

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

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
October 21, 2020**

Call to Order

Chairperson Lisa Morris called the meeting to order on Wednesday, October 21, 2020 at 6:31pm. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, this meeting was conducted by Zoom videoconference. Vice Chairperson Stacey Bastian and Directors Jerry Huffhines, Becky McDaniel, and Charlea Moore were on the videoconference. Staff members on the call included District Administrator Mike Heller, Administrative Analyst Deann Cater, Parks Supervisor Tim Marble, and Recreation Supervisor Erik Hernandez.

Public Comments

Deferred to just prior to Director's Comments in the agenda.

Presentations

There were no presentations this month.

Written Correspondence

The Certificate of Facts for the November 3, 2020 Presidential General Election were reviewed. This pertained specifically to the Rio Linda Elverta Recreation and Park District.

Consent Calendar

Director McDaniel requested to pull Item #8 – Nepotism Policy #2230 from the Consent Calendar for discussion.

Director McDaniel requested that this item be tabled due to some language and a typo in the presented policy. She then deferred to the District Administrator to provide further explanation. District Administrator Heller agreed with Director McDaniel on her suggestion to Table the item. The policy, as proposed has included the Board of Directors in the Nepotism policy. However, the Board is the final mediation for an employee who files a grievance. If an employee moves through each step of the process, they would eventually meet with the Board for final resolution of their grievance. As well, Staff left the phrase "or District Elected Official" in section 2230.1.1 when they included the policy as an attachment.

Staff is recommending that the item be reworded and sent back to the Administration and Finance Committee for approval.

Motion No. 1

It was moved by Director Moore and Director McDaniel seconded the motion to approve the consent calendar Items #1-7 and #9-11, as follows: Received and filed: (1) Park Police Report (September 2020); Approve; (2) Minutes of September 16,

2020 Board of Directors Meeting; (3) Cash Disbursements, September 30, 2020; (4) Finance Report, September 30, 2020; (5) Park Maintenance Monthly Report, September 2020; (6) Recreation Monthly Report, September 2020; (7) Administrator's Report, September 2020; (9) Approval of Resolution 2020-25 approving and adopting an amendment to the Districts policy and procedure manual for policy #1070 – Public Contributions and Donation of Park Amenities; (10) Approval of Resolution 2020-26 approving a change order to the HVAC installation at the community center; (11) Review of the 2020 Park Impact Fee Nexus Study Draft for the County of Sacramento. Motion carried: Ayes; (5) Bastian, Huffhines, McDaniel, Moore, and Morris; Noes; (0), Abstain; (0), Absent (0).

General Business

Agenda Item No. 12: Discussion of the Southwest gate in Babe Best Park

District Administrator Heller introduced this item and introduced Kyle Tabler, a resident who lives on Herring Ave. There has been a lot of foot traffic through the gate in and out of the park after dusk and the Tabler's, and others in the neighborhood have been threatened by various people who have been passing through the park via this gate. The Tabler's have worked with the District to request that the gate be locked. A lot of the issues have taken place between 11:00pm-3:00am. This item was discussed at length at the recent Safety and Security meeting prior to being brought forward to the Board of Directors. Chairperson Morris invited Mr. Tabler to speak on the item.

K. Tabler: Thanked the Board for the time needed to look into the issue. There has been more criminal activity since the Safety and Security Meeting. He urges the Board to lock the gate during non-essential hours and when the Little League is not using the fields.

L. Morris: Asked if the times (11:00pm-3:00am) were the main times of concern for the activity taking place in the park. Mr. Tabler did confirm those times.

S. Bastian: Thanked the Safety and Security Committee and the Tabler's for taking the time to report this issue as that always assists in resolving problems. She spoke about numerous options and prefers that more than locking the gate as this is a band-aid for the problem. She is looking for Board input as she would like to see park police saturation as she believes that this really helps with the problems seen in parks and does eliminate criminal activity. She also asked if the District Administrator had spoken with SSD or FECPD to increase patrols in the area or to ask about a saturation.

M. Heller: Responded that he had spoken with FECPD regarding saturations and they can do whatever we request. They would be restricted to the park only as that is what our contract reads, and the streets are out of their jurisdiction. There has been no further conversation with SSD, but they are aware of the challenges in the neighborhood due to the call-ins from the community.

