

SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES
(Action Items Displayed in Italics)
THURSDAY, January 9, 2020 – 7.00 p.m.
OC Parks Headquarters

I. ROLL CALL

Chair Posey and Commissioners Koos, Hanson, Shawver and McCusker were present. Commissioner Muller arrived prior to item IV.B.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

At this time, members of the public may address the Commission on items of public interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission, and are not contained in tonight's agenda.

No comments were received from the public.

III. CONSENT CALENDAR (Item A)

The following items on the consent calendar will be approved by one motion unless a Commission member requests to pull a specific item.

A. Approve Commission minutes for November 7, 2019.

Motion: Commissioner McCusker

2nd: Commissioner Koos

Approved 5-0

IV. DISCUSSION CALENDAR MATTERS (Items A – D)

A. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND TRAILS SUBCOMMITTEE ALTERNATE CHAIR

The bylaws of the Commission require that the Commission elect a Chair and Vice-Chair for the calendar year at the first meeting of that year. Additionally, the Trails Subcommittee Alternate Chair seat has been recently vacated. Nomination and appointments are therefore scheduled for:

1. Chair for Calendar Year 2020
2. Vice-Chair for Calendar Year 2020
3. Trails Subcommittee Alternate Chair

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Nominate and select Commissioners for the Chair, Vice-Chair, and Trails Subcommittee Alternate Chair positions.

*Motion: Chair Posey nominated Commissioner Koos as Chair
2nd: Commissioner McCusker
Approved 5-0*

*Motion: Chair Koos nominated Commissioner Muller as Vice-Chair
2nd: Commissioner McCusker
Approved 5-0*

*Motion: Commissioner Posey nominated Commissioner Shawver as Trails
Subcommittee Alternate Chair
2nd: Commissioner McCusker
Approved 5-0*

B. ELECTRIC BICYCLES WITHIN CONSERVATION LANDS

OC Parks is in need of clarification from US Fish and Wildlife (USFW) and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) regarding use of electric bicycles on lands managed by OC Parks that are in the Natural Community Conservation Plan/Habitat Conservation Plan (NCCP/HCP) and/or the Southern HCP reserve systems. OC Parks has prepared a letter to USFW/CDFW both seeking guidance on this matter and outlining a process to determine whether and where ebikes might be permitted.

Stacy Blackwood, OC Parks Director, provided information and answered questions.

The following individuals provided comments regarding ebikes:

*David Browning: Think MTB member
Michael Wellborn: Friends of Harbors Beaches and Parks member
Dan Eitman: SHARE MTB member
Victoria Coonradt: City of Orange resident
Mike Franze: Fullerton Bicycles owner
Scott Thomas: Sea and Sage Audobon Society member
Todd McMiniment: City of Irvine resident
Manuel Doblado : Think MTB member
Mark Helms: Giant Bicycle employee
Gary Cogorno : Laguna Cyclery
David Hillman: Orange Park Acres Adopt a Trail member
Amy Stonich: Project Bike Love member
Eric Shellow: Electric Mountain Bike Association member
Mike Soursby: SHARE MTB, Think MTB member
Jim Foley: Orange County Mountain Bike Association member
Kay Monteleone: City of Orange resident
Robert Loeffler: City of Silverado resident
Will Skeeters: Two Wheels One Planet owner*

Al Boneta: City of Irvine resident

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Concur with distribution of the letter to the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife regarding use of electric bicycles in the Central/Coastal Natural Community Conservation Plan/Habitat Conservation Plan (NCCP/HCP) and/or the Southern HCP reserve systems.

Commissioner McCusker made a motion to send the letter to US Fish and Wildlife Service and California Department of Fish and Wildlife with amendments to specify class of ebikes in the letter.

2nd: Commissioner Posey

Approved 6-0

C. 2019 OC PARKS SPECIAL EVENTS RECAP

A presentation will be provided by staff highlighting events conducted by OC Parks in 2019.

Kristi Bergstrom, Special Events Manager, provided information and answered questions.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receive and file.

D. OC ZOO LARGE MAMMAL EXHIBIT CONSTRUCTION

A presentation will be provided by staff on the construction project for the new OC Zoo large mammal exhibit.

Cecelia Varela, Capital Improvement Division Manager, provided information and answered questions.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receive and file.

V. OC PARKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Stacy Blackwood, OC Parks Director, provided updates and information and answered Commissioners' questions.

A. PARK MASTER PLAN DEVELOPMENT: 2020 WORKSHOPS

1. Crawford Canyon Park: Thursday, 1/16/2020, 6:30pm – 8:30pm at Irvine Regional Park, Soda Fountain Pavilion
http://www.ocparks.com/about/projects/crawford_canyon
2. Capistrano Beach: estimated late February 2020
3. Mile Square Regional Park: estimated March/April 2020

B. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS – TOPICS OF INTEREST

C. UPCOMING OC PARKS EVENTS

Irvine Regional Park Fishing Derby – Irvine Regional Park – Saturday, January 18, 7:00am – 11:00am

- You and your kids are invited to a fun morning of fishing at Irvine Regional Park. Adults will not be permitted to fish until the event is over.
- Please bring your own fishing pole and bait. The lake will be stocked with rainbow trout.
- Trophies will be given to the participants who catch the largest fish.
- Registration is required at the OC Parks check-in table on the day of the event.

Star Light, Star Bright Night Hike – Carbon Canyon Regional Park – Saturday, January 18, 5:30pm – 8:00pm

- Come see Carbon Canyon Regional Park in in the dark. Park rangers will lead starlit hikes showcasing the natural wonders that can only be seen at night.
- The event will include hot cocoa and cookies, a live animal presentation and a hike through the Redwood Grove.
- Wear closed-toe shoes and dress warmly.
- Registration is required. Event and parking are free.

Wild Tales – Upper Newport Bay – Friday, January 24, 10:30am – 11:30am

- Bring your kids to learn about nature and enjoy the outdoors.
- The family event will include storytelling, a guided nature walk, and arts and crafts.
- Wear closed-toe shoes and clothing suitable for outdoors. Strollers are not recommended on the trails.
- Registration is required, \$5 fee per child will be collected at the event.

Trail Stewardship – Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park – Saturday, January 25, 8:00am – 12:00pm

- Get up close and personal with the trail you use with some FUN hard work.
- Whatever your skill level is, there is a job to do: clearing drains of brush; building “gargoyles” to better define the trail; moving dirt or building an in-slope turn.

- We will be using tools such as loppers, picks, shovels, and McLeods to restore features that protect the trail and/or build new features to improve trail sustainability.
- Snacks will be provided. Expect to hike up to 4 miles during our morning.
- Online registration is required.

Scales, Feathers, & Fur Preschool Program – OC Zoo – Thursday, January 30, 10:15am – 11:15am

- Come learn all about animals covered with scales, feathers, or fur. Class includes hands-on learning, fun crafts, and meeting zoo animals up close.
- Ages 3-4 years old only. Parent must accompany child for duration of program.
- Registration is required, \$5 fee per child will be collected at the event. Parking: \$3 per vehicle.

VI. COMMISSION COMMENTS AND REPORT

At this time Commissioners may comment on agenda or non-agenda matters and ask questions of or give direction to staff, provided that no action may be taken on off-agenda items unless authorized by law.

VII. ADJOURNMENT 9:30 pm