

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**VENTURA COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION (PAC)**  
**Regular Meeting**

Hall of Administration, Atlantic Conference Room  
800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura  
Monday September 8, 2008  
3:00 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Proceedings called to order at 3:03 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Commissioners: Paul Nicholson, Paul Rockenstein, Harvey Paskowitz  
Barbara Kennedy

Staff: Ron Van Dyck, Theresa Lubin, Pam Gallo

Guests: None

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Paskowitz presides as Chair. Minutes of March 10, 2008 were approved.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

None

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

Rincon. Recent news article regarding RV parking problems. Letter received in the Parks office containing inaccurate statements; i.e., lack of enforcement and compassion from the Parks Department. This is not true. Parks has limited capability. Most noted incidents targeting RV'ers happened after-hours. Campers arrived late in the afternoon when staff was off site. The whole set of events came about during the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend. It was very warm and we had an overflow of RV'ers. 350 tickets were written that weekend with another approximate 200 this past Labor Day weekend. Lack of enforcement was not an issue. Hours have been adjusted – which will not be continued through the winter months. Parking problems only several times a year. Staff coming in early during the summer to look for anyone violating the pre-6am check in time. Parking authority is shared between Sheriff, CHP & County Parks. Another major change is in the afternoon hours. Staff is now there until 6pm on Fridays and Saturdays. It is vital to keep the area home owners happy, plus control the

cones & tape for public safety. There are currently 2 park ordinances; one is for the Rincon parkway specifically; and the other is a general park ordinance that covers the remaining parks. Recently 2 letters have been sent to the Superior County requesting an increase in parking fines. Parking in most areas is from 6a.m. to 7p.m. A new zone of 9pm to 7a.m. has been added specifically for homeowners. Unauthorized parking in that zone will now be a \$175 ticket, if courts approve the increase. Other parking citations have been increased from \$40 to \$90 and have shown a 61% decrease in the number of citations issued. Citations for the other areas on the Rincon will stay \$90. Ticket revenue should stay the same – with the number of tickets being written decreasing. Enforceability is the key. Parking cannot be restricted for RV's only.

Staff is working on a parking plan requested by the district supervisor. Engineers have visited the site and will submit a report. The area is currently the responsibility of the state, since it is a state highway. If the County posts any additional signage regarding parking instructions, the responsibility for any incidents becomes the counties. The engineer's report is needed first, to study the design of the parking areas and submit recommendations. The area may need to be asphalted and swiped to meet safety regulations. In that case, it is very possible that we could lose 40%-60% of the parking footprint due to the need to zone out some of the current parking areas in order to meet safety regulations. There have been some requests for increasing the space size to accommodate the larger RV's. 'Saving spaces' with a private vehicle is not allowed. The RV must be in the space at check-in time. Groups camping together are allowed to park up against each other, with cars parked together perpendicular. It is safer arrangement and saves space. Most spaces are 20 to 25 feet wide with a 6 foot buffer in between. Supervisor Bennett has been informed of the proposed changes.

#### Schedule Change.

Ron recommends the commission meet quarterly instead of every other month. Schedule to be revised based on the document that needs to be reviewed – the rent & fee schedule; which goes to the board usually in late February. The proposed meeting schedule could be February – May – August – November. Information for the rent/fee schedule can be forwarded in January so commission members are able to review before the February meeting. This would be a change in the by-laws and be an action item for next meeting. If there are any special needs that arise in between scheduled meetings, there would still be that ability to call a special meeting.

7. **PARK PROJECT UPDATES** (Theresa Lubin)  
Wrapping up most of our projects. All that remains are Foster Park & Santa Rosa. Several improvements that we'd like to do but need grant funding for.
  - Santa Rosa on hold due to nesting season of endangered birds.
    - reported problem of arundell
    - recent spraying – all project area arundell free
    - Theresa to notify Watershed about the issue
  - Piru - plans for basketball court relocation and restoration
  - Soule Park – parking area to be striped, signage installed and have curb cut to ease accessibility. Also will remove bark in entrance areas and add fertilizer. Currently no complaints received for dog park – although utilization is not as good as hoped. Parks web site currently doesn't include the dog park, but the site is being updated.
    - other updates to the web site include electronic reservations
  - Cam Regional - still making progress, tying up loose ends with attorneys and environmental issues. When documents returned to us, forward MOU to State. No dates set for going to the board (will require 2 dates)
8. **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**  
Bob Purdum brought up the possibility of towing if needed at Rincon. Towing is an option – but a last resort. Sheriff used if needed. When necessary - post a 72-hour tow notice. Immediate towing is unusual.
9. **STAFF COMMENTS**  
None
10. **ADJOURNMENT**  
Meeting adjourned at 3:43 p.m.