, 4 months
Jonathan Williams, Technical Services	26 years
Nancy Wittig, Colorado Desert District	20 years, 7 months
Janene Woolley, Facilities Management	35 years, 4 months
Peter Yarbrough, Hungry Valley District	28 years, 5 months
David Zeiss, Colorado Desert District	32 years, 1 month

This list of employees who had retired during the thirteen-month period from September 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009 represents 2,330 years of service to the State of California. The Commission recognized the tremendous service of these individuals to California State Parks, and the Chair asked for a round of applause.

Commissioner Alice Huffman noted that she knew many of these employees from her time as an employee of California State Parks. She stated that she believed California State Parks to be the best state department with the most dedicated employees, and she added her personal commendation.

In anticipation of the upcoming agenda items, Chair Caryl Hart announced that she would like any members of the public who wished to address the Commission to complete a speaker registration form.

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

Chair Hart asked Commissioner Bill Kogerman to read the requests to establish special redwood groves in California State Park System units. Chair Hart noted that it was important to recognize these wonderful contributions of individuals and families to the preservation of old growth redwoods through this program. Commissioner Kogerman read the following requests to establish special redwood groves:

As requested by Save-the-Redwoods League:

Joseph and Margaret Hipp Memorial Grove
in Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park
Estate of Margaret W. Hipp, donor

Joseph and Margaret Hipp Memorial Grove
in Humboldt Redwoods State Park
Estate of Margaret W. Hipp, donor

Viola Galston Memorial Grove
in Wilder Ranch State Park
Mary G. Stevenson Trust, donor

John and Diane Geer Grove
in Memory of our Mothers Claire Geer & Helen Carlock
in Portola Redwoods State Park
Mr. & Mrs. John W. Geer, donors

Dr. & Mrs. Kurt Munchheimer Memorial Grove
Humboldt Redwoods State Park
Christa & John Lyons of Alexandria Virginia, donors

Clifford & Gudrun Osmundson Family Grove
in Portola Redwoods State Park
Estate of Connie Osmundson, donor

Hummel Family & Friends Grove
in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park
Estate of Miriam E. Hummel, donor

Laszlo & Irene Jelenfy Memorial Grove
in Portola Redwoods State Park
Laszlo I. & Irene Jelenfy Trust, donor

Mayme U. Bangert Memorial Grove
in Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park
Dorothy V. Bangert Trust, donor

Ella S. Clarke Memorial Grove
in Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park
Charles G. Clarke, donor

Frances & M. Victor Leventritt Family Grove
in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park
Estate of Frances Leventritt, donors

As Requested by Save-the-Redwoods League, continued:

Henry P. Hilliard Memorial Grove
in Wilder Ranch State Park
Pieter W. Dirksz Trust, donor

As Requested by Sempervirens Fund:

Sempervirens Fund Gazos Creek Forest Grove
in Butano State Park
Friends of Sempervirens Fund, donor

Sempervirens Fund Waterfall Legacy Grove
in Butano State Park
Friends of Sempervirens Fund, donor

James M. O'Neil (Jimo) Memorial Forest
in Butano State Park
Estate of James M. O'Neil, donor

Fredric March & Florence Eldridge Memorial Grove
in Castle Rock State Park
Estate of Frances Leventritt, donor

Wesley & Adele Foraker Memorial Grove
in Castle Rock State Park
Anonymous Friend of Sempervirens Fund, donor

John Elroy Rammer Memorial Grove
in Castle Rock State Park
Richard Rammer, Estate of Margaret W. Nielson, donor

Vincent Corona Redwood Grove
in Castle Rock State Park
Edward Joseph Daly Foundation, donor

Margaret "Peggy" Nielson Memorial Grove
in Castle Rock State Park
Richard Rammer, Estate of Margaret W. Nielson, donor

Chair Hart asked for a motion to approve the grove requests. Motion Commissioner Huffman, second Commissioner Witt. The commissioners voted unanimously to adopt the resolutions establishing these special redwood groves.

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

Chair Hart called on California State Parks Director Ruth Coleman to present her Director's Report.

