Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District
Board of Directors Meeting

MINUTES

February 7, 2019 6:30 p.m.
Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District
4201 Guardian Street, Activity Room 3
Simi Valley, CA 93063
(805) 584-4400; www.rsrd.org

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Chair Freeman called the
   meeting to order at 6:30pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Kate O'Brien.

2. ROLL CALL – Directors Dennert, Johnson, O'Brien, Vice Chair Abele, and Chair
   Freeman were in attendance. Staff in attendance included: Laura Ballantoni, Miguel
   Chavez, Douglas Duran, Tracy Engel, Tom Evans, John Krieger, Greg Laranjo, Tracy
   Heminuk, Jeannie Liss, Wayne Nakaoka, Kelly Negrete, Dan Paranick, Theresa
   Pennington, Legal Counsel Brian Pierrek, Brian Reed and Gina Viecco.

   Guests in attendance included members of the BMX and Skateboarding communities,
   family members of Laura Ballantoni and Gina Viecco, Gina Gooding, Michael Floyde,
   owner of Chef It Up! LLC, Tony Falato, owner of The Junkyard Restaurant and Joe
   Wade, the President of the Historical Society. Guests who submitted Speaker Cards are
   listed under the appropriate item below.

3. AGENDA REVIEW – Chair Freeman announced the topic of the Special Meeting
   Agenda will be discussed before item 9.c below.

4. PUBLIC STATEMENTS (ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA)

   Ryan Halub would like to see the Skatepark as an official item on a future Board Agenda.
   He provided a revision for the District to consider with the addition of some elements
   Skaters would want. He feels the Skate Plaza is great but a little limited, he feels there
   could be a give and take with the Budget to include some additional elements.

   Gina Gooding requested the Board consider honoring the Becker family from Simi
   Valley. Their home on Sycamore Drive was elaborately decorated for Christmas for over
   20 years. She suggested a tribute at Strathearn Park, possibly to include some of the
   original decorations. She also inquired about previous plans for a Simi Valley sports
   complex, which would provide a long-term space for several youth sports activities. She
   felt there were funds collected for this project. District Manager Dan Paranick will follow
   up with Ms. Gooding.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
a. Regular Meeting January 17, 2019 — Director O’Brien moved to approve the minutes as written. Vice Chair Abele seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

6. SCHEDULED ITEMS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

a. Presentation of the Full-time Employee of the Month Award for January 2019 to Laura Ballantoni — Director of Administration Theresa Pennington presented Ms. Ballantoni with her plaque and she will receive a paid day off. Laura has been with the District for 14 years, this is her third Employee of the Month award. Ms. Ballantoni is happy to give 110% to her work, she thanked everyone and is honored to receive this award. Director of Recreation Tracy Engel added that Laura started out as a volunteer and turned out to be a special person, she was instrumental in getting the Recreation Center going. Laura really is the face of the Recreation Center. Director Abele was unable to speak with Laura when he stopped in. He feels she represents the District so well and people love to work with her.

b. Presentation of the Part-time Employee of the Month Award for January 2019 to Gina Viecco — Director of Administration Theresa Pennington presented Ms. Viecco with her plaque and check. Gina has been with the District over 4 years, this is her first Employee of the Month Award. Pennington expressed how valuable Gina is to the District. Ms. Viecco thanked everyone especially her co-workers and supervisor Theresa Pennington. She also thanked the Board and added she has enjoyed getting to work with them over the last year.

7. CONSENT AGENDA (Matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine and shall be acted upon without discussion by one motion approving the Consent Agenda. If discussion is desired the item may be removed from the Consent Agenda upon a Director’s request.)

   a. 1/15/19 and 1/31/19 Accounts Payable Check Registers; 1/4/19 and 1/18/19 Payroll Check Registers — Staff responded to questions from the Board.

   b. Approval of Notice of Completion and Final Acceptance for the Rancho Simi Community Park Soccer and Tennis Courts Lighting Project — This project was completed on December 7, 2018, the Contractor has fulfilled all contractual obligations. Staff requested the Board accept the work as complete and authorize the final payment.

