



Livermore Area  
Recreation and Park District  
*An independent special district*

**LIVERMORE AREA RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2020**

2:00 P.M.

*NOTICE: Coronavirus COVID-19*

*In accordance with Governor Newsom's Executive Orders, members of the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Board of Directors and staff participated in this meeting via teleconference. In the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing, members of the public also participated in this meeting electronically.*

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Directors Faltings, Furst, Pierpont, Wilson and Chair Palajac

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** None

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mat Fuzie, Patricia Lord, Alexandra Ikeda, Fred Haldeman, Jeffrey Schneider, Jill Kirk, David Weisgerber, Joseph Benjamin, Julie Dreher, Linda VanBuskirk, Lynn Loucks, Megan O'Connor, Michelle Newbould, Nancy Blair, Natalie Kaaiawahia, Robert Sanchez, Sandra Kaya, Stacey Kenison, Vicki Wiedenfeld, Rod Attebery, Andy Pinasco

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Ashley Vera (City of Livermore), Andy Ross (City of Livermore), Bob Vinn (City of Livermore)

**1. CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Chair Palajac called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. All Directors were present, via Zoom. Chair Palajac led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT:** There were no public comments.

**3. CONSENT ITEMS (Motion)**

- 3.1 Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of June 24, 2020
- 3.2 General Manager's Monthly Update to the Board – July 2020

Moved by Director Wilson, seconded by Director Furst, approved the Consent Agenda, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Directors Wilson, Faltings, Furst, Pierpont, and Chair Palajac  
NOES: None  
ABSTENTIONS: None  
ABSENT: None

#### **4. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

##### **4.1 CITY OF LIVERMORE PROJECT UPDATE ON ISABEL NEIGHBORHOOD SPECIFIC PLAN**

GM Fuzie reported that this item (and the next item) came before the Facilities Committee on July 2, 2020. After a robust discussion, the Facilities Committee recommended approval of the plan by the full Board. GM Fuzie and staff now recommend approval of the plan and moving forward with acceptance of the parks in the plan. He confirmed that LARPD will be involved in all aspects of park planning as developer design plans are reviewed. These parks will be highly programmable and an asset to the District.

Assistant General Manager Patricia Lord introduced City of Livermore staff members Bob Vinn, Assistant City Engineer; Ashley Vera, Associate Planner, and Andy Ross, Associate Planner.

Mr. Ross provided a detailed presentation on the Isabel Neighborhood Specific Plan (INSP) which highlighted an overview of the plan and the planning process for development, including the parks, trails and open space envisioned within the plan. The vision for the INSP is to create a vibrant and complete neighborhood (i.e. a neighborhood with a variety of uses and amenities to serve the needs of the community, including a range of housing types, parks, trails, shopping and restaurants) with access to regional transit.

City Staff recommended the LARPD support the INSP and provide comments, and accept the operations, programming and maintenance of the proposed Parks and Trails identified within the INSP as part of the LARPD system and continue to collaborate with City Staff in developing the parks and securing maintenance funding.

City Staff responded to Board questions/comments regarding Capital Costs and Maintenance Costs of the three parks and trail corridors; coordination and partnership between LARPD and the City during the development process, especially regarding the parks and trails; use of recycled water; timing of overpass near Park A; existing underpass/trail that connects north and south of 580 on east side of INSP; potential purchase of land north of Cayetano Park, currently owned by Shea.

Chair Palajac opened public comment. No public comments were received. Public comment was closed.

Moved by Director Wilson, seconded by Director Furst, adopted Resolution No. 2698, authorizing the General Manager to send a letter on behalf of the Board in support of the Isabel Neighborhood Specific Plan, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Directors Pierpont, Faltings, Furst, Wilson, and Chair Palajac  
NOES: None  
ABSTENTIONS: None  
ABSENT: None

#### **4.2 CITY OF LIVERMORE UPDATE ON TRAIL T6**

AGM Lord thanked City of Livermore Staff for attending the board meeting to provide an update on the Arroyo Las Positas Trail T6.

