

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

New Mexico State Parks Division Park Advisory Board Meeting
Meeting Minutes
March 06, 2020
Santa Fe Parks Division Office

I. Call to Order

Director C. Tafoya called the meeting of the Park Advisory Board (PAB) to order at 01:06 PM (MST) on March 6, 2020.

- 1. Roll Call – Board Members Present** (Attachment 1: Attendance sheet with signatures) Roll was taken and a quorum was present. Stephanie Bestelmeyer, Selena Smith Connealy, Eileen Everett, Patrick Michael Killen, Ramon A. Martinez, Jean C. Ossorio, Judith Polich, and Robert Quintana

Board Members Absent:

Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Staff Present:

State Parks Division (SPD) Staff Present:

Director, Christy Tafoya; Deputy Director Toby Velasquez, Financial Specialist, Amanda Calderon

Other Attendees:

II. Review and Changes to Agenda: (Attachment 2):

- Director C. Tafoya requested an update to the agenda for park vacancies and a Human Resources update.
- Member J. Polich requested to add to the agenda an update to Land Water Conservation Fund.
- Motion to approve the amended agenda was moved by Member J. Polich and seconded by Member S. Bestelmeyer, motion passed unanimously with no objections.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes:

- Motion to approve the meeting minutes was moved by Member P. Killen and seconded by Member S. Bestelmeyer, motion passed unanimously with no objections.

IV. Director's Report:

1. Legislative Updates:

Director C. Tafoya informed the Board of the 30-day legislative session with focus on budgets. Director requested a budget increase. State Parks received one position, the Architect position. Director C. Tafoya informed the Board that capital request was \$7

million. State Parks received 1.3 million, and a 1 million for water and wastewater projects, vehicles, equipment and other uses for the following parks: Rio Grande Nature Center State Park, Bluewater Lake State Park, Eagle Nest Lake State Park, El Vado Lake State Park, Heron Lake State Park, Conchas Lake State Park, Fenton Lake State Park, and Elephant Butte Lake State Park. Director C. Tafoya informed the Board that the Legislature passed a Bill for wildlife trafficking- illegal trafficking of endangered species.

2. Next Generation of Adventure Initiative Discussion:

Director Tafoya explained to the Board that this Next Generation of Adventure Initiative works to get more families and children out into the Parks. Director C. Tafoya informed the Board that Parks are working on an online system for self-pay kiosks.

Director C. Tafoya informed the Board that Pecos Canyon is up and running and there is a Memorandum of Agreement with the NM Game and Fish Department. A local superintendent was hired, and Director C. Tafoya discussed a Rapid Hire Event on March 13-14, 2020 in Pecos, NM to hire people on the spot. Director C. Tafoya discussed plans for an office at the Fish hatchery. Director C. Tafoya discussed interest to help maintain Monastery Lake. Director C. Tafoya informed the Board that NM State Parks is working with the Jemez Pueblo with regard to a cave that is in the area. Director C. Tafoya informed the Board that there will be staff at Pecos Canyon State Park in mid-April and that they will hold a public meeting.

3. Partnership with Office of the Outdoor Recreation:

Director C. Tafoya informed the Board that there are different funding streams to make donations to communities. Director C. Tafoya informed the Board that the Tourism Department is working on a destination road map. Director C. Tafoya discussed interest of an economic development and the Office of Outdoor Recreation with communities and equity funds from a nonprofit. Director C. Tafoya informed the Board that the funds will work like a grant program to help with community planning. Director C. Tafoya discussed that there are multiple funding opportunities like the Outdoor Equity Fund.

Director C. Tafoya discussed the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund managed by State Parks. Director C. Tafoya discussed the Outdoor Education Program. Member E. Everett discussed the Children's Bill of Rights and outdoor education programs.

4. Upcoming Events:

- March 7, 2020, Pancho Villa State Park – Camp Furlong Day
- May 2, 2020, Clayton Dinosaur Track Way - Name change
- May 9, 2020, Storrie Lake State Park - Reopening of dump station
- Hyde Memorial State Park – Photovoltaic energy conservation project
- Morphy Lake State Park - Ribbon cutting
- June 2020 - Prairie Dog Exhibit

5. Land Water Conservation Fund:

Director C. Tafoya provided a brief overview of the fund. Money will be distributed to communities and is hiring an LWCF coordinator to manage the program.

6. Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan:

Director C. Tafoya gave a brief overview of the plan. There is a Strategic 4-year plan with a stake holder meeting and community meetings. There will be different stakeholder groups and assistance from the PAB would be appreciated.

7. State Park Fees:

Director C. Tafoya informed the Board that State Parks is working on a fees study and is determining the need to charge visitors for day use. Director C. Tafoya discussed the Annual Camping Pass with the Board.

V. President's Report:

1. Committee discussion:

President S. Connealy had a discussion regarding the purpose of a committee and how committees are formed. An overview is given for each committee. The following committees are formed:

- a. **Climate Change** - Member J. Polich gave an overview of climate change. The Committee members are: J. Polich and J. Ossorio
- b. **Outdoor Education** - Committee members are: S. Connealy, E. Everett, S. Bestelmeyer, and Director C. Tafoya
- c. **Public/Private Partnerships** - Committee members are P. Killen, E. Everett, and S. Connealy
- d. **Law Enforcement** - Committees members are A. Martinez

VI. Closing Discussion:

1. Other members reports/ Comments:

The Board requested the following items be discussed at the next meeting: Parks fees and SCORP

2. New Business:

There was nothing to report under this item.

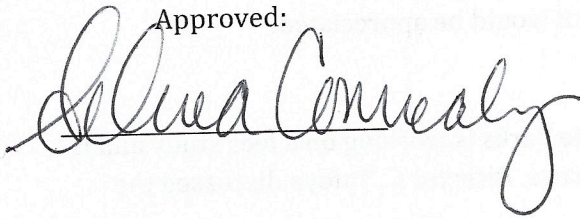
3. Next Meeting:

Tentative date set for May 12, 2020 at the Rio Grande Nature Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

4. Adjournment:

There being no further business, member P. Killen put forth the motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by member J. Ossorio, and the motion passed unanimously at 03:11 p.m. (MST).

Approved:



Date:

5/27/20