



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

**REGULAR MEETING**

RUSH PARK  
3021 Blume Drive  
Rossmoor, California

**Tuesday, March 12, 2019**

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**A. ORGANIZATION**

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

- 2. ROLL CALL:** Directors DeMarco, Maynard, Nitikman  
President Casey  
Director Kahlert was absent

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Los Alamitos Youth Center

**4. PRESENTATIONS:**

**a. Orange County Animal Care Services**

Orange County Animal Care Representatives Sergeant Su and Animal Care Officer Suggett were accompanied by a Beagle-mix dog named 'Badger' currently up for adoption at the Orange County Animal Shelter in Tustin. Sergeant Su reported that off-leash dogs were an ongoing issue in the Rossmoor community, particularly at Rush and Rossmoor Parks. She stated that they were increasing patrols in the Rossmoor area and reminded the public about potential consequences and fines for non-compliance with the leash law. The Animal Control Representatives briefly discussed the upcoming spring coyote breeding season and provided an overview of how to accurately report coyote sightings to the Rossmoor Wildlife Watch. The RCSD Board Members posed for photos with 'Badger' the dog. The presentation was received and filed.

**B. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA—None**

**C. PUBLIC FORUM:**

Marian Last with the Rossmoor Homeowners Association announced this year's Rossmoor Community Festival would be held on Sunday, May 5, 2019 (Cinco de Mayo) at Rush Park.

Doug Smith opined relative to the I-605/Katella Project and its potential increase in traffic safety issues, as well as the negative impact on Rossmoor property owners living close to Katella Avenue due to the elimination of green space in order to widen the roadway.

**D. REPORTS TO THE BOARD:**

**1. FY 2018-2019 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND 40 AMENDMENTS, BUDGET AND PROJECT LIST**

The General Manager reported that the CIP Committee met on January 24, 2019 to review the District’s FY 2018-2019 project list and Fund 40 Amended Budget. The Committee discussed the addition of new projects. These included the Southern California Edison LED street lighting upgrade, LED interior lighting upgrades at the Rush Park District Office and Rossmoor Park Community Center building, resurfacing of Rossmoor Park tennis courts and basketball courts, new flooring at Montecito Center, and the purchase of a new utility golf cart for special events and everyday maintenance.

Motion by Director Nitikman, seconded by Director DeMarco to adopt the 2019-2020 Budget Calendar, subject to the General Manager verifying the costs for resurfacing the tennis courts and comparing those costs to additional vendor quotes to be sure the District was getting the best price. Motion passed 4-0.

**E. CONSENT CALENDAR:**

**1a. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING—February 12, 2019**

**2. REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REPORT—January 2019**

Motion by Director Maynard, seconded by Director Nitikman, to approve the Consent Calendar as submitted. Motion passed 4-0.

**F. PUBLIC HEARING—None**

**G. RESOLUTIONS:**

**ORDINANCES—None**

**H. REGULAR CALENDAR:**

**1. ADOPTION OF FY 2019-2020 BUDGET CALENDAR**

The General Manager presented the 2019-2020 Budget Calendar for the Board’s review and adoption.

Motion by Director Maynard, seconded by Director Nitikman, to adopt the 2019-2020 Budget Calendar. Motion passed 4-0.

**2. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION RE: APPROVAL OF CULINARY PROGRAM AGREEMENT WITH CHEF STEVE GOSTIN, FOUNDER/CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, CULINARY NETWORKING GROUP, LLC, DBA OC CHEF CONCIERGE, INC. FOR CULINARY PROGRAM AT RUSH PARK KITCHEN**

**DUE TO A SCHEDULING CONFLICT ITEM H-2 APPROVAL OF CULINARY PROGRAM AGREEMENT, WAS REMOVED FROM THE AGENDA AND POSTPONED TO THE APRIL 9, 2019 BOARD MEETING**

### **3. REQUEST FOR FUNDING FOR THE 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR AT THE JOINT FORCES TRAINING BASE**

General Manager Joe Mendoza recommended the Board discuss the request by the City of Los Alamitos for a contribution from the RCSD in the amount of \$8,000 for the 2019 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks Spectacular at the Joint Forces Training Base, and direct staff as appropriate.

