

**RIO LINDA ELVERTA RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT
810 Oak Lane, Rio Linda, California 95673**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
February 17, 2021**

Call to Order

Chairperson Becky McDaniel called the meeting to order on Wednesday, February 17, 2021 at 6:31pm. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, this meeting was conducted by Zoom videoconference. Vice Chairperson Stacey Bastian and Directors Jerry Huffhines, Charlea Moore and Lisa Morris were on the videoconference. Staff members on the call included District Administrator Mike Heller, Administrative Analyst Deann Cater, and Parks Supervisor Tim Marble.

Public Comments

There were no public comments this month.

Presentations

There were no presentations this month.

Written Correspondence

There were five items presented as written correspondence this month.

Consent Calendar

There were no consent calendar items pulled for discussion.

Motion No. 1

It was moved by Director Moore and Director Morris seconded the motion to approve the consent calendar as follows: Received and filed: (1) Park Police Report (January 2021); Approve; (2) Minutes of January 20, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting; (3) Cash Disbursements, January 31, 2021; (4) Finance Report, January 31, 2021; (5) Park Maintenance Monthly Report, January 2021; (6) Recreation Monthly Report, January 2021; (7) Administrator's Report, January 2021; (8) Approval of Resolution 2021-04 adopting an amendment to the District's Policy and Procedure Manual – Full Time and Regular Part Time Retirement; (9) Adoption of Resolution 2021-05 approving the District Employee participation in a 457 Retirement Plan. Motion carried: Ayes; (5) Bastian, Huffhines, McDaniel, Moore, and Morris; Noes; (0), Abstain; (0), Absent; (0).

General Business

Agenda Item No. 10: Discussion of District Vehicles and Replacement Schedule.

District Administrator Heller this item and commented that to date, the District did not have a rotation schedule for mechanical equipment and simply looked to replace when a vehicle or piece of equipment was beyond repair. The attached spreadsheet shows a list of the District's current vehicles and equipment with proposed dates for replacement.

Chairperson McDaniel liked the concept of the rotation schedule but suggested that any replacement vehicle purchase that is budgeted should be done after January of the fiscal year to ensure that the fiscal budget remains on track.

Director Morris stated that this is a good idea for the District. The schedule and list is much needed to see how long the current vehicles and equipment have been in our possession.

Director Moore asked for clarification from Chairperson McDaniel's thought on waiting until after January. It was explained that the suggestion was to purchase any new vehicles or equipment in the second half of the fiscal year (after January of the fiscal year). She believes that the plan is a very good idea.

Director Huffhines believes that this is an excellent plan and as long as the dollars are available in the fund balance the District should proceed with the plan.

District Administrator Heller responded to the comments by stating that the plan would be included with the writing on the preliminary budget for fiscal year 2021-22.

Board of Director Committee Minutes

Administration and Finance Committee – Minutes are included. Spoke about the vehicle rotation list and answered questions on the District Finances. Director Moore recapped the meeting for the Board.

Planning Committee – Had a really good meeting with participants from Sac County Regional Parks, Park Rangers, Sacramento Sheriff's, and the Department of Transportation. The bulk of the meeting centered around Clifford Patton's letter and concerns about the Sacramento Northern Bike Trail. Chairperson McDaniel invited the Patton's to speak.

Clifford Patton introduced himself and described the challenges that are being faced from the dirt bikes and ATV's on the Bike path, which are all detailed in his letter. Regional Park Ranger Perez did visit with them. He did say that he would ask the property owner for permission to approach the bikers to ask them to disperse.

Nita Smith, one of the people who co-wrote the letter. She has experienced the danger of being on the trail when the motorized vehicles come by. This is occurring on a daily basis. She is asking the Park District to reach out to the property owners through whichever agency we can as the residents do not have the same resources. The residents are available to meet and provide further details as to where this is occurring. They feel that they need to reach out and seek support.

Chairperson McDaniel responded to the concerns with an update from the Planning Committee meeting. We all realize that the 311 system is inundated with calls and has not been as effective as designed.

District Administrator Heller provided an update since the meeting with the response from DOT to the Patton's. DOT has contracted with the Park Rangers for law enforcement, but the contract is just under 1000 hours per year and currently the Rangers are spending more time than that on the trails. The challenge that we have is that it isn't the Park District's trail even though it goes through two of our parks. The recommendation is to continue to call 311 to track times of day when the occurrences are taking place.

Vice Chairperson Bastian thanked Mr. Patton and Ms. Smith for participating in the meeting. She always like to have a resolution for a problem and right now there is no resolution for this issue. We know that 311 isn't currently working as designed. She also stated that law enforcement is overloaded right now. She hopes some progress will be made because of our meeting. She knows that it shed some new light on the situation.

Chairperson McDaniel did say that DOT and Sac County Regional Parks have spoken about placing additional signage on the trail with proper contact information on it.

Director Huffhines asked if this was where the trail was close to Rio Linda Blvd. Mr. Patton told him that it was on the trail north of Q St. The actual property in question belongs to Beazer Homes.

Director Moore commented that this is a ticklish situation. We don't condone it, but, unfortunately the Park District does not have jurisdiction on private property. She suggested that Mr. Patton, Ms. Smith, and the neighbors hire a class action attorney and file a claim against Beazer Homes.

Mr. Patton stated that they will continue to work with the Park Rangers.

Chairperson McDaniel reminded everybody that the Bike Trail is in the County and the fight is with Sacramento County DOT. She recommended that the Patton's attend a Board of Supervisors meeting and fill out the form to address the Supervisors in public comment.