- C. Moore: There was a long discussion during the Safety and Security meeting. It is a thorny problem. It seems that there needs to be a combination of solutions for the gate because it is located on a dead end street. Her suggestion at the meeting was to lock the gate, taking a chance on the vandalism that may occur. As well, we could also ask SSD to make more patrols during the 11:00-3:00 hours or find the dollars to do a park saturation. She also spoke about a motion activated light and if there was somewhere on private property where it could go.
- K. Tabler: The home directly adjacent to the park is now occupied. He said that he would provide owner information so that they could be asked to place a light to shine into the park.
- C. Moore: Asked if there was any barbed wire or razor wire on top of the fencing at the man gate. The answer was no, it is a 6' or 8' chain link fence.
- L. Morris: Likes the idea the motion activated light on the roof of the neighbor's home. She asked Director Moore if she was suggesting the gate be locked during the hours when there are issues or if there should be a permanent lock until the Little League came back.
Director Moore was thinking about a permanent lock as nobody should be using the gate at this time. They should be coming into the park off of 10th Street.
- B. McDaniel: Mentioned that she worked with our Park District when the gate was first installed. The residents at the time had keys to the gate and took it upon themselves to lock the gate every night. This stemmed the tide of the criminal element for some time. The criminal element is also reduced when the park is being used. Another challenge with the COVID pandemic. There are also solar options available. The Arcade Creek Recreation and Park District just installed solar powered lights on 25' poles, they run approximately \$2500.00 each. But there is a concern that these will be shot out and vandalized. She believes that locking the gate 24/7 will be problematic but she agrees that gate can be locked from dusk to dawn on a trial basis.
- J. Huffhines: Agreed with Director McDaniel about locking the gate from dusk until dawn.
- S. Bastian: Can we touch base with FECPD to focus patrols in that area during the 11:00-3:00 hours.
- B. McDaniel: According to the Park Police reports from the last two months there have no calls/incidents at Babe Best Park for service.

Motion No. 2

It was moved by Director Moore and Director McDaniel seconded the motion to contact the neighbor and to inquire as to whether a motion sensor light can be

installed on their property and the District will also install a lock for the gate to be used from sun-down to sun-up; The motion carried: Ayes; (5) Bastian, Huffhines, McDaniel, Moore, and Morris; Noes; (0), Abstain; (0), Absent (0).

Agenda Item No. 13: Discussion and vote for the California Association for Park and Recreation Indemnity election for Board of Directors At-Large positions

District Administrator Heller introduced this item and reminded the Board that the CAPRI has a Board election every two years for two positions for their At-Large position.

Motion No. 3

It was moved by Director McDaniel and Vice Chairperson Bastian seconded the motion to nominate Jill Nunes from the Cordova Recreation and Park District and Dean Wetter from Valley-Wide Recreation and Park District for the CAPRI At-Large positions; The motion carried: Ayes; (5) Bastian, Huffhines, McDaniel, Moore, and Morris; Noes; (0), Abstain; (0), Absent (0).

Board of Director Committee Minutes

Administration and Finance Committee – Met on October 13th, the September financials; activity guide update; the HVAC change order; two policies; and the Sacramento County Library Master Plan; and the Nexus Study draft. Director Moore asked about the Nexus Study. She noticed that the Study included the Elverta Specific Plan but did not call out the Grandpark development. District Administrator Heller replied that the study is still in draft form and that SCI Consulting had been informed of the Grandpark development and would be making minor adjustments to the numbers in the study.

Planning Committee – Met on September 29th, the Minutes are included with the agenda package.

Safety and Security Committee – Met on October 9th, it was a productive meeting. Babe Best park was discussed as well as the on-going homeless issues and driving (side show) issues. Director Moore asked if the District could put the numbers for CHP and SSD on the website. Vice Chairperson Bastian mentioned that she would really like to see a saturation by the FECPD police. Director McDaniel suggested using hours from a non busier day to use towards a saturation.

Firehouse Committee – Met on September 21st and had a great meeting. Progress on the truck is moving along. The group is looking at alternative fund raising to continue with the projects.

Dry Creek Committee – had an informative meeting. Homelessness is still the main issue. It may be time to put some pressure on the County of Board of Supervisors to address the issue. The post and cable fencing adjacent to the horse path is still a concern for the local equestrian organization.

