



**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

REGULAR MEETING

RUSH PARK
3021 Blume Drive
Rossmoor, California

Tuesday, March 14, 2017

A. ORGANIZATION

1. CALL TO ORDER: 7:02 P.M.

2. ROLL CALL: Directors Casey, Kahlert, DeMarco, Nitikman
President Maynard

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. PRESENTATIONS:

a. Los Alamitos Unified School District Representative Re: Foster Road Bike Lane Study

LAUSD Assistant Superintendent, Melissa Miller reported on the results of the recent online survey sent out by the school district. She opined relative to the RCSD Proposed Draft Resolution. Discussion ensued relative to the reliability of the survey results, existing school programs encouraging students to walk or ride bikes to school, community awareness of the Foster Road Bike Route as many residents were completely unaware. Discussion ensued. The Board thanked Mrs. Miller and Superintendent Dr. Kropp for conducting the survey so quickly. The report was received and filed.

B. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA—None

C. PUBLIC FORUM:

Kevin Pearce reported on the status of the Bradbury Road restriping study. He stated that the County of Orange had advised him that study results showed the traffic speed on Bradbury had been reduced by 6 mph as a result of the restriping. The County advised that additional modifications were forthcoming at an undetermined date in the future. Mr. Pearce further opined relative to the LA Fitness Project in The Shops at Rossmoor in Seal Beach. He reported that the LA Fitness Coalition he had formed to oppose the project had met several times at various locations throughout the community. He announced upcoming meetings and activities planned by the coalition. He stated that attendance had grown and he was requesting that the District allow him complimentary use of the Rush Park Auditorium.

General Counsel opined that the requested facility use would amount to a gift of public funds and could appear as an act of impropriety. He added that in order to consider Mr. Pearce's request, the matter would need to be formally agendaized. The current policy and fee schedule would also need to be examined and/or modified in order to create a framework and guidance for staff if the Board chose to make an exception based on a potential determination that allowing complimentary public use of the facility was for the public good. The Board requested that staff bring the matter back on a future agenda for further consideration.

PTA President, Jody Roubanis opined relative to the Foster Road Bike Lane agenda item. She thanked the RCSD Board for placing the matter on the agenda. She stated that the PTA was opposed to removing the parking restrictions along the Foster Road Bike Lane. She further objected to language in the RCSD Draft Resolution issuing a "use or lose" ultimatum to the community and requiring the LAUSD to do a study quantifying the amount of usage of the bike lane.

Residents Jason Rousic, Jen Ochoa, Branson Pollard, John Pollard, Artis Roubanis, Shawn Wilson and Jim Hart also opined relative to their opposition to the removal of the Foster Road Bike Lane parking restrictions. The consensus was that the safety of children traveling the bike route outweighed the inconvenience of the parking restrictions. Many claimed that they regularly used the bike lane as a method of transport and also wanted to leave the route available for future generations.

Shawn Wilson also reported that he had called CR&R Waste Management several times regarding their refuse trucks leaking oil on the streets of the community. So far, they had not corrected the problem. He requested that the RCSD intervene in order to expedite a resolution. President Maynard thanked Mr. Wilson and suggested he work with District Staff to get the problem resolved.

D. REPORTS TO THE BOARD—None

E. CONSENT CALENDAR:

1a. MINUTES REGULAR BOARD MEETING—February 14, 2017

2. REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REPORT—JANUARY 2017

Motion by Director Nitikman, seconded by Director Casey to approve the items on the Consent Calendar as submitted. Motion passed 5-0.

