Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District
Board of Directors Meeting

M I N U T E S
April 20, 2017, 6:30 p.m.

Rec Room, Sycamore Drive Community Center
1692 Sycamore Drive, Simi Valley, CA 93065
(805) 584-4400; www.rsrd.org

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The meeting was called to order by Chair O’Brien at 6:30 p.m. The pledge of allegiance was led by Doug Gale.

2. ROLL CALL – In attendance were Directors Abele, Freeman, Vice-Chair Johnson, Chair O’Brien; Director Hostetler was absent. The following staff members were also in attendance; Frank Galanti, Doug Gale, Lee Martin, Wayne Nakaoka, Theresa Pennington, Larry Peterson and Brian Pierik. Guests in attendance: Mrs. Galanti and Kelly Rogers.

3. PUBLIC STATEMENTS (ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA) - None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
   a. Regular Meeting – April 6, 2017 – Director Abele stated he appreciated the amended minutes, however, a correction needed to be made on page 2, item 4, 4th line from the bottom: remove the word “or” and replace with “Club of”; Director Freeman moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 6, 2017 as amended; Vice-Chair Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

5. SCHEDULED ITEMS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS
   b. Oral Presentation of Laserfiche Software for Electronic Document Storage - presented by Computer Specialist, Lee Martin. Martin explained the District’s new procedure for storing Board Reports and other documents electronically. The documents are searchable by key words and titles.

   a. Presentation of the Part-Time Employee of the Month for March 2017 to Frank Galanti - Director of Administration Pennington read the staff report honoring Frank Galanti as Employee of the Month. Chair O’Brien presented the plaque and check to Frank. Director of Recreation Gale thanked Frank for his efforts.
6. CONSENT AGENDA

a. Approval of Check Registers: 3/30/17 (payroll);

b. Approval and Adoption of Full-time Employee Classification Schedule by
   Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board of Directors

   Vice-Chair Johnson moved to approve the Consent Agenda; Director Freeman
   seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

7. CONTINUED BUSINESS - None

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. Approval of Extension to Simi Valley Girls Softball Permit Agreement For Use of
   Recreational Facilities at Big Sky Park - Vice-Chair Johnson moved to approve
   the Extension to Simi Valley Girls Softball Permit Agreement for Use of
   Recreational Facilities at Big Sky Park; Director Abele seconded the motion. The
   motion carried with a unanimous vote.

b. Authorization to Solicit Bids for Weed Abatement Services at Various District
   Parks and Open Space Areas – Director Freeman asked if additional abatement
   was anticipated; Director of Planning and Maintenance Nakaoka indicated the
   areas were reviewed with the fire department; District Manager Peterson stated
   Medea Creek winds through a residential area with the fire department requesting
   removal of brush near structures and that the District must also consider the
   jurisdiction and requirements of the Army Corp and Fish and Wildlife, and stated
   that the District manages the competing requirements the best that it can; Vice-
   Chair Johnson moved to approve the authorization to Solicit Bids for Weed
   Abatement Services at Various District Park and Open Space areas; Director
   Abele seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

c. Approval of Option and Land Lease Agreement and Memorandum of Option and
   Land Lease Agreement between Los Angeles SMSA Limited Partnership, dba
   Verizon Wireless, and Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District for a Wireless
   Telecommunications Site at 100 Conifer Circle, in an Unincorporated Area of
   Ventura County (Oak Park), California – Chair O’Brien recused herself and stated
   that she is doing so because she has clients that work for Verizon. She then
   stepped out of the room. Director Freeman asked if the matter went to the Oak
   Park Committee; District Manager Peterson confirmed that it was presented to the
   Oak Park Committee over a period of several years and was approved by
   Supervisor Parks as well as by the MAC. Director Freeman moved to approve the
   lease agreement; Director Abele seconded the motion. The motion carried with
   Directors Abele, Freeman and Vice-Chair Johnson voting in favor. Chair O’Brien
   was not present and did not vote.
9. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS OF NOTE – None

10. REPORTS BY BOARD MEMBER

Director Abele inquired about the District’s Concerts in the Park, he stated he has attended them in the past and enjoyed them and stated they are well attended; he asked who makes the decision as to which bands are selected. He stated he thinks the concerts are excellent and have excellent acts. Based on his friends and acquaintances he asked why there are rarely country music acts selected. Director of Recreation Gale said there was a country band about two years ago, at which there was a very low attendance, but he has had a Garth cover band twice, he also stated there is a band called California Country that he considered but ruled out because he was uncertain how they would do. Director Abele asked if the attendance at the concert with a country band three years ago was considered a low attendance. Director Abele felt it was a good crowd. Doug stated some music doesn’t cross over well to cover bands. The most popular band has been Spazmatics. He looked at Chesney and considered that act. Director Abele stated he attends the concerts frequently and thinks they are great.

Director Abele stated he attended two committee meetings last week which were on back to back nights. The first was the Simi Valley Soccer Foundation and he stated there were a couple of issues to bring up. There is a sport called futsal which is a 5 on 5 hard court version of soccer described in the meeting and his research describes that futsal is to soccer what pickle ball is to tennis, and that it seems to be growing in popularity with appeal to all ages. He stated they used tennis courts to practice for soccer teams, playing side-by-side. He recommended and suggested they do some sort of statistical analysis to show the popularity and see how the tennis courts are used and stated that it could be of value with limited number of soccer fields available to the soccer clubs.