Andy Ross, Associate Planner with the City of Livermore provided an update on the progress made on Trail T6 located near the Las Colinas overpass between Redwood Road and the Las Colinas overpass. He reported that the City is in negotiations with an adjacent development to construct the trail through a development agreement. If the project is approved, along with the development agreement, the trail will be constructed in coordination with post-entitlement work, such as recording the subdivision map, constructing improvements and constructing the homes. This item was approved (4-1) by the City Planning Commission and will be going before the City Council in August.

Board members expressed excitement to see this project coming to fruition and thanked City Staff for their support, updates and presentation.

GM Fuzie provided clarification regarding the resolution verbiage as shown on the agenda. He stated that because the Lassen Road Townhome Project will be going before the City Council soon, he drafted a letter stating that the District's interest in the Lassen Road Development is due to its strong support for the creation of the Arroyo Las Positas Trail T6.

Chair Palajac opened public comment. No public comments were received. Public comment was closed.

Moved by Director Furst, seconded by Director Faltings, adopted Resolution No. 2699, authorizing the Board Chair to sign a letter on behalf of the Board to the City of Livermore in support of the Arroyo Las Positas Trail T6 connection process, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Directors Wilson, Pierpont, Faltings, Furst, and Chair Palajac  
NOES: None  
ABSTENTIONS: None  
ABSENT: None

#### **4.3 AMENDMENT TO THE MEMORIAL AND COMMEMORATIVE POLICY**

This item was pulled by the General Manager for additional Staff work.

#### 4.4 MAY NISSEN POOL

The Board reviewed and discussed the status of the May Nissen pools, including the impact on recreation offerings, and discussed potential funding opportunities such as Proposition 68 grant funds. GM Fuzie reported that the pools are not open to the public due to COVID-19, but would not be open now regardless because the plaster has been sloughing off and could become a safety issue. The cost to replaster both pools is approximately \$300K. Both pools are at the end of their usable experience.

Discussion ensued regarding maintaining the facility vs. the idea of a grander swim complex which may qualify as a capital project. Replastering the pools would allow LARPD to reopen for the 2021 swim season, and could buy the District time to work toward the idea of a larger swim complex for the future.

Board consensus was that staff will bring potential solutions to the Facilities Committee once the financial picture becomes clearer.

#### 4.5 JOE MICHELL SCHOOL PROJECT

GM Fuzie reported that the Extended Student Services buildings at Joe Michell School must be removed and replaced by LARPD. By law, the Livermore Valley Unified School District (LVJUSD) cannot spend money on LARPD's program. The cost for this project is approximately \$1.3M. During the COVID-19 process, Staff has been considering potential funding sources. Staff would like to pursue AB1600 funds, if it is determined that this is a legal avenue. This project will be adding capacity, not just replacing capacity. Board questions/comments included: The amount of money available to LARPD from the AB1600 funds. [*\$2.5M in spend for this coming fiscal year.*] Would the Board be amenable to having Staff pursue switching to the AB1600 funding source, if that proves to be a possibility? Board consensus was "yes" and gave direction to Staff to explore this avenue.

### 5. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (No Action Required)

#### 5.1 2020 UPDATE OF "PARKS AND FACILITIES GUIDE"

AGM Lord gave a brief report regarding the 2020 update of the Parks and Facilities Guide. The guide was designed as a reference for staff and board members and may be useful to City staff, Chamber of Commerce, the Livermore Valley Unified School District and other community partners. Since its last revision in 2016, a number of Capital Improvement Projects have been completed, necessitating a more current update.

- Regarding The Barn: Director Wilson discussed the significance of the arts community in maintaining and improving The Barn throughout its history and suggested it would be appropriate to mention that in the guide.