Director Coleman noted that a written Director's Report had been provided to the commissioners, that this report was available to members of the public, and that she would not repeat what had been reported in that document. Director Coleman continued her report as follows:

Climate Change/Public Lands for Carbon Offsets – Director Coleman stated that, largely through the efforts of Commission Chair Caryl Hart, the California Air Resources Board recently approved forestry protocols to allow public lands to participate in the practice known as generating carbon offsets. The Director noted that until this decision, the only forestry programs that were permitted to participate in

offset generation programs were those for private lands owned by non profits. Director Coleman added that these protocols took a long time to draft, and that Dr. Caryl Hart had represented California State Parks in the negotiations with landowners, environmentalists, scientists, and government entities to establish the protocols.

Director Coleman explained that with the approval of protocols, California State Parks submitted a project to the Climate Action Reserve (“CAR,” formerly known as the California Climate Action Registry), and that once the proposed offset project had been approved California State Parks would have the ability to sell carbon offsets to be used to restore Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, which had been devastated by wildfire in 2003. The Director added that the results of this project would be easily measured and verifiable, which is an essential element of an offset program. She explained some of the science behind the project, as researched by California State Parks staff, U.C. Santa Barbara, and San Diego State University. Director Coleman described how approximately 99 percent of Cuyamaca Rancho State Park’s 24,000 acres had been burned, how after almost six years essentially none of the conifer forest had regenerated, how this ecosystem restoration project would help the forest recover, and how the offset program would allow the project to receive funding that would otherwise be unavailable. The Director added that this California State Parks project was the first of its kind in the United States, and she expressed how very grateful she was to Commission Chair Caryl Hart for her role in making the project possible.

Director Coleman noted that a budget update would be provided later in the agenda, and she offered to entertain questions from the commissioners.

Chair Caryl Hart thanked Director Coleman for providing essential support to her efforts to establish the offset program. She added that the value of restoration projects like the one at Cuyamaca included the benefits of providing an educational model for public education and helping the environment.

Commissioner Alice Huffman referred to the written Director’s Report entry on the 100th Anniversary of the town of Allensworth at Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park, adding that she had attended the event and that it was well attended and a quite successful.

Chair Hart noted that unfortunately, climate change science indicated that there would be a greater number of wildfires in the future. There being no further comments or questions from commissioners, the Chair announced that she would open the public hearing portion of the meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 5:
PUBLIC HEARING**

Chair Hart opened the public hearing portion of the meeting at 9:25 a.m. Chair Hart noted that the Commission welcomed public input and requested that those wishing to address the Commission complete a speaker registration form. She added that speakers time would be limited.

**ITEM 5A:
Consideration and action on the Department’s recommendation
to approve the Preliminary General Plan and Environmental Impact Report for
Folsom Lake State Recreation Area**

Chair Hart explained that while the general plans for Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park were combined in a single document, the Commission would be considering separate actions related to each. The Chair also noted that comments on each could be heard together. She then introduced Dan Ray, Chief of California State Parks’ Planning Division, to make a short presentation to augment the materials and briefing that had already been provided to the Commission.

State Parks Planning Division Chief Dan Ray provided background information on the Folsom Lake parks, their location, history and California State Parks’ partnership with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, which

built and operated the Folsom dam and reservoir. Mr. Ray noted that a general plan had been previously adopted by the Commission in 1979, with several subsequent amendments. He stated that Folsom Lake State Recreation Area received about 1.5 million visitors each year, underscoring the importance of this resource to the local population.

Mr. Ray added that at this time the 1979 general plan required updating for many reasons, including the fact that the new reservoir at nearby Auburn, California proposed in the 1970s was never constructed, that the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation worked on a 30-year cycle for general plans, and in consideration of the large increase in local population. Mr. Ray concluded by stating that ten public meetings had been conducted to gather input on the plan, that the public comment period had been extended to provide sufficient time for review, that the City of Folsom and the Friends of the Folsom Powerhouse Association had expressed their support of the new general plan, and that over 400 comments on the plan had been received.

Chair Hart thanked Mr. Ray and asked the commissioners if they would agree to hearing public comment prior to addressing questions and comments from the commissioners. There being no objections from commissioners, the Chair opened public comment on this agenda item at 9:38 a.m. and proceeded to call 16 speakers related to the general plan for Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park:

Linda Bailey, concerning proposals for a boathouse and access to Lake Natoma from Historic Sutter Street in Folsom.