Director Abele stated that there was a great deal of discussion at the Foundation meeting about whether or not to allow LA Galaxy field time and stated the Foundation membership was overwhelmingly against it as it was presented. He debated on how to address the following matter. He is grateful for being on the Board, he thought about whether he should take everything in, or if he has areas of expertise if he should ask questions and make comments. He chose to stay quiet during the soccer meeting, and is regretting it, but made a decision and is choosing not to stay quiet tonight; the soccer meeting was an unacceptable embarrassment, it was disgraceful, and no one should come out of the meeting and be proud of how the meeting was conducted and the way people behaved. He spoke to the District Manager and the President of the Foundation as well as a member he knows personally. When there is something so bad, he hopes something good comes out of it and since he left the meeting his respect of the Foundation has grown tremendously. There were some apologies and that is encouraging and he applauds them. He understands there are past personal conflicts, but at end of the day, it is not appropriate for someone representing the District to be pointing fingers, to yell at the top of their lungs, to tell people they are wasting their time, and to angrily walk out of the meeting. There may be explanations but they are not justified. He didn’t sleep that night and had the Oak Park Committee meeting the following night.
Director Abele attended the Oak Park Committee meeting during which time they voted in a new chair and the vote was 4 to 3 and mildly controversial but the meeting turned out to be a success. Francisco made an excellent presentation on the architectural changes made to the Mae Boyer building design, and everyone one from District should hold their heads high and be proud with the outcome. There was a tremendous amount of patience, the preparation was masterfully handled. There were questions regarding the water fountains, questions about tile color and more. Ultimately though the Committee voted unanimously in support of the design, which was unexpected. In addition, a committee member brought up a suggested change in the agenda format. He stated Brian Pierik handled it with patience and efficiency. The meeting was a huge success and banner night for the Park District. Pierik stated the committee is dedicated to the project; District staff and the architect did great job. Director Abele stated it was a good night overall.

Director Freeman stated she had no meetings. She shared an article from the Los Angeles Times Sunday paper which featured Hope Town and stated it was a wonderful article and it was really well done. She chaired a four hour LAFco hearing.

Vice-Chair Johnson – Reported he went to the County of Ventura on Tuesday to receive an award for Earth Day on behalf of the District, he stated it was nicely done; he attended the Golf Course Committee meeting and reported things are going well, the concessionaire paid for and obtained a full liquor license and the District is now installing a bar in the clubhouse. The Committee reviewed the list of improvement plans for the golf course and the estimated time frame and phasing of the various items, which looks good. Johnson reported staff is doing the work in-house when possible; the course was packed; the junior golf program is going well; and the City Tournament is coming up; he missed the Soccer Foundation Meeting because he was in Arizona; referring to Director Abele’s report, he explained that those types of soccer meetings went on for 10 years; the last 5-6 years have gone well; he encouraged Director Abele to speak his mind at the meeting, and said a fresh voice and ideas are good.

Chair O’Brien attended the Community Action of Ventura meeting in Oxnard, The Mayor of Oxnard, Tim Flynn was there and she had the opportunity to meet him; there is a new Director at CAVC, Cinder Sinclair, who has a fundraising background which should be good for grants and other matters; the District received a couple of letters, one from the Kiwanis praising Doug Gale and John Kreiger for their help with the Round Up Event; Gale stated the rock stage was not well attended, but people seemed to like the new location though he is not sure of the financial results. He also stated that Kiwanis has asked to hold the event there in 2018. Chair O’Brien said she enjoys the Wednesday hikes, they occur every week with staff members, last night it was at Corriganville; Director Freeman asked when they take place, O’Brien indicated they start at 5:30 p.m. and are done by 7:00 p.m., the location varies each week; she said she saw a report on Facebook of skunks at Rancho Simi Community Park; Chair O’Brien encouraged Director Abele to speak his mind.
11. REPORT BY DISTRICT MANAGER – District Manager Peterson reminded the Board there was a closed session.

District Legal Counsel Brian Pierik suggested the Chair again offer the public the opportunity to address the Board.

Kelley Rogers thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak and stated the following: The Soccer Foundation meeting was a heated meeting, they talked about the meeting and tried to get resolution; reached out to Doug Gale and apologized, called a presidency meeting with Eclipse, Simi Valley youth, AYSO, etc. it was a good meeting, dealt with issues such as the number of soccer fields and the number of kids playing, they struggle with only 7 fields; they realize they are multi-use parks, they are working on things with Simi Valley Youth, they want to help the Park District, will support the Board and get projects done; he stated they need lighted fields at RSCP; the foundation will talk about getting fields lighted. Director Abele stated he appreciates what they are doing.

The Chair called a closed session at 7:46 pm

The Chair reconvened the meeting at 8:28 pm

12. CLOSED SESSION

   a. Conference with Labor Negotiator:
      Agency Negotiators: District Manager and Director of Administration
      Employee Organization: Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Middle Management Association

   b. Conference with Labor Negotiator:
      Agency Negotiators: District Manager and Director of Administration
      Employee Organization: Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Employees Association (“Bargaining Unit”)

   c. Conference with Labor Negotiator:
      Agency Negotiator: District Manager and Director of Administration
      Employee Organization: Unrepresented Employees

Chair O’Brien stated there was no reportable action to items a, b or c.

13. ADJOURNMENT – Director Freeman moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 pm; Vice-Chair Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

   [Signature]

   Larry Peterson, District Clerk