Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District
Board of Directors Meeting

MINUTES

June 15, 2017, 6:30 p.m.
Rec Room, Sycamore Drive Community Center
1692 Sycamore Drive, Simi Valley, CA 93065
(805) 584-4400; www.rsrdp.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 – Directors Abele, Freeman, Hostetler, Johnson and O’Brien were present. The following staff members were in attendance: Rich Ackerman, Jerry DeRosa, Larry Dolley, Doug Gale, Wayne Nakaoka, Theresa Pennington, Larry Peterson, Brian Pierik and Brian Reed.

3. PUBLIC STATEMENTS - None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

   a. Regular Meeting – June 1, 2017 – Director Freeman moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 1, 2017; Director Hostetler seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

5. SCHEDULED ITEMS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

   a. Presentation of the Part-Time Employee of the Month for May 2017 to Larry Dolley – Director of Administration Pennington read the staff report honoring Larry Dolley as the Part-Time Employee of the Month, Chair O’Brien presented Dolley with a plaque and a check. Senior Park Ranger DeRosa stated Dolley does a great job as a park ranger; District Manager Peterson thanked him for his efforts; Director Abele congratulated Dolley on his award and acknowledged his hard work in his prior employment as well.

   b. Public Hearing and Approval of Resolution Approving Engineer’s Report, Confirming Diagram and Assessment and Ordering Levy of Assessment for Fiscal Year 2017-18 – District Manager Peterson reviewed the staff report and the details of the resolution. Chair O’Brien opened the public hearing. Director Abele stated he will vote for approval of the resolution, although he is not excited about it, but comfortable voting for it. He stated he is looking at this as a Board Member, he is not a big fan of taxes and assessments but considered three things in making his
decision: 1) was it previously approved; 2) is it money the district needs and stated it certainly is; and 3) is it being wasted, and it is not. With all of that in mind he will vote in favor of it. Director Freeman asked Director Abele if it mattered that residents had voted on the assessment. Abele responded, stating yes. Chair O'Brien stated she struggles with the decision and feels bad no matter how she votes. Director Hostetler stated that it is approximately $3.00 per month per household which he said is a great value for the residents. No members of the public spoke during the public hearing, and Chair O'Brien then closed the public hearing. Vice Chair Johnson moved to approve Resolution 1936 to Approve the Engineer's Report, Confirming Diagram and Assessment and Ordering Levy of Assessment for Fiscal Year 2017-2018; Director Hostetler seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Directors Abele, Freeman, Hostetler and Johnson
Noes: Director O’Brien
Absent: None
Abstain: None

6. CONSENT AGENDA

a. Approval of Check Registers: 5/26/17 (payroll); and 5/31/17 (accounts payable)

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

7. CONTINUED BUSINESS - None

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. Receive and File Audit Results and Basic Financial Statements for Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016 – Vice Chair Johnson moved to approve the Audit Results and Basic Financial Statements for Fiscal Year 2015-2016; Director Freeman seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Item c. was called by the Chair before item b to allow the MRCA staff member to arrive.

b. Approval of Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 – Jeff Jones from MRCA presented the material changes to the Preliminary Budget and responded to questions from the Board; Vice Chair Johnson moved to approve the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority's Preliminary Budget for 2017-2018; Director Hostetler seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote. Director Freeman thanked Mr. Jones for improving the budget process for MRCA.
c. Approval of Pay and Benefit Changes for: (1) Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Middle Management Association, (2) Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Employee Association (Bargaining Unit), and (3) Unrepresented District Employees – Director Freeman thanked staff for doing a great job with employee negotiations; Director Abele stated staff did an excellent job and that he thought the result was good for the employees and the District. Director Freeman moved to approve the Pay and Benefit Changes; the motion was seconded by Director Abele. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

d. Adoption of Preliminary District Operating and Capital Improvement Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-18 – Director Freeman moved to approve the Adoption of the Preliminary District Operating and Capital Improvement Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018. Director Hostetler seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

e. Approval for Publication of Legal Notice Allowing for Public Inspection of Preliminary Budget and Specifying Date and Time of Public Hearings on District’s Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-18 – Director Freeman moved to approve the Publication of Legal Notice Allowing for Public Inspection of the Preliminary Budget and Specifying Date and Time of Public Hearings on the District’s Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018. Director Hostetler seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

f. Rejection of All Bids Received for the Fenced-In Play Area at Big Sky Park and Authorization to Resolicit Public Bids for the Project – Chair O’Brien asked if the bidder was contacted to determine why the affidavit was not signed. Director Freeman asked if it was surprising that there was one bid. Director of Planning and Maintenance Nakaoka replied stating he was surprised, eight people picked up bids and one responded. The document was mistakenly not signed by the bidder. Director Abele stated that based on the manner in which the bid was presented, the validity should be questioned. Legal Counsel Brian Pierik stated based on government code, the bid can be rejected and a contract can be negotiated with Fence Factory or any other company. Nakaoka stated he thinks he will get more bids. Director Freeman asked if Kristin Quartaaro is aware of the status of the project. District Manager Peterson said she was not informed the bid was being rejected, however, she did check in a month ago asking if the fence would be up in time for summer and he notified her it would not be up in time for summer, it is being fit in with other projects. Vice Chair Johnson moved to approve the Rejection of all Bids received for the Fenced In Play Area at Big Sky Park and authorization to Resolicit Bids for the Project. Director Abele seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

9. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS OF NOTE - None
10. REPORTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Director Abele reported he attended the Finance Committee meeting and stated it went well and there are no issues.

