MINUTES
RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING, BOARD OF DIRECTORS
1692 SYCAMORE DRIVE, SIMI VALLEY, CA 92065
DECEMBER 5, 2013, 6:30 P.M.

AGENDA
ITEM

I. CALLED TO ORDER: 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Paul Friedeborn

II. ROLL CALL: Present: Directors O'Brien, Freeman, Vice Chair Johnson, Chair

Cavanaugh

Staff: Nikki Davy, Paul Friedeborn, Doug Gale, Colleen Janssen, Wayne Nakaoka, Theresa Pennington, Larry Peterson, Brian Pierik, Esq., Robin Walker

Guests: Ronn Nelson, Carolyn Phillips, Georgia Trumble

III. PUBLIC DISCUSSION (ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA):

None

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

(A) Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting – November 21, 2013

Director Freeman asked that an item in Item X. Reports by Board Members be modified to reflect the recently elected Board Chair of CSDA was ‘separated from his position’, rather than resigned.

ACTION: Director O'Brien moved to Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 21, 2013 as amended; Director Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

V. SCHEDULED ITEMS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS:

(A) Presentation of the Full-Time Employee of the Month for November 2013 to Barbara Meinel

35-13-gg

Colleen Janssen read a statement that had been prepared by Barbara Meinel, who could not attend the meeting due to a prior engagement. Barbara thanked the Board and expressed her pride to work at the District during the past ten years.

(B) Presentation in Recognition of Ronn and Virginia Nelson’s 10 Years of Services as Strathearn Historical Park Caretakers (Oral)

Larry Peterson provided a brief background statement as to Ronn and Virginia Nelson’s role as caretakers after which Board Chair Cavanaugh presented Ronn Nelson with a framed picture and plaque to commemorate the past 10 years of service as Strathearn’s Caretaker. Director Cavanaugh also thanked Ronn and commented that he and Virginia would be much missed. Senior Grounds Supervisor Paul Friedeborn also thanked Ronn and Virginia for all their years of service and hard work.
VI. CONSENT AGENDA:

(A) Approval of Check Registers: 11/27/13 (payroll); 11/15/13 (payables)

Director O'Brien asked about a $16,000 line item to Vortex. Doug Gale explained the cost was to move away from automatic dividers in the main room of the Center to a manual divider in order to save money, as the automatic divider was breaking down multiple times and was costly to fix.

ACTION: Vice Chair Johnson moved to Approve Consent Agenda Item (A); Director O'Brien seconded the motion. Motion carried.

VII. CONTINUED BUSINESS:

None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

(A) Approval of Resolution Modifying District Policy Manual, Chapter 7 Board of Directors; Section 7-101 – The Presiding Officer Election and Duties 84-13-j

Larry Peterson explained the recommended change to the date the Board annually determines its Chair and Vice Chair. Director Freeman suggested the amendment read the election occurs in December, instead of an actual meeting reference.

ACTION: Director Johnson moved to Approve Resolution No. 1874, as amended by Director Freeman, Modifying District Policy Manual, Chapter 7 Board of Directors; Section 7-101 – The Presiding Officer Election and Duties; Director O'Brien seconded the motion. Motion carried with the following roll-call vote:

Ayes: Directors Cavanaugh, O'Brien, Freeman, Johnson
Noes: None
Absent: Director Hostetler
Abstain: None

(B) Election for the Chair of the Board of Directors for Calendar Year 2014 (Oral)

Director Freeman moved to elect Mark Johnson as Chair of the Board; Director O'Brien seconded the motion. Motion carried.

(C) Election for the Vice Chair of the Board of Directors for Calendar Year 2014 (Oral)

Director O'Brien moved to elect Elaine Freeman as Vice Chair of the Board; Director Cavanaugh seconded the motion. Motion carried.

