

**CARMICHAEL RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES: ADVISORY BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FEBRUARY 19, 2009 REGULAR MEETING**

Directors: Borman, Dover, Lenau, Safford, and Younger

CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the Carmichael Recreation and Park District Advisory Board of Directors was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Younger.

ROLL CALL:

Directors Present: Borman, Dover, Lenau and Younger
Directors Absent: Safford (excused absence)
Staff Present: Harrison, Kerth, Maddison, Murray and Penney

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Director Dover.

SWEARING IN OF NEW ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER, BURNIE LENAU:

Chairman Younger administered the oath of office for new Advisory Board Member, Burnie Lenau.

PRESENTATION ITEM 1 MOVED TO IMMEDIATELY AFTER CONSENT ITEMS BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

PUBLIC OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST WITHIN DISTRICT JURISDICTION ON ITEM(S) NOT SCHEDULED ON THE AGENDA

Coleen Butler – Lives near Schweitzer Grove. Wonders why District took out Native Oak saplings on West side of park but planted new, smaller saplings on the East side of the park. Questioned whether it was a good practice to bring in prison inmates to work in the nature area so close to private homes.

John Butler – Lives near Schweitzer Grove. Does not approve of trees cut down in January by District.

CONSENT ITEMS:

1. **MINUTES**
January 22, 2009
2. **FINANCIAL STATEMENT**
December 2008
3. **ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**
January 2009
4. **ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE**
February 2009
5. **RANGER MONTHLY REPORT**
January 2009

Motion 1

M: Borman; S: Dover – The Advisory Board voted to approve Consent Items 1 – 5 as presented.
UNANIMOUS VOTE

PRESENTATION ITEM

1. **CARMICHAEL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**
Don Reiners from Carmichael Chamber of Commerce reported on status of Founders Day Celebration. They plan to use Carmichael Park to celebrate Carmichael's Centennial Year. They will have a banner to span across Fair Oaks Boulevard. There will be day-long and evening-long entertainment, possibly including fireworks.

CORRESPONDENCE: Letter of appreciation from Senior Softball League – Received and filed

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: Nothing to report

ACTION ITEMS:

1. STANDING COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Motion 2

M: Dover; S: Borman – The Advisory Board voted to endorse the Chairman’s Selections as presented. (attached) UNANIMOUS VOTE.

2. CARMICHAEL AQUATIC PROJECT COMMITTEE

Staff Presentation:

Administrator Harrison said several funding strategies are being evaluated, including the possibility of a benefit assessment tax. Committee wishes to move forward with a survey to determine resident attitude for such a tax. Recommendation is to proceed with hiring a consultant to do the survey, costing about \$29,000. The citizens’ committee will raise funds, with survey being done in summer. The consultant would be under contract with the District but funded through donations.

Discussion:

Director Dover asked if the Committee was sure they wanted to proceed with it this year due to the economy.

Administrator Harrison said the Committee wants to get a barometer of community support.

Chairman Younger added that they needed to start now if they were considering a May 2010 election.

The survey is the first step.

Director Lenau asked how close the Committee is to raising the money. Administrator Harrison said they are waiting for the Advisory Board decision to move forward, but they have raised between \$6,000 and \$7,000. They will be starting community presentations soon. The \$29,000 has to be raised first before the District will enter into a contract to do the survey. Once the consultant is hired, they will come back to the Advisory Board to approve the survey before it goes out.

Motion 3

M: Lenau; S: Borman – The Advisory Board voted to approve the Staff recommendation to hire consultants to conduct a community survey, if adequate funds are made available by June 1, 2009, as presented. UNANIMOUS VOTE

3. O’DONNELL HERITAGE PARK

Staff Presentation:

Administrator Harrison said the District has been meeting with the O’Donnell Park neighborhood group monthly. They are making progress on a potential alternative plan for that park site. The neighborhood group would like to add a half court basketball court to the Master Plan, which is consistent with “best practices” for neighborhood parks. The additional cost would be minimal. Staff recommended scheduling a public hearing for the March 19, 2009 Advisory Board meeting, with notice regarding the Neighborhood Committee proposal. At this time, no action is requested other than to receive the report from the Neighborhood Committee and schedule for a public hearing.

