



**Hood River Valley Parks and Recreation District Regular Board Meeting  
Wednesday December 13th, 2023, at 6:00 pm  
Hood River Aquatic Center**

**In Attendance:**

**Board:** Anna Cavaleri, Mike Howard, Christy Christopher, Nan Noteboom, Martha Ortega-Verduzco,

**Staff:** Mark Hickok, Marcie Wily, Kelsey Barnes

**Legal Council:** Rueben Cleaveland

**Public:** Keir Bryerton, Mark Wojton

Noteboom called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

**1. Comments from General Public:**

- Mark Wojton, the designer and builder of the Rotary Skate Park, was in the area and wanted to stop by and say hello. He also mentions that he is available to help with any future maintenance/repairs on the park.
- Kier Bryerton, a neighbor to Barrett Park would like the noise levels from RC flyers to be lowered in the coming holiday weeks.

**2. Review Minutes from November 15<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

- Cavaleri asked for a revision on the November 15<sup>th</sup> minutes – to change the reference from the Indian Creek Trail to the Westside Trail. Cavaleri made a motion to approve the minutes with the amended change. Ortega-Verduzco seconded the motion. All approved.

**3. District Long Range Strategic Update**

Hickok presented the board with the district's current long-range strategic update:

- The timeline to the levy and bond measure has been revised.
  - Final ballot items and estimates to be complete by February 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - Ballot Measure needs to be filled by March 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Estimates are currently being done for a new Community Center, based on current construction costs.
- Hickok met with the City Council to discuss the city's interest in a possible land swap with Collins field and Tsuruta Tennis Courts for the Aquatic Center space. The site would give more space for the new facility; new tennis courts and a baseball field would need to be rebuilt, potentially at Westside Park. The city might be interested in relocating the police department directly across from the fire station.
- Hickok presented the board with potential financial options for building a new community center with the land swap.
- Hickok then showed the levy rates for other Parks & Recreation Districts in the state. Hood River currently has one of the lowest tax rates in the entire state of Oregon.
- Rueben, HRVPRD attorney, spoke about the legalities of campaigning as board members.
  - The board cannot campaign as a quorum.
  - When campaigning board members must not speak on behalf of the district or other board members.
  - Employees and use of the district's facilities cannot be a part of campaign efforts.
- President Noteboom recapped that Christopher and Cavaleri have agreed to set up the PAC and donation collection.
- The board discussed slogan ideas.
- The board set a special meeting for January 10<sup>th</sup> to prepare for the upcoming ballot measure.
- Noteboom went over the district director evaluation process and timeline, reviewing what had been

approved the year before by the board and recommending a change to the process, refining the questions sent out to community partners, and recommending that they engage community partners and staff in the evaluation process every other year as opposed to every year.

- Howard made a motion to revise the evaluation process. Christopher seconded. All approved.

#### 4. Finance Report

Hickok presented the board with the financial reports.

- System Development Charges are finally starting to trickle in, and the fund is looking good.
- The Recreation fund is looking healthy, and revenue is exceeding expenditures.
- The General Fund is still looking a little low, but taxes will be reflected in next month's reports and the district will be right where it is expected to be financially.

#### 5. Directors Report

Hickok gave the Directors Report.

- Sherman House is sold, and that section of Westside Trail is now complete.
- The Port is asking if the Parks District wants small section of land that goes along the Indian Creek Trail.
  - The board does not see any need to acquire that section of land since the district already has easement rights and maintenance agreements on that property.

Noteboom motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:19pm. Cavaleri seconded. All approved.

Nan Noteboom  
Approved

Attest

[Signature]

2-21-24  
Date

21 Feb. 2024  
Date