Crystal Barber, concerning uses and enhancements at Lake Natoma

Susan DeBruin, concerning the general plan's environmental impact report and equestrian trail use at Folsom Lake.

Stephen Green, of Save the American River Association, concerning support for the general plan, intrusion on the park by the Folsom Auto Mall and non-native species, and water quality in Folsom Lake.

Randy Hackbarth, concerning trail safety at the park.

Jay Jensen, regarding support for the general plan as it relates to Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park.

Roberta Long, of the El Dorado County Economic Development Advisory Commission, regarding community connections and appreciation for the park and parks' staff.

Linda McDonald, of Friends of Lakes Folsom and Natoma (FOLFAN), regarding support for the general plan and cooperative efforts to raise funds for implementation of general plan proposals.

Michael Meyer, regarding support for designating non-motorized use on Folsom Lake.

Jaede Miloslavich, regarding insufficient time to evaluate comments on the general plan, and a request that the Commission not adopt resolutions for the Folsom general plan and EIR.

Sharon Roseme, regarding the establishment of a quiet zone in the Rattlesnake Bar area of Folsom Lake.

Robert Schroeder, of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, regarding his agency's appreciation of State Parks' staff and support for the new general plan.

Robert H. Sydnor, of the Loomis Basin Horsemen's Association, regarding flaws in the general plan's environmental documents and suggested disapproval of the Folsom general plan.

Alan D. Wade, of Save the American River Association (SARA), regarding water quality in Lake Natoma.

Donna Williams, regarding designation of trail uses at the park, and increased public involvement.

Dan Winkelman, regarding proposed City of Folsom developments at Lake Natoma.

At the close of public comment, Chair Caryl Hart asked speaker Linda Bailey to explain her desire for a boathouse and lake access to be constructed near historic Folsom on Lake Natoma. Ms. Bailey provided an explanation of where she believed access should be located – below and very close to historic Folsom – and why she believed this would be beneficial for visitors as well as the current users of Lake Natoma.

Chair Hart thanked Ms. Bailey and all the speakers and asked if any of the commissioners had questions for the speakers. There being none, Chair Hart closed public comment on the Folsom general plan item at 10:38 a.m. and announced that the Commission would take a 10-minute break.

Chair Hart reconvened the meeting at 10:48 a.m. The Chair asked State Parks' staff to provide responses to speaker's comments before addressing questions from the commissioners.

Planning Division Chief Dan Ray noted that he would address specific questions raised during public comment and then respond to additional questions from commissioners. Mr. Ray described the types of user conflicts that must be addressed in a park like Folsom Lake State Recreation Area, and he explained some of the challenges involved in developing a general plan that was capable of addressing changing use over a 30-year period. Mr. Ray further explained that a general plan was in fact "general" in the manner in which it addressed use, and that this was why detailed plans for trail management and other specific management plans – the development of which would provide additional opportunities for public input – would be crafted once a new general plan had been adopted. Mr. Ray noted that State Parks' legal counsel would reply to the public comments related to the California Environmental Quality Act.

Senior Staff Counsel Kathryn Tobias stated that the "programmatic EIR" process employed in the development of a park general plan could be difficult to understand, particularly for those who were only acquainted with project-specific environmental documents. Ms. Tobias explained that in a general plan, which does not initiate any specific projects but only allows for the future consideration of projects, a programmatic EIR is appropriate, and is in fact the typical type of environmental document prepared for a general plan, whether at the state, county, or city level. She added that specific EIRs and California Environmental Quality Act compliance would be prepared for development projects that proceed at the park. Ms. Tobias noted that one speaker commented that there were inaccuracies in some of the general plan maps and added that if this proved to be the case an errata sheet would be issued to correct the maps. Ms. Tobias concluded by asking if there were any questions on the programmatic EIR.

Chair Caryl Hart noted that there may be questions from commissioners. The Chair then asked if there were any additional comments from staff.

