Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District
Board of Directors Meeting

M I N U T E S

Thursday, July 2, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.
Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District
4201 Guardian Street, Simi Valley, CA 93063 • Activity Room 3
(805) 584-4400 • www.rsrpd.org
Meeting held via Teleconference

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Chair Abele called the Meeting to Order at 6:30pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Miguel Chavez.

2. ROLL CALL – Director Freeman, Johnson, O’Brien, Vice Chair Dennert, and Chair Abele were in attendance. Staff in attendance included: Miguel Chavez, Tracy Engel, Lee Martin, Dan Paranick, Theresa Pennington, Legal Counsel Brian Pierik, and Gina Viecco. Guests included David Callis and Jessie Webster from the Hermosa Beach Volleyball Club.

3. AGENDA REVIEW – There were no requested changes to the Agenda.

4. PUBLIC STATEMENTS (ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA) – NONE

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

   a. Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board Meeting – June 18, 2020 – Motion: Director Freeman moved to approve the Minutes as written. Director O’Brien seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

6. PRESENTATIONS, SCHEDULED ITEMS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

   a. Status of the District’s Response to the COVID-19 Coronavirus Pandemic – Verbal Report was presented by Dan Paranick, District Manager. There are not many changes from last week. The District has started issuing permits for allowed park and rental activities. There are a few in-person classes that started, primarily for fitness. There was a child who tested positive for COVID-19 last week at the Houghton Summer Camp site. The site is currently closed for cleaning and waiting on test results.

   Director Johnson asked where they are directed for testing. Paranick responded there is free testing at Moorpark College.

   Director O’Brien asked if there are new restrictions for the holiday weekend, Paranick responded all bars, movie theaters and indoor dining have been closed again.

   Chair Abele was on the Ventura County Covid-19 call for the last 2 weeks. Supervisor Huber and his office have been very helpful in trying to get things opened safely. He also spoke with Patrick Maynard, from the Office of Emergency Services. He feels decisions regarding what is allowed to re-open is being made with incomplete information right now. Freeman asked if they referenced the outbreak at the Farmworker’s housing as part of the cause for the spike in Ventura County. Abele said he does not recall that being mentioned specifically.
Dennert added the School District had started sports conditioning but had to close due to a coach testing positive for the virus. He would like to know under what conditions, exactly, sports could re-open. He asked if the District employees have a safety glass partition. Paranick responded yes, they are installed for employee safety.

b. Presentation by the Hermosa Beach Volleyball Club Regarding Sand Volleyball Courts – Verbal Report and PowerPoint presentation by David Callis and Jessie Webster from the Beach Volleyball Club. They would like to partner with Rancho Simi to build a 6 court state of the art facility call The Mecca, it would be the largest sand volleyball facility not located near a beach. Volleyball is the 2nd most popular sport in California. There are currently over 60 clubs and they had 2,000 players compete in the 2016 Tournament. It is like bringing the beach here to Simi Valley, so many events could be planned around the Facility. Beach Volleyball is its own Full Scholarship Sport, currently Simi High and Royal High are leading in awarded Beach Volleyball Scholarships. The current Athlete of the Year at Royal High has received a full Scholarship for Beach Volleyball. They are interested in Rancho Madera, Runkle Canyon, or Rancho Santa Susanna Park (RSSCP) for the location. Currently RSSCP has plans to include 4 sand courts which could be increased to 6. They have funds to invest right now and are looking to be partners in the cost. They would also partner with the District to offer Recreation classes and the Facility could be used for rentals as well. They are interested in a 25-year land use contract and are looking for the Board and District to support this venture. Callis and Webster answered various questions from the Board Members regarding the proposed locations, their timeline, and their organization. Paranick thanked them for the presentation.

There was no action taken by the Board.

c. Presentation of the Ted Winslow CAPRI Safety Award for the Cycle XVI District Visitation Program in Recognition of Outstanding Performance by the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District in Achieving the Highest Rating in Safety and Loss Control – Verbal Report by Dan Paranick, District Manager. This award is an acknowledgement of the detailed nuts and bolts work that is done daily to ensure things are running safe and efficiently. He presented Director of Administration, Theresa Pennington with the award, adding this really is an outstanding achievement by the District Staff. Pennington recognized the work done with Robert Mendez and the entire staff for contributing to this award. Chair Abele thanked Pennington for making the District look good. Director Johnson added it is a nice achievement and shows the District goes above and beyond. Director O’Brien agreed with Johnson, this is a great award.

There was no action taken by the Board.

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. Approval of 6/19/20 Payroll Check Register – Staff responded to questions from the Board. Motion: Director Freeman moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Director Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.
8. CONTINUED BUSINESS

a. Second Reading: Adoption of Revised Ordinance No. 3, An Ordinance of the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board of Directors Establishing Rules and Regulations Governing Use of District Parks and Facilities and Participation in District Programs – The staff report was prepared by Tracy Engel, Director of Recreation. Chair Abele requested a 2nd reading of the Ordinance title at 7:21pm. District Counsel Brian Pierik read the title. Director Freeman added she likes the way the rules look now with the requested modifications.

