



Donna Mullens <donna.mullens@edcgov.us>

Fwd: Trying to send comments to Parks and Rec. Commission

1 message

Vickie Sanders <vickie.sanders@edcgov.us>
To: Donna Mullens <donna.mullens@edcgov.us>

Tue, Jan 16, 2018 at 7:47 AM

We need to add this to public comments.

Vickie Sanders
Parks Manager
County of El Dorado
Chief Administrative Office
530-621-7538
FAX: 530-642-0301



----- Forwarded message -----

From: **The BOSFOUR** <bosfour@edcgov.us>
Date: Mon, Jan 15, 2018 at 2:30 PM
Subject: Re: Trying to send comments to Parks and Rec. Commission
To: hilde schweitzer <hilde@amriver.us>, EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>
Cc: Brenda Bailey <brenda.bailey@edcgov.us>, Vickie Sanders <vickie.sanders@edcgov.us>, Laura Schwartz <laura.schwartz@edcgov.us>

Hilde,
My office will look into the communication and contact issue that you have identified.
For now, and anytime you are in doubt, please send your communication to Clerk of the Board (edc.cob@edcgov.us).
Jim, Please distribute the the Parks and Recreation Commission. Thanks.
Happy New Year
Best, M

On Mon, Jan 15, 2018 at 1:00 PM, hilde schweitzer <hilde@amriver.us> wrote:

Supervisor Ranalli,
I am trying to send the following comments to the Parks and Recreation Commission for their Thurs Jan 18th meeting. There is no email for any of the commissioners on the website for the Commission, nor is there an email for anyone at the Parks and Trails management. I often hear how there is not any public participation for the Parks and Trails Department and the lack of contact information is one good reason to discourage it. If you could please forward these comments for me I would appreciate it.
Thank you,
Hilde

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Jan. 18, 2018

Comments on item #3-Rubicon Trail 2017 Annual Report

Hilde Schweitzer

Let me preface these comments by saying that my normal means of enjoying wilderness type trails is self propelled—either on foot or by mt. bike, so I am a bit shocked reading the amount of time and money spent on maintaining the Rubicon Trail as reported in the this Annual Report.

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A quick addition of some of the budgeted items, since there were no comprehensive totals provided in the report, comes to several hundred thousand dollars; including 2 deputies that patrol the trail in their state of the art Jeep, helicopter services to assist with rock and debris transport, septic servicing, close to \$80,000 for calendars and bandanas (!), and only around \$12000 for: "two full time employees who (sic) focus is to educate the public on proper use, to provide information on trail conditions, to assist with broken down vehicles, assist the Sheriff's as needed and to be the ambassadors of the trail."

Also of interest is the fact that these resources were allocated to support a visitor total of 2156 vehicles with 5005 total users for the season. These users generated a total of 320 lbs. of contaminated soil and 99 lbs. of oily debris. There were 102 "warnings" given to these individual or groups, with 4 cite/arrests.

In contrast to the above time and money, the River Management Program for El Dorado County receives no general fund support or money, no matching grant funds, and is almost entirely self funded by a \$2 user fee from Outfitters who use the river as a business venue. There were approximately 105,641 people who used the South Fork American River this summer during the managed season. There were 2 full time staff to manage the river and the river program. The money spent on managing the river for the entire 2016-17 year for this program was \$159,981.

There appears to be an incredible disparity between priorities for Parks and Recreation and the monies spent for both of these programs seem unjustifiably disproportionate to use.

Like I said in my preface, I know nothing about the Rubicon program except from what I have learned in the report, but I do know quite a bit about the River Management Program and find it disheartening to learn how much money has been spent, and continues to be budgeted, for a resource that benefits so few individuals.

The resource is indeed a gem, but to allot so much money and effort to a venue that very few residents and visitors will ever have the opportunity to use or even see seems unfair at best, and a tremendous waste of valuable money at worst.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the topic,
Hilde Schweitzer

hilde schweitzer
hilde@amriver.us