Planning Division Chief Dan Ray addressed the comments related to boating speed limits and the establishment of a "quiet zone" at Rattlesnake Bar at Folsom Lake, explaining that the recreational analysis conducted in conjunction with the Bureau of Reclamation had suggested the five mile-per-hour limits proposed in the new general plan. Mr. Ray noted that the comments on water quality were under the jurisdiction of the local water board. He then asked Gold Fields District Superintendent Scott Nakaji to respond to the comments regarding access to Lake Natoma from Historic Folsom.

Superintendent Nakaji explained that the new general plan presented no specific proposals related to providing additional access to the lake. The Superintendent explained that what the general plan did provide for was the possibility of developing access to the lake from the city's historic district. Superintendent Nakaji added that the park did not currently have a connection between the historic district and the lake. The Superintendent also noted that State Parks had worked closely with the City of Folsom with regard to providing additional lake access, that this relationship would continue, and that State Parks would be evaluating and commenting on any such projects once specific proposals had been made.

Chair Hart announced that she would now like to hear questions and comments from the commissioners.

Commissioner Bill Kogerman asked about the status of negotiations to establish a new lease with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, as the current lease had expired in 2006.

Gold Fields District Superintendent Scott Nakaji explained that negotiations between State Parks and the Bureau of Reclamation had been taking place for some time, but that the park's outdated general plan, along with the poor economic climate, had inhibited the negotiation process. The Superintendent added that the new general plan, which incorporated the many changes that have taken place since the park was

established in 1956, would assist with this process. He added that the limited funds available to operate and maintain the park continued to be a challenge, but that California State Parks and the Bureau of Reclamation continued to explore avenues for providing a quality recreation experience for park users.

Commissioner Kogerman asked when a new agreement could be expected. Superintendent Nakaji replied that he would like to have an agreement in place in three-to-six months but that this may be overly optimistic. The Superintendent noted that it could take as long as a year to establish a new agreement.

Commissioner Kogerman posed several questions related to comments that had been made by several of the speakers. The Commissioner asked when a trail management plan for the park could be expected, he asked for confirmation that the trails plan was required to be in place prior to adoption of a general plan, and he asked whether or not the trails plan would be a stand-alone document, separate from the general plan. The Commissioner asked about the comments related to establishing a “quiet day” or quiet zone on the lake, he asked about state (meaning California Air Resources Board-governed) boats versus out-of-state boats, about the jurisdiction for water quality issues, about ADA-compliant access to the lake, and he asked if a general plan amendment would be required if the boat house project were to be constructed. Commissioner Kogerman also noted that he wished to correct the record with regard to statements made during the Commission briefing in the park that “concessions” had been made toward requests made by the City of Folsom; the Commissioner stated that no such concessions had been made.

Planning Division Chief Dan Ray, Gold Fields District Superintendent Scott Nakaji, and Folsom General Plan Project Manager Jim Micheaels responded to Commissioner Kogerman’s questions as follows: The development of the trails management plan would be dependent on the availability of funding for this. Trails plans were typically developed subsequent to the adoption of a park general plan, and a trails plan is a stand-alone document separate from the general plan. Only a very small percentage of boats used on the lake were from out-of-state, so the obvious standard to follow is the California Air Resources Board standard. No specific direction or projects related to waterfront access were provided in the new general plan, though discussions on this subject had taken place between State Parks and the City of Folsom. The city’s proposal had been reduced in scope to provide at a minimum ADA-compliant access from the city’s historic district to the lake, and all waterfront projects proposed to this time were only conceptual in nature. State Parks would continue to work with the city to ensure that any proposed waterfront project would be consistent with the park’s general plan. The local Water Control Board would have to address concerns related to water quality. It was clarified that the new general plan includes a provision to develop a boat-house or boat storage at Negro Bar, though with regard to lake access from the city’s historic district the plan only notes that State Parks will work with the City of Folsom to analyze opportunities for additional access, and that the new general plan would allow for such a project to be constructed.

Commissioner Alice Huffman thanked Commissioner Kogerman for his thorough questions, noting that he had addressed many of her own concerns. The Commissioner then asked about how citizens who were concerned about trail use could be involved in the process of developing the park’s trails plan, and what recourse users would have if they disagreed with decisions that were made at the district level.

Superintendent Scott Nakaji replied that his district had been successful in obtaining input through a advisory group of equestrian trail users, and that the inclusion of a similar multi-use group would be an important component of developing the park’s trails plan.