      Director Johnson moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Director O’Brien seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

8. CONTINUED BUSINESS — NONE

9. NEW BUSINESS

   a. Historical Society Annual Report — Oral Presentation was provided by the President of the Historical Society, Joe Wade. Mr. Wade provided a PowerPoint
presentation covering the Highlights at Strathearn Historical Park for 2018. Director O’Brien asked if the Civil War Days event will be rescheduled. Wade responded there is a possibility in November. Director Dennert suggested tying the Civil War event with the School District. He also suggested the Society consider having a Historical Bell placed at their location. Directors Dennert and Abele both inquired about the Rental Rates for Strathearn Park. Wade responded the rates were just raised last year. There is a similar rental facility directly across the street and with the probable decline in Rustic/Barn style Weddings it does not seem like the right time to raise rates further.

b. Consideration of Lease Time Extension for the BMX Bike Park and Authorization to Solicit Bids for the BMX Dirt Hauling Project – The staff report was presented by Director of Planning and Maintenance Wayne Nakaoka. Staff requests authorization to solicit bids for the BMX Bike Park Dirt Hauling Project and recommends not accepting AHA/USA’s offer to extend the use of the Sycamore BMX Raceway. The new facility will be ready October 2019. Nakaoka explained it is more cost effective for the District to contract and move the soil. After meeting with the BMX Representatives, everyone agreed the additional cost was not worth it and the money is best used towards the new track. Director Abele inquired about the soil that was offered from the Rasmussen land. Nakaoka responded the soil was not adequate for the track itself but it will still be used in other areas of the facility. Unfortunately, we will lose approximately $78,000 in savings due to the dirt not being usable.

Chris Gadbois thanked the District for the hard work on the BMX project. He expressed that the approval process could go quicker with the City. He would like to see more communication between the District and the City.

Chair Freeman explained the permitting process was slower than expected due to environmental work needed for the approvals. This increased the time and costs. She assured the crowds this project is a priority and will be completed as soon as possible. She added the new location will a better facility than the current one.

Tirrell Lazada Smith thanked the Board for honoring the request the BMX group made one year ago. Everyone is very excited to get the kids on the new track. He added this will be a great accomplishment for the community.

Russell Varnees, one of the BMX Track Representatives thanked the Board and stated it has been great working with the District. He added Tom Evan’s plans are amazing and assured the audience it will be worth the wait for the new track.

Director Johnson moved to authorize bids for the dirt hauling project and reject the offer to extend the use of the raceway. Director Dennert seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

c. Approval of Agreement between Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District and The Junkyard Cafe, Inc. for the Operation of the Food and Beverage Concession at Simi Hills Golf Course – The staff report was provided by Golf Course Manager Brian Reed. Staff received three proposals for review, the panel of staff members
scored The Junkyard Café the highest. After negotiations The Junkyard Café accepted a concession agreement on January 31, 2019. Staff requests the Board authorize the District Manager to enter into a Concession Agreement effective March 1, 2019. Reed stated the deep ties The Junkyard has with the community and their active presence providing community events at their own location were key factors in the decision. The name will be The Birdie Bar & Grill. Chair Freeman thanked Reed for the great work. Director Johnson agreed it was great work, very fast and efficient as always. Director Dennert inquired about the Contract. Reed responded it is a 3-year Contract with up to a 2-year extension at the Board’s discretion with the rent increasing 3% per year. Dennert expressed some concern they were not using The Junkyard name. Reed responded he is working with the owners to get the word out, especially using Social Media. District Manager Dan Paranick commended Reed for the extra effort in getting this project completed in such a timely manner.

Tony Falato, owner of The Junkyard Café added they are very excited to work with the District and the opportunity to grow the business at the Golf course.

Vice Chair Abele moved to approve the agreement. Director Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

10. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS OF NOTE – NONE

11. REPORTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Director O’Brien attended a Community Action of Ventura County Event. The VCSD dinner the other night was a great event. The Rotary Club has raised money for a memorial bench to honor the Borderline victims and their families. She was wondering if maybe the District can find a space for this. O’Brien will have them contact District Manager, Dan Paranick.