Director Morris suggested that the Patton's reach out to the Sacramento County Assistant District Attorney to see if they write a letter to the property owner. She offered to forward the contact information to the District Administrator to forward to the Patton's.

Safety and Security Committee – Met on February 3. It was a good meeting. Director Morris provided a re-cap of the meeting.

Director Moore commented on the human waste being deposited in the park trash cans. She stated that this is unacceptable and a continuing health hazard. She is very concerned about this continuing. We should make a lot of noise with the Health Department.

Chairperson McDaniel mentioned that these issues were also brought up at the Park Planning Committee meeting. Both Liz Bellas (Sac County Regional Parks) and Vance Jarrard (Supervisor Frost's office) both stated that they would reach out Environmental Health about the human waste issue. We are all upset that the waste fees were increased by 100% with the dump. A request was also made at the meeting to reduce the dump fees for public agencies.

Vice Chairperson Bastian commented that it appears that the Rio Linda Elverta community seems to be forgotten. There is an excess of waste, needles, trash, etc. and this has been increasing since the beginning of November.

Chairperson McDaniel asked the District Administrator and Board what we thought would happen if we called County Health and stated that our staff is not trained to pick up human waste and for them to come out and deal with it. District Administrator Heller reminded that currently this was being dumped in our trash containers. He did reach out to Environmental Health and discussed it with them, and their recommendation was to notify 311. We have to call 311 as the complaint cannot be filed on-line. 311 was not very responsive to the District as they stated that they do not remove environmental waste. We responded that we weren't asking for it to be removed but simply filing a complaint.

Firehouse Committee – Met on February 8. Director Morris recapped the meeting and mentioned that Supervisor Frost attended the meeting. She spoke a lot of the Big Day of Giving (BDOG)

which takes place on May 6, 2021. She also spoke about the restoration crew finding the location of former truck #8 and it can be purchased if we desire it. Also, if we do get truck #8, we do have room to store it at the firehouse, which we do.

Director Huffhines mentioned that the crew may have a doner and would ask either the Park District or the Fire District to take ownership of it. He is also excited for BDOG due to Supervisor Frost's excitement for the project.

Dry Creek Committee – Did not meet

LAFCo Committee – Met in February, but it was a live meeting and not via electronic communications. Director Moore did not get the notice about that so was unable to attend.

Board of Director Comments

Director Moore spoke about the Sutter Pointe Wastewater Master Plan (written correspondence) and is concerned about the proposed disruption on Rio Linda Blvd and M St. and the disruption at the Arches. It is her understanding that Sacramento County has nothing to do with this project. Should we send a letter to our Board of Supervisors to ask what is being done about this? She thanked Staff for their continued work (Deann with the finances and Tim and his crew for the Parks) especially with what is taking place with the waste.

Chairperson McDaniel asked if the District Administrator would contact the County to see what is happening with the Wastewater project.

Vice Chairperson Bastian thanked Director Moore for mentioning the wastewater line. It is her understanding that it is a limited direct line – so no hook-ups for us locally. Sacramento County has their hands in this project, and nobody has spoken to our residents about it. She is hopeful for a letter to the Board of Supervisors as she is also concerned about the disruption with the road construction and patching of them. She spoke briefly about the Planning Committee meeting and is saddened that our community is becoming a dump site. Even with COVID, this is unacceptable, and the 311 system is not working. She thanked the Green Acres 4H Club for the Valentine's tree decorations at Depot Park. She also thanked the Staff for their continued good work.

Director Huffhines stated that everything was covered. He reminded the Parks crew to stay safe on the job and thanked the rest of the Staff. He appreciates all that is being done.

Director Morris agrees with the other Directors. Regarding the garbage, she agrees that it will only get worse as in March, the residential rates will be increasing. People may not even separate their cans anymore. She commented that the District Valentine's Day event went very well. She thanked the Staff for their continued work.

Chairperson McDaniel commented that it was an excellent meeting this evening. It is great to have the public presence and shows that our Board does have the heartbeat of the community. Stress levels and depression has increased. Let's keep an eye on our people at this time as it is a bad time. We need to be a positive light and keep working hard. She agreed with Stacy that it was good to see the County at the Planning meeting, but all we have been getting is lip service on our main issues. She recommended that if Staff is getting down and depressed to go and seek professional assistance. She suggested to call investigative reporters to look into the human waste issue as it is clear that County environmental Health doesn't want to assist with it. Where are we supposed to send it? At what point will this get the attention of the Board of Supervisors. There is a meeting with the local Park Districts on Thursday, which County Health will be attending, and she hopes that Dr. Kasirye will be on the call so that she can address the issue. In

either case, she intends to bring up this issue at the meeting. She believes that Environmental Health should be handling the situation as it is dangerous, and our Staff is not trained to handle the human waste. This is also occurring in other area Park District's. She has sent documentation to the Board of Supervisors as well as other County Departments and has not received a response. She is tired of the lip service from both the City and the County. She feels that the Board of Supervisor and County Health needs to be pushed to clean up the human waste as the Parks Staff is not equipped to properly handle it. She proposed a letter writing campaign to Environmental Health and the Board of Supervisors to take responsibility. Our District did not receive CARES Act funding to assist with this kind of clean-up, yet the County received millions. She polled the Board about writing a letter to the various County Departments. The entire Board agreed and requested that the District Administrator draft the letter.


Adjournment


Chairperson McDaniel adjourned the meeting at 7:48pm

APPROVED: Bastian, Huffhines, McDaniel, Moore, Morris

ATTEST:

ABSENT:


Becky L. McDaniel
Chairperson, Board of Directors


Charlea R. Moore
Secretary, Board of Directors