Discussion ensued. Motion by Director Nitikman, seconded by Director DeMarco to table Item H-3 until the May 2019 regular Board Meeting. In the meantime, the Board directed staff to conduct a survey and gather public input to determine whether the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks Spectacular event at the Joint Forces Training Base was important to Rossmoor residents and whether the Rossmoor Community Services District should continue to contribute funds to the event or invest the money in District programs. Motion passed 4-0.

### **4. SHAKESPEARE BY THE SEA REQUEST FOR DISTRICT COSPONSORSHIP AND STIPEND**

General Manager Joe Mendoza recommended the Board review and discuss the request by Shakespeare by the Sea for a co-sponsorship agreement in which the District would be responsible for coordinating any possible County permits needed and also provide a stipend requested in the amount of \$4,500.

Shakespeare by the Sea Program Director, Lisa Coffi, addressed the Board and provided an overview of the annual event and outlined the fundraising efforts and costs involved in the production.

Discussion ensued relative to the continual increase in annual costs and whether the money would be better invested in District-run programs instead. The General Manager stated that the District also contributed an additional \$500 towards the filming of the production, which would bring the total 2019 contribution to \$5,000.

Director DeMarco stated that initially the event was free, however, almost every year since Shakespeare by the Sea has asked the Board for an increase in the District's contribution. Lisa Coffi replied that the production costs were initially underwritten by a Rossmoor resident's generous donation, but that is no longer the case. Director DeMarco expressed concern that next year the amount could possibly increase again. Motion by Director Maynard, seconded by Director Nitikman to approve the request from Shakespeare by the Sea for a stipend in the amount of \$4,500 for this year's Shakespeare in the Park production. Motion passed 4-0.

### **5. APPROVAL OF TENNIS AGREEMENTS**

General Manager Joe Mendoza recommended approval of the new Professional Services Agreements with Tennis Instructors Fernando Molina and Beau Berglund to provide tennis instruction at Rossmoor Park, for a period of two years, from March 2019 to March 2021. Changes to the agreements included the addition of a CPI survey and a mandatory Department of Justice background check.

Motion by Director Maynard, seconded by Director Nitikman to approve the proposed Professional Services Agreements between the District and Tennis Instructors Fernando Molina

and Beau Berglund to provide tennis instruction at Rossmoor Park, for a period of two years, from March 2019 to March 2021. Motion passed 4-0.

## **I. GENERAL MANAGER ITEMS:**

General Manager Joe Mendoza thanked President Casey and Mary Kingman, Omero Perez and Chris Argueta for helping to make this year's Arbor Day Celebration an outstanding event. Many kids were in attendance and enjoyed the educational information, games and activities organized by District staff. He announced that RCSD would be honoring Los Alamitos Superintendent Dr. Sherry Kropp at the April 9 Board Meeting with a reception and proclamation. Andrew Pulver has been appointed as the new LAUSD Superintendent and he would invite him to a future RCSD Board meeting for introductions. The General Manager briefed the Board on the Community Survey which was due to go out in April in conjunction with the quarterly newsletter, and would also be posted on the District website and social media channels. Over the past few weeks a test survey had been sent to the Board and he encouraged their review and comments. He stated that the survey would be a valuable tool in helping the District prepare its budget and assist the Board in identifying Capital Improvement projects and programs. The General Manager further reported that the bike lane markings had been placed on Foster Road. When he called Orange County Public Works after the fact to inquire as to why the bike lane markings had been placed, he was told that they had been directed to install the markings and would have to reinstall them once the roads were slurry sealed later in the Spring. Rossmoor now has one shared bike lane along Foster Road/ Yellowtail Road.

Director Maynard inquired as to whether there was a traffic requirement and/or certain criteria for installation of a shared bike lane. He wanted to know if there was also going to be a shared bike lane conversion on Bradbury Road. If shared bike lanes are to be considered the latest and greatest thinking on safety with cyclists and kids he was curious as to why the County didn't have them all around the schools and on Mainway Road. He reasoned that if the community roads were going to be restriped and resurfaced in the spring, now would be the time to open up the concept of safety and cyclists. He concurred with Director DeMarco that there had to be more than one road in the community that people ride bikes on, especially around the four schools. He also requested that the County share the qualifying criteria for a bike lane. At Director DeMarco and Director Maynard's request, the General Manager agreed to verify if there would be a shared bike lane on Bradbury Road as well and what the new signage would look like.