Director Dennert suggested the Simi Peak between Simi Valley and Thousand Oaks might be a good location for the bench. He accompanied Danielle June and Richard Lemmo on a tour of some of the After School Clubs. He was very impressed with the Staff at the locations. He was very excited to see the Clubs have a Dungeons and Dragons specialist. He also attended a bird event for the Audubon Society. Simi has 43 different species of birds in the parks and in the Arroyo. He also added the Duck Pond appears to have a problem with bird waste; he would like to have the Board look at this in the future.

Director Johnson attended the Santa Monica Conservancy meeting, it was mostly related to fire recovery and swearing in new members. They are doing well, although dealing with a lot of havoc with the fire situation.

Vice Chair Abele attended the first hour of the Oak Park Committee Meeting, they appear to be pretty harmonious right now. The Pickleball and Tennis discussion will be resurfacing in the near future. He also attended the Chamber of Commerce Gala and congratulated Brian Reed who won the big award of the night. He attempted to visit Laura Ballantoni at the Recreation Center, she was busy with work but he was able to speak with Kelly Negrete for the first time. It is a great staff at the Center, he was very
impressed with the entire staff. He attempted to visit Gina Viecco but missed her as well but was able to visit with other staff members at that location. He reiterated what he said at the last meeting and commended Gina for doing a great job, especially with the Board Minutes. He felt the Employee of the Month Award was well deserved.

Chair Freeman attended the VCSD Annual meeting, she provided a report on the recipients of the awards given out. She attended the Oak Park Committee Meeting and commended Paranick for a great job on the Budget overview he provided for them, she felt they really got it. There will be two Community Cleanup days in March and May for Oak Park residents to help with the cleanup efforts. She was on the CARPD conference call. It looks to be a busy year, she provided the other members with an overview of the topics. She also had a brief CSDA Legislative meeting. Freeman thanked Wayne Nakaoka, Tracy Engel, and the Maintenance staff for working all weekend in the mud and rain. They have really worked hard with the response to the fire and rain storms.

12. REPORT BY DISTRICT MANAGER – Comments were provided by District Manager Dan Paranick. Challenger Park was hit hard with several inches of rain and mud, as was the Oak Park Community Center. District staff were busy clearing debris and filling sandbags over the weekend. So far this has been the hardest hitting of the recent storms. The District has hired a Soil Engineer to evaluate specific areas of concern to reduce possible future risks. The District has an assigned representative from FEMA assisting staff with all the required paperwork, they will be working with staff once a week. The Clean Power Alliance for businesses will be launched in March, the District will have until May to decide to participate or opt out. Simi Valley School District approved the Lease Agreement for the Modular Project at the pool. The February 21st Board Meeting will be held in Oak Park, the new Committee Members will be confirmed and there will be a Pickleball and Tennis discussion. The Big Sky Movie Ranch contacted Paranick regarding a film co-op. Freeman stated this was previously affiliated with the Chamber. Paranick added they are interested in marketing Simi Valley as a filming locale. The City of Simi Valley is still grappling with their commitment to the Fireworks Event for 2019 and have not made any decisions yet. Paranick attended Mayor Mashburn’s Town Hall Meeting held at The Junkyard Café. Paranick gave a brief presentation representing the District and was very well received. The Women’s Club donated $50 to the Mobile Memorial Vietnam Wall Event coming to Simi Valley for Memorial Day. The Finance Committee Meeting will be held this week. Paranick is working on scheduling a meeting with the Board Chair and Vice Chair with the City Mayor.

Vice Chair Abele inquired about the opening days of Simi Valley Sports Leagues. Tracy Engel will reach out to them and report back to the Board.
13. CLOSED SESSION – NONE

14. ADJOURNMENT – Chair Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting. Chair Freeman adjourned the meeting at 8:02pm.

[Signature]
Dan Paranick, District Manager