(D) Approval of Grant Agreement No. R54017-0 to Receive Grant Funds for the Arroyo Simi Greenway Project – Phase 2 from the California River Parkways Grant Program under the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84)

Robin Walker presented the Board with an overview of the Phase 2 Arroyo Simi Greenway Project with a map showing the location of the next stages of work and artist renderings of fish,
birds and trail entrances. These were designed in conjunction with the Audubon Society. The Board members expressed the opinion that vandalization would occur, but the nature of the design of the plagues would resist most types of wear and tear.

Director O'Brien asked if the cost changes to the Grant Program would impact the submission to the Government. Robin explained that the overall total cost remains the same, it was only some of the individual costs within the program that changed, and the State had no objection to those changes.

**ACTION:** Vice Chair Freeman moved to Approve Grant Agreement No. RS4017-0 to Receive Grant Funds for the Arroyo Simi Greenway Project – Phase 2 from the California River Parkways Grant Program under the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84); Director Cavanaugh seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**IX. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:**

None.

**X. REPORTS BY BOARD MEMBERS:**

Director Cavanaugh had no committee meetings, and could not attend the Tree Advisory meeting. She did mention that she had received a comment from a member of the general public about the Park District acquiring the School District’s open space in Wood Ranch.

Director O’Brien did not attend any meetings however asked if the Rancho Santa Susana Community Center would be available for a Rotary fundraising event in 2nd or 3rd week of September of 2014. The Rotary Club is looking to hold either a salsa or beer festival event. It was pointed out that during that time Simi Valley Days is held and it is soccer season. Director Freeman suggested Rancho Madera as an alternative.

Vice Chair Freeman did not attend any meetings.

Chair Johnson advised the Tree Advisory Meeting is planning Arbor Day, and asked to be reminded of the Park District’s contribution towards that event.

**XI. REPORT BY DISTRICT MANAGER:**

District Manager Peterson attended an MRCA Board meeting, a July 4th planning meeting with Rotary representatives and City Manager, and a Community Coalition United meeting with the City Manager regarding outreach effort for at risk individuals.

Chumash Park has been deemed complete. A Planning Commission review has been set for February 19, 2014, and Neighborhood Council likely set for January 21, 2014.

A person has been selected for the position of Foreman, a candidate from New York interested in moving to California. Part Time Ranger interviews were conducted today, and resulted in a determination that two candidates will receive conditional offers of employment.

District Manager Peterson also invited Doug Gale to say a few words on the After School Winter Decoration Contest. Doug spoke about the seven After School Clubs that are competing in the contest and extended an invitation to the Board to attend and to maybe assist in judging.
The Chair called a Closed Session at 7:06 p.m.
The Chair reconvened the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

XII. CLOSED SESSION:

(A) Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.95
    Claimant: Law Offices of Raymond Ghermezian
                On behalf of Wendy Iucci
    Agency Claimed Against: Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District

(B) Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.95
    Claimant: Law Offices of Sharona Eslamboly Hakim
                On behalf of Daniel Morales
    Agency Claimed Against: Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District

(C) Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.95
    Claimant: Law Offices of Sharona Eslamboly Hakim
                On behalf of Lorenzo Martin Beltran
    Agency Claimed Against: Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District

(D) Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.95
    Claimant: Law Offices of Sharona Eslamboly Hakim
                On behalf of Martin Beltran
    Agency Claimed Against: Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District

(E) Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.95
    Claimant: Law Offices of Sharona Eslamboly Hakim
                On behalf of Annette Sarah Beltran
    Agency Claimed Against: Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District

(F) Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.95
    Claimant: Law Offices of Sharona Eslamboly Hakim
                On behalf of Cecilia Berrocal
    Agency Claimed Against: Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District

(G) Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.95
    Claimant: Law Offices of Sharona Eslamboly Hakim
                On behalf of Carlos Postigo
    Agency Claimed Against: Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District

(H) Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.95
ACTION: Vice Chair Freeman moved to reject Items XII. (A), (B), (C), (D), (E), (F), (G), (H), (I), (J), (K), (L), (M); Director O'Brien seconded the motion. Motion carried.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT: Vice Chair Freeman moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m.; Director Cavanaugh seconded the motion. Motion carried.