The General Manager reported that the upcoming slurry seal road work project would be extensive and could potentially last a year; therefore, he had public works to provide a detailed schedule and map of the project to share with residents on the District website. The General Manager concluded that staff would present a facility and safety audit report, RHA facility usage consideration request at the April 9, 2019 board meeting.

## **J. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:**

Director DeMarco stated he was pleased with the new LED street lights and thinks the District chose the correct wattages. He was glad the project was completed and asked the General Manager to check with John King regarding the warranty process in the first year so the District would know how to respond to any requests for repairs or adjustments. The General Manager stated that

the lights were not dimmable and there was a cost to adding a directional shade—which was not what was originally stated by Southern California Edison. Director DeMarco encouraged General Manager Joe Mendoza to research the options that were originally presented by John King in their meeting with him over a year and a half ago. To his recollection the lights were represented as being adjustable and dimmable. That being said, overall, the lights were outstanding. He directed the General Manager to inquire with the County and the School District about placing shared bike routes around schools and in other areas of the community in conjunction with the upcoming restriping and slurry seal project. Director DeMarco thanked Orange County Animal Care Services for their presentation and for bringing the dog ‘Badger’ to the meeting tonight. He suggested putting information about coyote breeding season in the upcoming newsletter and making sure the Wildlife Watch information was on the District website. Director DeMarco again opined regarding the Shakespeare in the Park production costs. He stated that if the requested stipend continues to increase he would rather see the money go to a local high school drama student performance.

Director Maynard thanked Orange County Animal Care Services for coming out and reminding residents about the leash law. He especially wanted to thank ‘Badger’ the dog for coming and encouraged someone to adopt him soon. Director Maynard addressed recent articles in the Orange County Register that had reported unfavorably on special districts. He clarified that the article was focused on water and sewer districts and opined that Rossmoor was a community services district, one of the most efficient form of government. He stated that residents should feel confident that the Rossmoor Community Services District was very streamlined, prudent in the management of its limited resources and engaged with the community.

Director Nitikman opined regarding staff research into the expansion of Arbor Day and other events throughout the year. He remarked that Arbor Day was a good event to expand as Rossmoor was designated as a Tree City USA. It could be an educational event for all ages and a great way to build community. He inquired as to when the two trees were scheduled to be planted to replace the two diseased Ficus trees removed at Rush Park along Blume Drive. Planting was initially delayed in anticipation of the County’s decision regarding whether or not to install a curb cut in that location. Since the County had decided against the curb cut proposal he suggested scheduling a Tree Committee meeting and putting the tree replacement item on next month’s agenda for consideration before the weather became too hot. Director Nitikman remarked that he had observed a comment thread on Nextdoor Rossmoor regarding the new LED streetlights and they were all favorable, which was a tremendous accomplishment. He cautioned residents to be wary of coyotes during the upcoming breeding season and keep their pets safe. Director Nitikman opined regarding the culinary program item coming before the Board next month and requested that staff strive to differentiate its class offerings from similar programs in the area.

President Casey thanked Orange County Animal Care Services for bringing ‘Badger’ the dog with them and providing an update on coyotes and reminders about the leash law in Rossmoor. He stated that he was pleased that they were increasing patrols and enforcement in Rossmoor parks as it was challenging for the District to make dog owners comply with the leash law due to its limited staff and jurisdiction over such matters. President Casey was very complimentary about the entertainment and educational activities and tree planting provided at Rossmoor’s Arbor Day Celebration event on March 8<sup>th</sup> 2019. He echoed his fellow Board member’s praise about the seamless installation and positive reviews of the new LED streetlights in Rossmoor. He stated that

he was disappointed that the parking restrictions on Foster Road had been removed to install a shared bike lane and had safety concerns that cyclists would be weaving in and out of the original bike lane to avoid the parked cars.

**K. GENERAL COUNSEL ITEMS:**

General Counsel Tarquin Preziosi stated that the District was in the process of developing a procedure to fingerprint and conduct background checks on volunteers, contractors and supervisors who worked directly with youth. General Counsel reported, as standard practice, staff would be attaching insurance policy and endorsement documents to all contracts as an exhibit before being placed on the board agenda, so that when the item is approved it will contain all proper insurance documents.

**L. CLOSED SESSION: None**

**M. ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Director DeMarco, seconded by Director Maynard, to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:20 p.m. Motion passed 4-0.

**SUBMITTED BY:**

**Joe Mendoza  
General Manager**