F. PUBLIC HEARING—None

G. RESOLUTIONS:

1. RESOLUTION NO. 17-03-14-01 ADOPTING THE LAUSD PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION'S (PTA) REQUEST TO BE GRANTED AN EXTENSION IN ORDER TO GATHER AND SUBMIT SUFFICIENT USAGE DATA IN SUPPORT OF THEIR POSITION FOR MAINTAINING EXISTING PARKING RESTRICTIONS ALONG FOSTER ROAD TO ACCOMMODATE THE FOSTER ROAD BIKE LANE IN ROSSMOOR

Approve by roll call vote, Resolution No. 17-03-14-01 by reading the title only and waiving further reading as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF THE ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT ADOPTING THE LAUSD PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION'S (PTA) REQUEST TO BE

GRANTED AN EXTENSION IN ORDER TO GATHER AND SUBMIT SUFFICIENT USAGE DATA IN SUPPORT OF THEIR POSITION FOR MAINTAINING EXISTING PARKING RESTRICTIONS ALONG FOSTER ROAD TO ACCOMMODATE THE FOSTER ROAD BIKE LANE IN ROSSMOOR

Motion by Director DeMarco, seconded by Director Kahlert to maintain the bike route as is with its current parking restrictions between the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on the easterly side of Foster/Hedwig Road and opposing the other alternatives presented in the 2016 Rossmoor Traffic Study; approve draft Resolution No. 17-03-14-01 as further revised by General Counsel as per instructed by the Board to revise the title and “Now Therefore Be It Resolved” sections; maintain the “Whereas” portions, since they are factual findings, to accurately reflect the motion and send the final signed resolution to Supervisor Michelle Steel. A roll call vote was taken. Motion passed 3-1-1. Director Nitikman voted, No. Director Casey abstained.

ORDINANCES—None

H. REGULAR CALENDAR:

1. ADOPTION OF FY 2017-2018 BUDGET CALENDAR.

Recommendation to review and adopt the FY 2017-2018 Budget Calendar as required by Policy No. 3020 Budget Preparation and Revision.

Discussion ensued. Motion by Director Nitikman seconded by Director Kahlert to adopt the FY 2017-2018 Budget Calendar. Motion passed 5-0.

1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT-HTGROUP RE: SPECIAL PROJECTS CONSULTING.

The General Manager reported that the proposed agreement for a one-year renewal of the professional services contract for special project consulting had been discussed with HTGroup and is recommended by the General Manager. The Contract has also been approved as to form by the District’s General Counsel and, if approved, would take effect on April 1, 2017.

Discussion ensued relative to removing the reference to a minimum monthly cap and replacing it with a minimum annual cap. Motion by Director Kahlert seconded by Director Nitikman to approve a one year renewal of the Professional Service Contract with HTGroup with the following amendments to page 2, number 5, Exhibit A: “guaranteed minimum of 168 work hours each year.” with a maximum number of work hours determined by the District, to take effect on April 1, 2017. Motion passed 5-0.

1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION RE: RECOMMENDATION OF THE TREE COMMITTEE AFTER CONSIDERATION OF RESIDENT REQUEST TO REMOVE TREE LOCATED AT 2971 SALMON DRIVE IN ROSSMOOR

Adopt the recommendation of the Tree Committee to accept the District Arborist’s recommendation to initiate more extensive trimming of the Aleppo Pine Tree, coordinate with County Public Works on repairs resulting from root damage.

The Tree Committee reported on the results of the Tree Committee Meeting held on March 6, 2017 to discuss two items on the agenda to consider a complaint submitted by resident Lynn McCarthy requesting removal of a large Aleppo Pine tree located on Salmon Drive in Rossmoor. Mrs. McCarthy also requested that we contact the County to repair the curb, gutter and street that have been damaged by the tree roots. Committee Chair Tony DeMarco reported that after considerable discussion and testimony from the parties involved, including the owner of the property in question, all parties agreed to save the tree and direct WCA to do a more thorough trim to minimize any potential safety concerns. The residents were pleased with the outcome of the meeting. Discussion ensued relative to the condition of the tree and plans for trimming and future maintenance. The report was received and filed.