Committee Presentation:

Ed Nicholson, Chair, O’Donnell Neighborhood Park Committee said they would like to add a half basketball court to the Master Plan. It would attract older children to the park and make it more useful to the neighborhood. They have made substantial progress toward raising donations. They are confident they can meet their goal of \$220,000 by September, 2009 with a combination of financial and labor donations. They have raised \$22,000 so far and are working on labor donations as well as further fundraising. They have a website up and running.

Discussion:

Director Dover applauded their progress.

Chairman Younger asked what the County’s role would be in this project. Mr. Nicholson said everything will be coordinated and approved with the County. Administrator Harrison said they have already started talking with the County to confirm County requirements. Anyone volunteering services would have to be qualified and under contract with the District.

Chairman Younger asked if there is any risk of getting ahead of the CEQA process. Administrator Harrison said the risk is incumbent upon the Committee and they are aware of this.

Motion 4

M: Dover; S: Borman – The Advisory Board voted to approve Staff recommendation to receive the report from the citizens’ committee and schedule a public hearing for March 19, 2009 to consider their proposal to update the Master Plan for O’Donnell Heritage Park. UNANIMOUS VOTE

PRESENTATION ITEMS:

1. CARMICHAEL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Moved above to immediately after Consent items.

2. LA SIERRA LEASES

Ken Noack from Grubb & Ellis made a presentation to update the Advisory Board on their marketing efforts. They have three qualified candidates interested in the La Sierra property. Keystone will be relocating as early as April. The market competition is an elementary school on Eastern Avenue, San Juan School District, and Loretto High School. Loretto, however, is a “for sale” property.

3. PRELIMINARY BUDGET FY 2009-10

Administrator Harrison presented a Preliminary Budget schedule as follows: Staff budget meeting will be March 2; Advisory Board Budget Committee to meet the week of March 9; Proposed Preliminary Budget will be placed on the Advisory Board March 19 agenda.

4. SCHWEITZER GROVE NATURE AREA

Keith Maddison said he was sensitive to the issues raised by the citizens. A Sheriff’s work crew was used to clear brush, move debris, and help plant 45 trees. District Staff does the actual cutting of trees and brush. 45 oak trees were planted. Each site was evaluated separately. He said he realized it was a mistake to not notify the neighbors in advance. Future advance notification processes are being put into place. Regarding disc golf, he agreed the discs do a lot of damage but, during the Master Plan process there was overwhelming support for disc golf in the grove. Chairman Younger indicated that the Sheriff’s Department screens the members of the crew. Jerry Eppler commented that they are supervised by uniformed deputies and District Staff. Director Dover said the inmates allowed to work on the crews are not hard core, but people trying to clear their records for minor infractions.

Public Comment:

Joan Komaromi – lives near Schweitzer Grove: Says the area looks very bad. Wants to see trees planted at 30 feet from property line, not 50 feet clearance.

5. ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER REPORTS – nothing to report

6. STAFF REPORT

Tracy Kerth introduced new intern, Jordan Whitford. He is working with Alaina Loftus at La Sierra. Rich Murray is retiring March 13, 2009, and this was his last attendance at an Advisory Board meeting as Staff. He said it had been an honor to serve, and was appreciative that the Advisory Board had been so supportive of Staff. Director Younger thanked Mr. Murray on behalf of the Advisory Board for his service. Director Dover said Mr. Murray would be hard to replace.

NEW BUSINESS – None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/UPCOMING EVENTS:

1. Carmichael Aquatic Project Committee (CAP) Meeting – February 25, 6:00 p.m. Community Clubhouse
2. Preliminary Budget FY 2009-10 – Regular Meeting on March 19
3. Relief of Accountability on Equipment – Regular Meeting on March 19
4. O’Donnell Heritage Park, Master Plan – Public Hearing at Regular Meeting, on March 19

TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING:

1. Regular Meeting

Thursday, March 19, 2009, 6:00 pm in Community Clubhouse #2 at Carmichael Park

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m. by Chairman Younger.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Phillips,
Temporary
Administrative Secretary

APPROVED BY:

ATTESTED BY:

DAVID YOUNGER
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

INGRID S. PENNEY
Administrative Services Manager
Clerk of the Advisory Board of Directors