

# Hood River Valley Parks and Recreation District Board of Directors Meeting with Trust for Public Lands

March 31, 2015

President, Glenna Mahurin called the meeting to order. Others present: Directors, Renee van de Griend, Karen Ford, Art Carroll; District Director, Lori Stirn; Assistant District Director, Scott Baker; District Bookkeeper, Joyce Weseman; Trust for Public Lands representatives, Cary Simmons, Wendy Muzzy, Dee Frankfourth; Guest, Mike McCarthy.

## **Consent Agenda**

It was requested to add handouts to Vb.

## **Research from the TPL Feasibility Study**

Trust for Public Lands has been hired by the District to assist with research and possible implementation of funding options for the District. Dee Frankfourth gave a power point presentation to the Board. The presentation covered TPL goals and services in general, and specific funding options available to the District, and included potential income from the different options. A copy of this study is attached as part of these minutes.

After much discussion, a District-wide food and beverage tax emerged as an attractive option. TPL will research jurisdiction for this tax as the ORS Statutes are not clear about whether Special Tax Districts have the authority to levy this tax. Other options being considered: Reforming the District with a higher property tax rate, GO Bonds, Local Option Levy.

## **Polling Discussion**

Polling will help determine whether there is public support for increased funding, voter priorities, and types of funding for which there might be support. This public opinion survey could take place in May. With a favorable outcome, a measure could be “fast tracked” and referred by September 3, 2015 or consider a General election date of November 2016. .

## **Next Steps**

A polling questionnaire committee that includes 1-2 Board members, Staff, 1 City Councilperson, and 1 County Commissioner should be formed. The polling questionnaire should be completed by May. A professional pollster will give the committee sample questionnaires. It was suggested that the Board have meetings with other entities, i.e. City and County, about the committee and the polling process. The committee could be appointed at the April 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **Handouts**

- Lori shared a drawing of a proposed intersection realignment at 17<sup>th</sup> and May Street. This will simplify the layout of the intersection.

- The Port of Hood River has asked for a letter of support, and financial support in the amount of \$20,000, to assist in obtaining a grant to build a trail to connect the Waterfront Park with the Hook Launch. The Board will consider this at the April 15<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.
- Lori shared the list of proposed uses from the May 9, 2012 “Barrett Park Development Hearing”. These uses are what we should consider for the Barrett Grant funds.
- As part of the discussion about the future size and role of the District, it was suggested that School District Superintendent, Dan Goldman, be asked to attend the April 15<sup>th</sup> meeting to discuss school district plans.

**Adjournment**

Karen moved to adjourn; second by Renee; the motion passed. The second Budget Committee Meeting will be held April 15, 2015, commencing at 5:30 pm, with the regular Board Meeting to follow at 7:00 pm.

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

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President, Glenna Mahurin

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ATTEST, Board Member