

Jenny Smith, Chair

February 27, 2014

9265 Litchfield Court

Elk Grove, CA 95624

RE: American River Parkway Advisory Committee

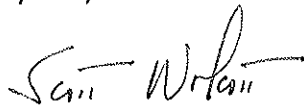
Dear Ms. Smith:

I was privileged to be invited to your meeting February 21 to support the proposal for a public/non-profit approach to a major upgrade of Discovery Park. However I left the meeting astounded at the tolerance of your Committee members towards the behavior of the ARNHA representative. We have all been exposed to careless and vitriolic public testimony, and as a Board, Commission or Committee, one has limited control over misrepresentation in those situations. Official appointments to County sanctioned bodies however, must be held to a higher, or at least minimum, standard of behavior.

Your ARNHA representative took several minutes of your agenda item on Paddle Boarding to publicly accuse the applicant, and the Parks Director of lying, being disingenuous, not performing their respective jobs and duties, and summarily being unethical both professionally and personally. When the actual facts were disclosed in a rebuttal, and it was abundantly clear that your commission member was not remotely aware of the facts, she made no effort to either apologize or retract her accusations.

Based on their history of public service and venerable reputation in the community, I am particularly surprised that ARNHA would generate such slanderous comments without some dedicated fact checking in advance. Given the outcome, I would *hope* that they would issue a very public apology to both the applicant and the Parks Director. From the Committee standpoint, I would *expect* that any minutes of the meeting expunge those comments, and that the Committee would take a very deliberate action to either sanction or remove the responsible party. A municipally sanctioned committee cannot allow such behavior to occur and maintain any level of public trust.

Very Truly Yours



Scott Wolcott

Visitor