I. GENERAL MANAGER ITEMS:

The General Manager reported that there were six security light poles at Rossmoor Park that needed to be replaced due to rust corrosion and metal fatigue. One of the six poles was severely damaged in our most recent winter rain and windstorm and will be replaced with our comprehensive insurance coverage. Bids are being solicited to replace all six poles and light fixtures. Recreation Superintendent, Chris Argueta is in the process of coordinating with the Rossmoor Homeowners Association in planning the Rossmoor Community Festival and is finalizing plans for the multi-faceted summer programs, movies and concerts at Rush Park. The proposed 2017-18 Budget will be presented to our Board in accordance with our approved Budget Calendar.

J. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:

Director Kahlert thanked the community for their support. He commented that it was great to have the involvement of their constituents. He wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day and urged everyone to drive safely and be alert for kids, pets and pedestrians.

Director Nitikman commented that he was pleased to see a big crowd of passionate people. He stated that the RHA Traffic Committee had attempted to gain similar support when it was discussing the bike route issue two years ago. He opined against the personal attacks that were taking place during the public comments portion of the meeting towards an individual community member he knew well and whom had done much good for the community. He further opined that while it was good to disagree and have a healthy exchange of opinions, he strongly discouraged singling out individuals for personal attacks. He added that the Board of Directors were prepared for respectful criticism and it should be directed at them. Finally, Director Nitikman encouraged staff to work with General Counsel regarding Mr. Pearce's earlier request for a fee waiver for use of the auditorium to host his Citizens Against LA Fitness Coalition. He felt that it was best to make a finding in order to guide the District in how to respond to requests of this nature.

Director Casey reported that he had spoken with two Los Alamitos City Council Members regarding the traffic concerns surrounding the Village 605 Project. Both council members were strongly in favor of the project as well as the projected revenue it would bring to the city. The council members also stated that the project had been in the general plan for some time. Director Casey opined that in response he felt that Rossmoor's commitment level for construction of the pedestrian bridge should be that it is mandatory for the safety of all. He concluded by stating that

his reason for abstaining from voting on the RCSD Resolution was no indication that he was in favor of removing the bike route parking restrictions; he just needed more information.

Director DeMarco thanked the community for showing up and speaking out on issues. It was valuable for a community to express their ideas and opinions in order to thrive. He praised Mary Kingman for her excellent work on the Tree Committee and as the arborist for the District. He urged citizens not to blame her for following board policy on tree related issues, even if they disagreed with the policies. Director DeMarco commented that he was glad the Board would be discussing Kevin Pearce's request for use of the auditorium for a "public purpose" as it related to facility rental fee waivers for meetings on a subject where RCSD has no jurisdiction but there is a community member willing to take the lead. He looked forward to discussing and trying to find some middle ground. He concluded by reporting that he had been invited to speak and be interviewed by the Weebelos at Weaver Elementary School so they could earn their certificate and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

President Maynard expressed condolences to the Lara Family on the passing of community member and activist, Rebecca Lara. Rebecca and her husband were passionate about causes near and dear to Rossmoor. Rebecca advocated for coyote awareness and was a tenacious protector of pets and children and defender of those lost to coyotes. The Lara's had even succeeded in getting National Geographic to do an episode on urban coyotes. His heart went out to her family. President Maynard stated that community involvement was critical and thanked Shawn Wilson for making the District aware of the hydraulic oil stains caused by CR&R trucks. He promised that the District would contact the company about the problem. Finally, he echoed Director Casey's comments about the strong consideration of construction of a pedestrian bridge across Katella Blvd. He urged everyone to be wary of the discussion on sites such as Nextdoor as it is not always accurate—no one was going to take land away from residents. Finally, he reminded everyone to be cognizant of the rights of one another, show dignity and respect as well as civility toward one another and Rossmoor would be better as a community.

K. CLOSED SESSION—None

L. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Director Casey, seconded by Director Nitikman to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:30 p.m.
Motion passed 5-0.

SUBMITTED BY:

James D. Ruth
General Manager