LAFCo Committee – The SDAC met on September 29th. Main topics were the COVID-19 pandemic. There is talk of a Bill going through the legislature for COVID relief, we will wait

and see on that. They spoke about three main groundwater basins in Sacramento County. There is a groundwater sustainability plan that is due in 2022 and only two Water Districts have submitted their plan. There was also talk about potential rate hikes with utility districts.

Public Comments

This item was deferred to this part of the meeting. Mr. Bob Bastian, a Rio Linda resident spoke. He was very complimentary of the Park inventory and existing conditions report. He spoke about the sign at the bridge adjacent to Hayer Park, (Whipple Hayer Dam) it is missing. He asked Director McDaniel to bring this up at the next Dry Creek Committee meeting as it needs to be put back up. As well, the gazebo at Depot Park was built by the Lions and they should be recognized for this. He also spoke about the recent vandalism in the parking lot at the Rio Linda Elementary School. A member of the community has volunteered to install camera over the entire property free to the School District.

Board of Director Comments

Vice Chairperson Bastian thanked Staff. She brought up the upcoming Trunk or Treat and was originally excited that it would be at the Community Center and is now disappointed that it has been moved to Gibson Ranch Park. She believes that this event puts the District on the map and assists in branding the community. She likes to see the local community come together. She is supportive of working with the Sacramento Regional Parks. She feels that there are a lot of children are in the direct community and a lot of parents do not have reliable transportation. She is hoping that this event will return to the Community Center in the future. She feels that the move will restrict a lot of kids from being able to participate this year. She hopes that the event will go well. Also, the TRUSD Police Department was very supportive of the event and would have been able to attend the event at the Community Center. She doesn't know if they would be able to attend out at Gibson Ranch. She thanked the community for remaining patient with us during the COVID pandemic. She encourages everybody to stay safe and keep up the good work and try to be positive at this time.

Director Moore agreed with Vice Chairperson Bastian's comments on the Trunk or Treat. Partly because she believes that people in the community will be unable to go out to Gibson Ranch. She also believes that the social aspect of the event will be lost. But she did agree that the drive-thru component would restrict this either way. She thanked the Recreation Staff for getting programs going during the pandemic. She thanked the Parks Staff for keeping the Parks looking good and is hoping that the new SAFCA contract is working well. She thanked the district Administrator for keeping things running during COVID and is hoping that it will start to ease up soon. Everybody stay safe, wear your masks, and wash your hands.

Chairperson Morris thanked the entire Staff for all of the hard work. She is in full support of the Staff decision to host the Trunk or Treat at Gibson Ranch. She appreciates the County reaching out to us to partner on this event as it is something that the Park District has been working on for a while. She agrees that downtown Rio Linda is the center of the community. But we do not do a lot in Elverta and with the improvements made at Northbrook, she feels that the event location is a good choice. As well, if the event was in

Rio Linda, it would be more difficult to control people from walking in and due to COVID we would not be allowed to have walk-ins. She also has a list of other events taking place locally all next week for Halloween.

Director McDaniel thanked the District Administrator and the recreation Supervisor for representing the District so well on Zoom calls. She feels that Staff should be pumped up and not brought down at this time. Sacramento County is very strict on the COVID guidelines and to run a Trunk or Treat, or any event is very detail oriented at this time. It would have been difficult to run this event at the Community Center and it seems that Gibson Ranch may be more logistically feasible. She wishes the event great success. She does not believe that we will be in the Orange Tier by Halloween and because of COVID the Veterans' Day event will probably be cancelled for this year. She commended the Parks Staff for their continued efforts especially amongst the homeless challenges in the parks. Please stay safe and stay healthy. Stay Happy, we are all in this together.

Director Huffhines encouraged the Recreation Division and Staff to keep their chins up. Parks look great. He agrees that the Park inventory looks great. Everybody stay safe.

District Administrator Heller reminded the Board that the November 18th Board Meeting will be live for the Board only at the Community Center due to a Closed Session. The public will still be able to Zoom in on video.

Adjournment

Chairperson Morris adjourned the meeting at 7:47pm

APPROVED: Bastian, Huffhines, McDaniel, Moore, Morris

ATTEST:

ABSENT:



Lisa L. Morris
Lisa L. Morris
Chairperson, Board of Directors

Charlea R. Moore
Charlea R. Moore
Secretary, Board of Directors