Senior Staff Counsel Kathryn Tobias added that public input would be an important component of the trails plan. She explained that the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process would require that environmental impacts of trails projects be evaluated, and that citizens who objected to the trails plan could present a legal challenge based on CEQA. Ms. Tobias also noted that trail conflicts would be resolved by having user groups work together.

Commissioner Gail Kautz noted that she was an experienced user of equestrian trails. Commissioner Kautz commented that she believed the concerns of equestrian trail users at Folsom were mainly the result

of the park's proximity to a large urban area. The Commissioner explained that while she understood the concerns expressed by equestrian users, she believed all of these could be addressed by emphasizing communication among the various types of trail users at the park. Commissioner Kautz added that she believed additional equestrian staging areas and better trail maps could have been provided in the new general plan, but that she believed the plan would be approved as it is and these issues addressed subsequently to ensure an enjoyable and safe trail experience for all users.

Commissioner Paul Witt asked which entity was responsible for testing water quality at Folsom Lake. Dan Ray replied that testing was conducted by the local water board and by local municipalities and the industries that discharge into the water. Commissioner Witt stated that with the budget constraints being faced by municipalities, local non-profit organizations should conducting their own testing and report their findings to the authorities, and that in the current economic climate this type of action would be more useful and necessary than ever before.

Commission Chair Caryl Hart thanked the commissioners for their comments. Chair Hart stated that she looked forward to a new agreement between State Parks and the Bureau of Reclamation. The Chair added that given the severe financial constraints faced by California State Parks she would be most grateful to any contribution toward this effort that could be made by the Bureau of Reclamation. The Chair then asked for clarification with regard to how the federal process of approving the general plan effected the approval of State Parks' environmental document.

Planning Division Chief Dan Ray explained that the document before the Commission was a combined Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS), and that while the state required adoption of an EIR, the federal process required adoption of an EIS. As the documents were combined, there was no concern unless either entity found fault with the plan – which was not the case.

Chair Hart stated that she wished to reiterate Commissioner Paul Witt's suggestion that local non-profit organizations conduct their own testing for water quality. The Chair noted that in her home county of Sonoma this practice was common and that she was surprised it was not taking place at Folsom. Superintendent Scott Nakaji stated that while he was not aware of local non-profit groups conducting water testing, he was aware that local residents kept a watchful eye on water quality at the lake, and that the Bureau of Reclamation conducted water quality tests.

The Chair added that she agreed with Commissioner Kogerman's and Commissioner Kautz's comments related to having a quiet zone at the lake and multi-user trails, adding that she herself was a hiker, equestrian, kayaker, and mountain biker. Chair Hart stated that enforcement of quiet zone requirements was very important to the park's visitor experience. Superintendent Nakaji stated that State Parks worked with volunteers and local residents to enforce noise limits at the lake. The Chair then asked staff to address concerns about the length of time that the proposed general plan had been available for public comment.

Dan Ray stated that in response to written requests to extend the public comment period, the Folsom general plan was open for comment for a total of 112 days, an additional 67 days beyond the legally-required 45-day comment period.

Chair Caryl Hart asked if there were any further comments or questions from commissioners. There being none, the Chair asked for a motion to approve the preliminary general plan and environmental impact report for Folsom Lake State Recreation Area. Motion Commissioner Kogerman, second Commissioner Kautz. The commissioners voted unanimously to adopt the resolution approving the Preliminary General Plan and Environmental Impact Report for Folsom Lake State Recreation Area.

ITEM 5B:

Consideration and action on the Department's recommendation to approve the Preliminary General Plan and Environmental Impact Report for Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park

The Commission then took up the matter of adopting a separate resolution to approve the Preliminary General Plan and Environmental Impact Report for Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park. Motion Commissioner Kogerman, second Commissioner Huffman. The commissioners voted unanimously to adopt the resolution approving the Preliminary General Plan and Environmental Impact Report for Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park.

ITEM 5C:

Consideration and action on the Department's recommendation to approve the General Plan Amendment for Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park

Chair Hart noted that prior to taking public comment the Commission would hear a short presentation from Planning Division Chief Dan Ray.

