

El Dorado County Parks Commission  
El Dorado County Center - Placerville  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
October 1, 2003.

**BASS LAKE ACTION COMMITTEE  
REPORT TO THE STEERING COMMITTEE**

Joe D'Amico, Tom Stuchell and John Thomson represented BLAC at the El Dorado County Parks Commission regular monthly meeting held at the County Center in Placerville on October 1, 2003. The meeting started shortly at 10 o'clock. In addition to park commissioners Doyle, Ray, and Bob, there were present George Sanders, Interim Director of the General Services Department; Michael Gray, Airports, Parks & Grounds Manager; Jody Gray, Fairgrounds Manager; and Gary Hyden from the Parks Department.

**Phase I EIR — Document Request Status**

During the public comments portion of the meeting, John asked Michael Gray if there was any progress in obtaining for us a copy of the Phase I Environmental Assessment that was performed in connection with the transfer of the park property. Mike replied that he had asked Steve Peterson of Environmental Stewardship & Planning for a copy. Steve could not find one, but Mike said that they were sure they could obtain a copy from the consultant who originally performed the study. Mike promised to get us a copy within a week.

**School Ball Fields — Inventory and Availability**

Joe reminded Michael Gray that he had raised the issue of utilizing ball fields that were available on school grounds in July, and that the county had promised to perform a survey to inventory available facilities at schools in the county. After some discussion, it was decided that the county would conduct a survey of schools in the county to determine the availability, cost, and conditions on use, of school-owned ball fields. Doyle agreed to perform the task, and said he hoped to be able to report back to the commission at next month's meeting.

**Bass Lake Park Draft EIR — Status**

During the Parks Project Update section, Gary Hyden reported that the Draft EIR for Bass Lake Park was expected to be completed in December 2003. Phase One construction is scheduled to be completed on Spring of 2004. When John asked for clarification of the terms, Gary replied that the timing on the construction would depend on the requirements set forth in the EIR. Gary also passed out copies of a memo entitled "Bass Lake Regional Park — Summary of Scoping Comments and Issues" (marked DRAFT) from the draft EIR preparation consultants, Environmental Stewardship & Planning, to the county. Anyone wishing a copy should contact John.

## Fairgrounds Ball Fields — Report and Status

The subject of County Fairgrounds ball fields was an agenda item. Ms Jody Gray, manager of the County Fairgrounds, explained that long ago the state had purchased the county fairgrounds property and had deeded it to the county for the use of the fairground association, which is a non-profit organization which runs the county fair. That is why the fairgrounds controls those fields instead of the park department. She said that there were three ball fields at the fairgrounds: one called Doug Walker Field, and two others (one for hardball, one for softball) in the back of the grounds. It should be mentioned that Ms. Gray has not been fairgrounds manager for very long.

The front field is under the control of the Timber Little League, who somehow considers it “their” ball field. They control the use of the field, and it remains to be seen if they play any games there, or simply schedule the field out to other teams, and if they charge for use of the field. This circumstance did not sit well with the park commissioners. The circumstances surrounding control of the field will be looked into. Jody stated that the fairgrounds management would have no problem letting the parks department take charge of the ball field for the use of the greater community.

The two back ball fields have lights but are disused and are in disrepair, because they are used for race track parking during the auto races at the fairgrounds. The races are a money-maker for the county, so it was felt that parking on the fields was all right. However, Jody felt that there was an alternative location nearby that could be improved and used for race parking, leaving the fields available for ball playing. The commission agreed to work with Jody to free up the ball fields for ball playing by supporting a plan to relocate the race parking.

## Invitation to Ball Game — Night Lights and Noise

Park commissioner Ray Cherney extended an invitation to BLAC representatives to attend a night ball game at Pioneer Park to observe the lights, noise and traffic associated with the ball game. He feels sure that our fears will be allayed if we see an actual game. He will contact John sometime soon, and we will all have an opportunity to go.