

SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES
(Action Items Displayed in Italics)
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2021 — 7:00 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL

Chair Muller, Vice-Chair Koos, and Commissioners Ashland, Wellborn, Hanson, and Shawver were present. Commissioner McCusker was absent.

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.

Cary Babrowsky, requested that additional pickleball courts be installed in County parks and to replace extra tennis courts with pickleball courts.

John Squicciarini, requested that additional pickleball courts be installed at Laguna Niguel Regional Park.

Ed Maurer, representing Sierra Sage, spoke about the closure of the trail on the bank of Aliso Creek in Aliso and Woods Canyon Regional Park and requested that the trail be reopened, he inquired as to why the former dirt road is covered with decomposed granite, and shared concerns regarding non-compliance with a regulatory permit requirement.

Steve Feinberg, requested that additional pickleball courts be installed in County parks and to replace extra tennis courts with pickleball courts.

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 4, 2021.

*Motion: Commissioner Hanson
2nd: Commissioner Wellborn
Approved: 6-0*

IV. DISCUSSION CALENDAR (Items A-D)

A. IRVINE LAKE REAL ESTATE INSTRUMENTS

The County of Orange ("County"), Serrano Water District, Irvine Ranch Water District, and The Irvine Company are working on real estate instruments related to Irvine Lake, primarily to memorialize arrangements already set forth in an item that was brought to the County Board of Supervisors in 2014. As part of this transaction, easements between the County and the Water Districts to memorialize existing access and an

assignment to transfer water recreation rights from The Irvine Company to the County are proposed.

Joanne Veedor, OC Parks Interim Deputy Director, provided an introduction to the item and answered the Commissioners' questions.

Mat Miller, County Chief Real Estate Officer, provided background information and provided details relating to the transaction and answered the Commissioners' questions.

Tom Starnes, OC Parks Director, answered the Commissioners' questions.

Michael Haubert, County Counsel, answered the Commissioners' questions.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

Receive and file.

B. PARK RANGER ACADEMY PRESENTATION

Staff will provide a presentation that details the recruitment and training process for Park Rangers.

Pam Passow, OC Parks Deputy Director, provided an introduction to the Park Ranger Academy Presentation and answered the Commissioners' questions.

Zachary Salazar, OC Parks Supervising Park Ranger, gave a presentation on the Park Ranger Academy and answered the Commissioners' questions.

Tom Starnes, OC Parks Director, answered the Commissioners' questions.

Park Ranger Academy 8 Recruits introduced themselves to the Commissioners.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

Receive and file.

C. AMENDMENTS TO THE COMMISSION BYLAWS REGARDING COMMISSION MEETING TIME CHANGE AND VOTING MAJORITY REQUIREMENTS

Amendment of the bylaws to change the meeting time for future meetings from 7 p.m. to 6 p.m. is proposed, following Commission discussion at its November 2021 meeting. Addition of a majority vote provision to the bylaws,

which is consistent with the County Board-approved Bylaws Template, is also proposed.

Joanne Veedor, OC Parks Interim Deputy Director, provided background information on the item and answered the Commissioners' questions.

Tom Starnes, OC Parks Director, answered the Commissioners' questions.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

- a. Approve amendment of the Orange County Parks Commission Bylaws to change the meeting time to 6:00 p.m.
- b. Approve amendment of the Orange County Parks Commission Bylaws to add a voting majority provision.

Motion: Chair Muller

2nd: Commissioner Hanson

Approved: 6-0

D. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2022

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.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

Nominate and select Commissioners to serve in the following positions for Calendar Year 2022:

1. Orange County Parks Commission Chair.
2. Orange County Parks Commission Vice-Chair.

Nominee: Chair – Vice-Chair Koos

Motion: Chair Muller

2nd: Commissioner Wellborn

Approved: 6-0

Nominee: Vice-Chair – Commissioner Shawver

Motion: Commissioner Hanson

2nd: Chair Koos

Approved: 6-0

V. OC PARKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Tom Starnes, OC Parks Director, provided updates and answered the Commissioners' questions.

A. DEPARTMENT UPDATES

B. UPCOMING OC PARKS EVENTS

Keep it Wild Stewardship Event — Laguna Coast Wilderness Park — Friday, February 4 — 2:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m.

- Join Laguna Canyon Foundation and OC Parks at one of our habitat restoration stewardship events in Laguna Coast Wilderness Park as we learn and work together to create a healthier habitat for the native plants and wildlife that call the canyon their home.
- Depending on the time of year, volunteers will assist with various stewardship activities, including removal of non-native plants, seed collection, and/or planting of native plants.
- No experience is necessary, and all tools will be provided. Come out and join the team to help restore the wild lands we all enjoy!
- Online reservations are required prior to the event.
- For questions call 949-497-8324 on weekdays or 949-923-2235 on weekends.
- Parking is free for Keep it Wild volunteers.

Wilderness Access Day: Limestone Canyon — Irvine Ranch Open Space — Saturday, February 5 — 8 a.m.–2 p.m.

- Start your weekend off by exploring numerous opportunities found throughout magnificent Limestone Canyon.
- Designated trails will be open for self-guided trail use in OC Parks' Irvine Ranch Open Space.
- Trail routes vary in distance and level of difficulty with choices ranging from easy one-hour walks to strenuous 15-mile cardio treks.
- Whether traveling by feet, hooves or wheels, Wilderness Access Day in Limestone Canyon is a treasure waiting to be discovered by hikers, equestrians and mountain bikers alike.
- Minors, ages 18 and under, must be accompanied by an adult.
- Adult mountain bikers and equestrians are required to wear helmets. Minors are required to wear helmets per state law.
- Inclement weather or fire danger will cause the program to be cancelled.

History Hike: Irvine Park's 125th Birthday — Irvine Regional Park — Sunday, February 13 — 9 a.m.–10:30 a.m.

- Celebrate Irvine Regional Park’s 125th birthday all through 2022!
- Each month we will take a deeper look into California’s first County Park and discover the fascinating details that make Irvine Regional Park unique to Orange County.
- Topics will range from native flora and fauna, Early Inhabitants, and architectural design to military use, ranching days, and the future of Irvine Regional Park.
- In February, we will discuss the park's Early Inhabitants and Tribal History.
- This walking history tour is free though there is a Park Entrance Fee per vehicle.
- Registration is encouraged.

Beginning Archery Class — Mile Square Regional Park — Saturday, February 19 — 9 a.m.–10:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.–11:45 a.m.

- Join OC Parks staff and volunteers for a beginning archery course for first-time archers.
- This course will include safety instruction and provide you with an introduction to the sport of archery.
- All archery equipment will be provided.
- Registration is required.
- Event and parking are both free.
- Rain will cancel the event.

Wildflowers of Upper Newport Bay — Upper Newport Bay Nature Preserve — Sunday, February 27 — 10 a.m.–12 p.m.

- The saying goes “April showers bring May flowers” but in our case it really should be “January showers lead to flowers in February, March and April.” Come explore the bluffs above Upper Newport Bay and learn about all the different wildflowers which grow there!
- Participants can expect to walk 2–3 miles over uneven terrain.
- Minors aged 16 and younger must have legal guardian present at all times.
- Walk-ins are welcome, but space is limited, so registration is suggested.
- Rain will cancel the event.
- To register visit www.letsgooutside.org

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 8:32 p.m.