Mr. Ray provided a short history of Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park and explained how Sutter's Mill provided the focal point of the gold discovery park. Mr. Ray referred to maps of the park, describing how the replica of Sutter's Mill had not been built on the site of the mill's original location, and how proposals to relocate the mill replica in the 1970s resulted in a decision from the Commission that state funds should not be used to relocate the then-new mill replica. He added that in the 30 years that had passed since that decision the mill replica had deteriorated and was now in need of replacement, and he explained how the prospect of a new mill replica made it practical to once again consider moving the mill to a site that better served park visitors. Since the earlier Commission decision restricted the use of public funds in relocating the mill, State Parks was now asking the Commission to approve an amendment to the park's general plan that would delete this restriction.

Commission Chair Caryl Hart asked if there were any questions from the commissioners.

Commissioner Bill Kogerman asked about the cost of constructing the new mill replica. Dan Ray replied that the cost of constructing the new mill replica was expected to be \$1.9 million. Mr. Ray added that Maria Baranowski, Senior Architect with State Parks' Northern Service Center, was present to address specific questions about the mill project. Chair Hart asked if grant funding had been obtained for the project. Senior Architect Maria Baranowski replied that the mill was a funded major capital outlay project approved by the California Department of Finance.

Chair Caryl Hart asked if there were any further questions. There being none, the Chair opened public comment on this agenda item. The Chair call three speakers related to the general plan amendment for Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park:

Mike Applegarth, of the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors, regarding the Board of Supervisor's support for the general plan amendment and for the Sutter's Mill relocation project.

Lois Fortress, of the Gold Discovery Park Association, regarding support for the general plan amendment and the Sutter's Mill relocation, and regarding how this project would benefit the thousands of schoolchildren who visit the gold discovery park each year.

Art Marinaccio, of the Taxpayers Association of El Dorado County, regarding commercialization of the park and working to make the park an integral part of the El Dorado County community.

Chair Hart called for other speakers on this item. There being none, she closed public comment on this item at 11:47 a.m. The Chair then asked for comments from the commissioners.

Commissioner Paul Witt stated that during difficult economic times, historic parks play an exceptionally valuable role in making history come alive for children. The Commissioner noted that historic park visits can ignite lifelong interests in the state, the nation, and in citizenship. Commissioner Witt added that projects like the mill replica represented a great investment in that they result in better citizens.

Chair Caryl Hart thanked Commissioner Witt and added that the gold discovery site was indeed very

important, as it represented the place where California's population boom essentially began.

Commissioner Alice Huffman made a motion to adopt the general plan amendment for Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Paul Witt. The commissioners voted unanimously to adopt the resolution approving the general plan amendment for Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park.

ITEM 5D:

Report of the Executive (nominating) Committee and election of Commission Vice Chair

Chair Hart explained that the Commission's Executive Committee was comprised of Commissioners Gail Kautz and Paul Witt, and that the committee had been charged with nominating a vice chair. The Chair asked Commissioner Witt to report the results of the committee's discussions.

Commissioner Paul Witt announced that the committee proposed the nomination of Commissioner Gail Kautz as vice chair, adding that given Commissioner Kautz's tenure on the Commission and passion for parks she would make an ideal candidate. Chair Caryl Hart asked Commissioner Kautz if she accepted the nomination; she did so. A discussion took place wherein Commissioner Alice Huffman asked for clarification of the Commission's nomination process. Commissioner Witt explained the committee's role and Commissioner Huffman stated her satisfaction with this. Chair Caryl Hart then called for a vote to approve the nomination of Commissioner Gail Kautz as vice chair. The commissioners voted unanimously to make Gail Kautz Vice Chair. Commissioner Huffman and Chair Hart briefly discussed election of Commission officers, and the Chair noted that she would request a report from the Executive Committee on this subject at the next Commission meeting.

ITEM 5E:

Update/Discussion of California State Parks budget

Chair Hart introduced California State Parks Director Ruth Coleman to provide an update on the budget.