Motion: Director Freeman moved to adopt revised Ordinance No. 3 and waive further readings of the title. Director O'Brien seconded the motion. The motion carried with unanimous vote.

9. NEW BUSINESS

a. Approval of Resolution No. 1999 Establishing the 2020/21 Appropriations Limitation in Accordance with Article XIII B of the Constitution of the State of California – The staff report was presented by Theresa Pennington, Director of Administration. This would be approval for the appropriation limits for the 2020-21 year based on the Preliminary Budget.

Motion: Director Freeman moved to approve Resolution No. 1999. Director O'Brien seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Abele, Dennert, Freeman, Johnson, O'Brien
Noes:
Abstain:
Absent:

b. Receive and File Audit Results and Basic Financial Statements for Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019 – The staff report was presented by Theresa Pennington, Director of Administration. This information is for Fiscal Year ending 2018/19. The Audit is complete and there were no findings. Freeman stated this is a great job by staff, it must have been very difficult especially with the Woolsey and Easy Fires. Paranick commended Theresa Pennington, Miguel Chavez and Staff for an excellent job.

There was no action taken by the Board.

c. Consideration of Support for HR 7073, the Special Districts Provide Essential Services Act – The staff report was presented by Dan Paranick, District Manager. The current Corona Virus Relief fund does not allow Special Districts to apply for any assistance. This letter is in support of the addition of Special Districts. Paranick added this topic was added at the request of Director Freeman.

Freeman added this type of letter historically has not come before the Board. She feels when a partner organization requests support from the District it should be given as these agencies are really out and working in the trenches. It was always standard practice for the current Board Chair to sign and send as these are requested. Johnson agreed with Freeman on this point.

Dennert suggested Senate Majority Leader (Mitch McConnell) be included in the recipients for this letter.
O’Brien feels all letters should come to the Board for approval. Abele agrees, he wants all letters to come to the Board for a vote. He appreciates and respects Elaine’s comments regarding the agencies and the work they put in. He feels Special Districts are important, but he is not in favor of all Special Districts, he does have some concerns with fees charged by Water and Waste Districts, for example. He is not very comfortable with the whole CARES Act in general, he feels future generation will have to deal with repercussions from this Act. However, he does agree that Special Districts should be included.

Freeman appreciates Abele’s comments. This would change it so Special Districts could be included moving forward.

Motion: Director Freeman moved to support a letter being sent in support of HR 7073. Director Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

10. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS OF NOTE – Paranick reported the District received correspondence from 2 community members concerned about protests in parks without a permit.

11. REPORTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Vice Chair Dennert talked to Todd Huber regarding the Skate Plaza Opening. Dennert will purchase helmets to handout at the Plaza as needed, he will give these to District Staff. The Reagan Library is interested in supporting the “day in service” for Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday. The Rotary has organized a park cleanup at Corriganville and their Drive-in Movie event is tomorrow night. He likes the Rotary’s attitude of finding what is possible. There is an Eagle Scout project in the works, they will be constructing owl boxes. He thanked Theresa Pennington for providing an update on the Ranger’s training for the use of Narcan.

Director O’Brien attended the District hike last night. The hikes are back on with masks and social distancing. She gave a big shout out to District Staff; both of the awards tonight are amazing achievements for the District. Nice work, way to go.

Director Freeman attended CARPD Legislative call and provided an update on various topics from the meeting. The State Auditor determined 5 counties in Northern California were overpaid, it is possible they will look at all counties in California. They discussed HR7073, urging everyone to send letters.

Director Johnson noticed quite a few cars at Rancho Santa Susana Park tonight. Dennert responded they could be there for setting up the Drive-in Movie tomorrow.

Chair Abele attended the Ventura County COVID-19 briefing conference call.

12. REPORT BY DISTRICT MANAGER – Comments were provided by Dan Paranick. He and Tracy Engel are still discussing the 3 additional After-School Clubs with the Simi Valley School District. He and Engel are planning a smaller Ribbon Cutting for the Skate Plaza for now, then a larger event when possible. He and Freeman met with some people in the community wanting to start a foundation in town. Looks like mid-October for the dedication event for Jerry Gladden. He and Staff met with AYSO to get up to speed on their league. Today the check was sent to pay off the Activity Center. Great job to the Board for setting the foundation for the District moving into the future. This is really an outstanding achievement by the Board.

Future Agenda items: Budget hearings, additional After-School Clubs, presentation on the progress made with the Apollo Fields

Committee Activity: Historical Society next Monday, July 9th will be the Oak Park Committee Meeting, discussion items include update on Fire progress, the Lagoon project, and the damaged tree at Mae Boyar Park.

13. CLOSED SESSION – Chair Abele announced the meeting to Closed Session at 7:51pm.

   a. Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.95
      Claimant: Ms. Sandra Crawford-Goodman
      Agency Claimed Against: Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District

      Chair Abele called the meeting back to Open Session at 8:01pm and announced the Board unanimously accepted the claim.

14. ADJOURNMENT – Chair Abele adjourned the meeting at 8:02pm.