



**Hood River Valley Parks and Recreation District
Board of Director's Meeting Regular Meeting
Wednesday, July 19, 2017 6:00 pm
Minutes**

Swearing in of new board members

Parks District Attorney Ruben Cleveland swore in Anna Cavaleri and Nan Noteboom as new board members.

In Attendance: Board Members Anna Cavaleri, Nan Noteboom, Art Carroll, Glenna Mahurin, Mike McCarthy; District Director Mark Hickok, Interim Assistant Director Marcie Wily; District Contract Accountant Monica Morris, Scheduled Presenter Renee Tkach; Members from the Public, Victoria Hubler

Mahurin called meeting to order at 6:03pm

Comments from the General Public (3 minutes per person, per subject, Maximum 30 minutes public comment taken)

Victoria Hubler introduced herself as a long-time resident and concerned citizen regarding parks and open space in Hood River. She stated that she was dismayed that the Parks District does not charge the maximum allowable rate for SDCs to developers, as well as not speaking out when the city suggested a reduction in SDCs. She requested that the Parks District dissolve the District and form a new unified district in conjunction with the city, port, and county, and raise the rate to at least \$1.40. Lastly, she requested that the board examine ways that a small portion of tourist dollars be used to bolster the Parks District coffers.

Review Minutes

June 21, 2017 – Regular Board Meeting Minutes

McCarthy moved to approve the minutes. Carroll seconded the motion. All approved.

Consent Agenda

None

Unfinished Business

1. Second Reading of Ordinance 17/18# 1 AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE RATES FOR HOOD RIVER VALLEY PARKS AND RECREATION DISTRICT

Cavaleri made motion to read Ordinance 17/18 #1 by title only. Carroll seconded. All approved.

Cavaleri made a motion to approve Ordinance 17/18 #1 adopting the rates for Hood River Valley Parks and Recreation District. Carroll seconded the motion. All approved.

New Business

2. Appoint 2017/18 Officers (president, vice president, secretary)

Hickok began by stating that in the past the Vice President of the Board sometime would take on the role as president. Mahurin stated she'd be willing to be president. Carroll made a motion to appoint Mahurin as President. Noteboom seconded. All approved.

Cavaleri made a motion to make McCarthy Vice President. Noteboom seconded. Noteboom, McCarthy, and Cavaleri approved and Mahurin and Carroll opposed. Motion passed.

Cavaleri nominated Carroll for Secretary. McCarthy seconded. Motion passed.

3. Resolution 12-17/#1 – Resolution to approve 2017-18 Board Meeting Dates.
McCarthy moved to approve the resolution. Noteboom seconded the motion. All approved.

Reports (*informational, no action needed*)

Before the reporting began, Cavaleri asked to make a comment. She stated that she appreciated being on the board and the introduction packet on duties and responsibilities of for new board members. Cavaleri asked about the third page, second bullet point, about the annual strategic plan, and she asked if that subject might be entertained at the August board meeting.

1. Gorge Towns to Trails Program

Renee Tkach (15 mins)

Tkach presented a plan in hopes that the Parks District would add its name in support for the Gorge Town to Trails Vision. The group is a land trust organization that wants to create a priority area of connectivity Gorge wide and make the area a tourist destination for multi-day trekking. This program hopes to create a unified vision for various agencies to use when building the trails. The goal of the Town to Trails Program is to celebrate what each community offers through connectivity to tourist destinations like wineries, farms, or vistas, but also act as a way to connect communities together. Such a connectivity would allow people to get out into nature thereby making the towns less congested during peak seasons. Board members discussed the pros and cons of the program and asked if the topic could be added to the next agenda so that they could review the program before signing the letter of support.

2. Financial Report

Morris first began reviewing the SDC quarterly report. Questions surrounded the history with SDCs, the starting balances, and recapping the Pauly Rogers review. McCarthy had questions about how the District arrived at the beginning balances. Morris explained the reconciliation includes the difference in accounting between a modified accrual and cash basis, which is the main factor in the two different reports. In addition, Hickok and Morris recapped the history of how they arrived at the numbers of going back through Onstott's audits over the years, as well as to the County's collection of SDCs to be able to arrive at the remaining City SDCs. McCarthy said that it was important to be transparent and to present a messaging strategy that the Parks District give a clear answer on the financials. Conversation continued about improving the messaging strategy. McCarthy asked if Morris could provide a spreadsheet used reconcile the review ending balances and the audited ending balances.

3. Directors Report

Hickok presented the Directors report. The District purchased and set up the new Accounting Software and are working out the glitches. In addition, new office software has been purchased, and the networking has been updated. The District files have been overhauled, and part time staff person has been files to help take stock of files and reorganize our files.

Carroll gave a brief overview of a Children's Park Update. The committee has decided that there needs to be a new structure. There is a public meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 20th to discuss the plans. The park will have to be closed for the construction. Questions surrounded what would be considered in an increased capacity so that SDCs could be used.

Hickok said that the Westside Plan update is on August 9th. The talk will surround around infrastructure, and it will be an important meeting. McCarthy asked how we will answer questions how about land acquisition and plans for parks. Hickok stated that the master plan would help in that regard, but it was unfortunate that the multi-jurisdictional master plan was happening after the Westside Plan. Hickok has stated, in the advisory committee meetings that there seemed to be the assumption that the Parks District would take

care of the park issues (planning, acquisition, and development). He said that he has emphasized that the Parks District is not going to be able to solve the park planning issue. He said that it will take all the agencies to help solve this issue. The SDCs won't really support land acquisition. Carroll used the Sieverkropp development as an example to show how little money that would be collected in SDCS, but how much the land acquisition would be to buy the land, much less develop a park that goes on the land.

Questions came up about Hood River Parks Facebook page, primarily centered around Morrison Park, Feedback from the public was that the name of the page "hood river parks" was deceitful and misleading. There was discussion around how to let people know that we are not "Hood River Parks" but the Parks and Recreation District. Hickok stated that he did send an email to Jim Klaas, the moderator of the page, asking if he could alter the name of the page so that there was no confusion.

SDAO board training dates have been posted, and Hickok invited board members to attend the informative training for management and board members.

The pool enclosure is in its final stages and the Opsis will come for an additional meeting on August 2nd. At the last meeting, board and steering committee members asked for some more detail on various options.

Hickok reported that ground has been broken and the construction project is underway on the Golden Eagle Park Project. The updates to the Dog Park Ordinance won't go on the county commissioner's agenda until August. The city has the Dog Park on it next agenda and should go through permitting soon.

Hickok discussed the broken link on the Indian Creek Trail. There have been some discussions with local agencies and interested parties about finding a way to address this issue.

McCarthy asked about the communication between board and staff. McCarthy wondered whether or not it is ok for individual board members to discuss issues directly with the district director. Hickok gave a brief overview of the roles of the board and acceptable avenues for communication between board members, as well as with the director.

4. Aquatic Center Report

Wily presented the Aquatics Center Report, and reported on the Jr. Guard program, busy open swims, and in-service trainings. Questions surrounded the low swim lesson numbers. Discussion ensued about various strategies in which to improve messaging on pool offerings.

Executive Session

5. *Executive Session, if necessary per ORS 192.660 (The District Board will now meet in executive session. All members of the audience are asked to leave the room. No decision may be made in executive session. At the end of the executive session, we will return to open session and welcome the audience back into the room.)*

None needed.

Adjourn

Carroll made the motion to adjourn. McCarthy second the motion. All approved.

Approved by: _____, Board President Date: _____

Attest by: _____ Date: _____