Director Coleman reported that State Parks' budget had been significantly reduced from that of prior years. The Director stated that the budget, as it appeared in the revised budget of July 2009, included reductions of more than \$14 million. She added that it had been announced that plans for subsequent fiscal years would include a reduction of approximately \$22 million. Director Coleman then explained that this very serious situation, as proposed in July 2009, was now (October 2009) much more positive as Governor Schwarzenegger's office had recently announced that the current \$14 million reduction would be a one-time-only reduction, with the next fiscal year's budget (beginning July 2010) having these funds restored through other sources. Director Coleman explained how this proposal would allow State Parks to avoid staff lay-offs, and how the governor's proposed budget would permit State Parks to continue operations through service reductions rather than with permanent cuts. The Director then introduced Brian Cahill, Assistant Deputy Director for Park Operations, to explain some of the details of the current budget.

Assistant Deputy Director Cahill stated that reductions in maintenance and equipment replacement would cover approximately \$12 million of the \$14 million reduction, and that the balance of the reductions had been delegated to individual State Parks' districts. He added that each district was currently preparing a proposal for accomplishing the necessary reductions. Mr. Cahill explained that each of the 278 State Park System units would experience some level of reduced services, including the closing of some facilities on weekdays. He added that some tours had been cancelled and that portions of some campgrounds may be closed. Deputy Director Cahill emphasized that service reductions would be planned to minimize disruption to park visitors while achieving the maximum cost savings and maintaining revenue.

Director Ruth Coleman noted that the change from ongoing cuts to a one-time reduction was a very significant and positive change. The Director added that while service reductions would take place at virtually all parks this was preferable to park closures. She reported examples of how park closures in

other states had rapidly resulted in the deterioration of those parks, and the Director emphasized once more that the current reductions were a far superior alternative to park closures. Director Coleman asked if there were any questions.

Commissioner Alice Huffman stated that she was pleased to find that the governor had made a decision to keep parks open. The Commissioner added that she believed the efforts of herself and others who contacted the governor and legislators in protest of park closures had contributed to this result.

Commissioner Bill Kogerman stated that he had earlier in the year requested a legal opinion regarding the Commission's authority, and that he was awaiting a response. The Commissioner added that he believed the Commission should be more involved in the financial matters of State Parks, and that given the current fiscal situation this was important. He noted that he was happy to see that the El Moro campground project at Crystal Cove State Park was once again under construction, and that he understood this project had been bond-funded. He asked the Director if bond funds could be used to address other budget issues.

Director Coleman explained that certain bond-funded projects, like the El Moro campground at Crystal Cove, were once again underway, but that bond funding could not be used to address general operational issues related to the current budget crisis. Commissioner Kogerman and Director Coleman discussed the project-specific nature of bond funds, and how these funds could be utilized for projects like the El Moro campground and Sutter's Mill at Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park. Director Coleman also explained how budget cuts would be addressed by engaging non-profit and volunteer groups to help manage parks, and how efforts to attract private-sector partners would be increased.

Commissioner Kogerman and Director Coleman discussed partnership opportunities with the National Guard, and how federal funding could be available to finance projects that would involve the National Guard and benefit California State Parks.

Commissioner Gail Kautz stated that she was pleased to see the tremendous amount of public support that became evident in response to the possibility of park closures. Commissioner Kautz stated that she agreed with Commissioner Huffman and that she supported the decision to keep parks open. The Commissioner also commended Director Coleman for her efforts to manage the situation and keep parks open.

Commissioner Paul Witt stated that he wished to commend and acknowledge the extraordinary dedication and resourcefulness State Parks' staff exhibited during these difficult times, especially in light of the shortened work weeks faced by staff.

Chair Caryl Hart stated that she supported the comments of the other commissioners, and added that the Commission was grateful to the governor for the decision to reinstate State Parks funding for the next fiscal year (starting July 2010). The Chair noted that there were no other speakers and closed public comment on agenda item 5E at 12:05 p.m.

**AGENDA ITEM 6:
OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chair Hart noted that three speakers had registered for open public comment. The Chair called the following speakers:

Katie Barofka, regarding the importance of parks in creating a connection to natural resources.

Jackie Childers, regarding the preservation of California's biological diversity and the importance of parks in this effort.

Jeffrey Haagenson, regarding park closures, park funding, and the value of parks.

Commissioner Bill Kogerman stated that Mr. Haagenson should be commended for "bringing out the kid" in everyone present.

Chair Hart noted that there was an additional unregistered speaker. Linda McDonald inquired about bud-

