

Open Forum 4-30-13

On Thursday, April 18 I attended a Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. Commissioner Bob Smart had sent an email to all of the Commissioners regarding an item on the agenda. He wanted the item pulled from the agenda and then went on to share his personal opinion to the issue along with giving direction in regards to the item.

During the adoption of the agenda, (which along with Public Comment had been left off of the agenda) the Commission decided to leave the item on the agenda as a discussion item only. Then when the item came up they asked the presenter of the item to go ahead and make his presentation. After hearing the item the commission made a recommendation and a motion.

I protested the attendance of Bob Smart remaining at the hearing after violating the brown act in sending a chain email to the rest of the commission giving direction and opinion. The commission continued without any discussion of protocol. The commission seemed confused and easily influence by the misdirection.

I feel that the Board of Supervisors needs to revisit the makeup of the Parks and Recreation Commission. Rather than putting a member from each district on the Commission I would suggest you assign specialists in the different areas recreation, such as equestrian, rafters, hikers, dirt bikes, skaters, bicyclists, 4x4, mountain bikers, excursion train, golfers, etc., appointed by other members of that specialty. Then assign the commission with clear cut rules and regulations that the members can follow. Model this commission after the structure of the Agricultural Commission. Then eliminate all other County sponsored recreation commissions and committees that are creating conflicts and repetition in which the public is being unnecessarily subjected to.