Director Freeman attended the VCSDA meeting, Chair O’Brien could not make it due to illness. The meeting was at a new Pleasant Valley location which was an old officer’s club, with original tile; it was a military base. There was a good presentation on Las Virgenes reclaimed water project, which is expected to provide 20% of the needed water. They received one permit from the State Water Resources Control Board. She also attended the Historical Society meeting and announced that History Days is June 24, 2017, and complimented staff for the idea of adding picnic tables with canopies to the patio area. She also attended a follow up meeting with USA Properties with Director of Planning and Maintenance, Nakaoka, which will be discussed in closed session.

Vice Chair Johnson attended the Soccer Foundation meeting. He said it was a 1.5-hour meeting, it was peaceful and went well as they discussed by-laws and term limits. He and Chair O’Brien attended the Advanced Planning meeting, he stated the details are in the meeting minutes. Director of Planning and Maintenance Nakaoka reviewed status of the current year projects and Director of Recreation presented a concept of converting tennis courts to pickleball courts at Rancho Simi Community Park, and that item would be brought to the Board to receive its feedback. He also attended a County meeting regarding wildlife corridors and protection of open space. There were 70 people in attendance. There were cattle ranchers there who are knowledgeable and provided information including where to build corridors. Much of the subject land is within the jurisdictional boundary of Rancho Simi. He also stated that he learned fences were to be placed around farms to prevent contamination of food.

Director Hostetler stated he had no meetings to report.

Chair O’Brien attended the Historical Society meeting and Advanced Planning Meeting, both of which were already reported. She also stated she received two letters from Royal High School students. District Manager Peterson offered to prepare responses to the letters. In reference to the subject matter of the letters, District Manager Peterson reported there is a duck food dispenser at Simi Hills Neighborhood Park. Brian Reed stated the machines are not high maintenance and they are popular. Director Freeman stated she received a letter regarding the dog park. The letter stated that small dogs can get under the fence and inquired, and asked why there are no lights. Director of Planning and Maintenance Nakaoka stated the fence was fixed. Freeman asked if trees will be planted at the dog park. Nakaoka confirmed trees were recently planted.

Director Hostetler asked what color the softballs are for league play. The letter he received stated they can’t see the yellow balls against yellow lights. Director of Recreation Gale responded that the color of the balls were changed to improve their visibility.
Chair O’Brien asked the status of the response to the public statement at the previous Board Meeting on June 1, 2017. District Manager Peterson reported that legal counsel researched the law and provided an analysis of the various matters and that the analysis will be reviewed by staff and a responsive letter will be sent to the person that previously addressed the Board.

11. REPORT BY DISTRICT MANAGER – District Manager Peterson stated that items a, b and c on the closed session agenda can be removed due to the Board action taken on item c under new business.

The Chair called a closed session at 7:19 pm.

The Chair reconvened the meeting at 8:26 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

d. Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8
   Conference with Real Property Negotiator
   Re: Land Acquisition: Property Located in Ventura County Northeast of the Intersection of Tago Canyon Road and Bennett Road in Simi Valley, Ca
   Assessor Parcel Numbers: 620-0-320-095
   Negotiating Parties: District Manager, Director of Planning and Maintenance and Legal Counsel
   Report and Instructions to Staff Regarding Price and Terms of Payment

e. Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8
Conference with Real Property Negotiator

Re: Land Disposition: Property Located in Ventura County at 1692 Sycamore Drive, Simi Valley, Ca

Assessor Parcel Numbers: 642-0-231-285  
642-0-231-295  
642-0-280-075  
642-0-280-085  
642-0-280-095

Agency Negotiators: District Manager, Director of Planning and Maintenance and Legal Counsel

Negotiating Parties: Area Housing Authority/USA Properties

Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment

f. Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 5495695

Claimant: Mr. Mark Eyster
Agency Claimed Against: Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District

g. Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9

Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9: One Case

Items a – c were pulled from the Agenda. As to Closed Session items d-g the Chair stated there was no reportable action by the Board during Closed Session.

13. ADJOURNMENT – Director Hostetler moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 pm. Vice Chair Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Larry Peterson, District Clerk