#### 5.2 PROPOSITION 68 ALLOCATIONS AND GUIDELINES

GM Fuzie reported that Proposition 68 is the Parks and Water Bond Act of 2018. The Per Capita Grant Program provides funds for local park rehabilitation, creation, and improvement grants to local governments on a per capita basis. Grant recipients are encouraged to utilize awards to rehabilitate existing infrastructure and to address deficiencies in neighborhoods lacking access to the outdoors. In Livermore, the District's allocation is \$177,952 plus per capita \$0.61 per person within our population which totals approximately \$230K-240K. Because Livermore is not considered an underserved community, the District's portion of the match is 20%. This is a

reimbursement program. The Office of Grants and Local Services (OGALS) will be hosting technical training for agencies on how the monies should be used. Before we commit the District to a specific project, Board approval of the project would be necessary.

- Do we want to avail ourselves of the funds?
- Are the restrictions that come with it so onerous that it is not worth the 25 years of reporting?
- What kind of projects could we complete and where would we see the greatest need?
- Could the funds be used along with AB1600 funds or others?

## 6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Director Furst reported on the July 2, 2020 Facilities Committee meeting.
- b) Director Furst reported on the July 1, 2020 Chamber of Commerce Business Alliance meeting.
- c) Director Pierpont reported on the June 29, 2020 Ad Hoc Committee regarding Memorial and Commemorative Program meeting.
- d) Director Pierpont reported on the July 7, 2020 Ad Hoc Committee regarding Budget meeting.

## 7. MATTERS INITIATED/ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE DIRECTORS

- a) Director Faltings announced she will be moving this weekend, and may be incommunicado over the next few days. If you need to contact her, she can be reached on her mobile phone. She will let Linda VanBuskirk know her new address once she is settled in.
- b) Director Furst spoke about an incident he witnessed at Sycamore Grove Park where groups of people are not wearing masks or social distancing on the trails. He suggested that the Park Rangers remind/educate visitors that COVID-19 is getting worse, not better, and that we must be considerate of others to avoid exposure.
- c) Director Pierpont reported that he witnessed a similar situation at Sycamore Grove Park as the one Director Furst discussed.
- d) Director Wilson also witnessed a similar situation at Sycamore Grove Park as those reported by Directors Furst and Pierpont.
- e) Chair Palajac announced that the July 29, 2020 Public Meeting in the Park will be canceled, given the recent rise in coronavirus cases in this area.
- f) Chair Palajac asked staff to schedule an information session for potential candidates who want to run for the LARPD Board of Directors. The nomination period for candidates to file their paperwork will run from July 13 to August 7. If an incumbent does not file a Declaration of Candidacy by the end of the nomination period, the seat will be extended for another 5 calendar days.
- g) Chair Palajac asked if LARPD would set up a table at the upcoming Farmers Market as it provides an opportunity for LARPD to let the community know what kind of offerings we are able to provide during the COVID-19 pandemic and to find out from them what types of activities they are interested in having us explore. AGM Lord responded that our Marketing and Public Information Officer, Stacey Kenison, will be taking the lead on hosting an LARPD table at the Farmers Market.

## 8. MATTERS INITIATED/ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE GENERAL MANAGER

GM Fuzie made the following announcements:

- a) The Sprinklers in the Park program has been canceled.

- b) Because of the way rules are currently written, our programs operating now cross check with each other to make sure that participants are only participating in one program, i.e. you cannot go to Nature Camp in the morning and then go to an athletics camp in the afternoon. LARPD staff has been working very hard to provide programs for the community while navigating tight restrictions. Staff is to be commended for their creativity during this time.
- c) AGM Lord shared that LARPD has won two awards recently: One is from the California Association of Recreation and Park District's 2020 Award of Distinction for "Outstanding Renovated Facility" for the May Nissen Community Park. The other is a safety award for "Outstanding Performance" from the California Association for Park and Recreation Indemnity.
- d) District Counsel Rod Attebery re-introduced associate Andy Pinasco to the Board and staff. Mr. Pinasco will continue to join in on these board meetings.

**9. ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

APPROVED,

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Jan Palajac  
Chair, Board of Directors

ATTEST:

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Mathew L. Fuzie  
General Manager and  
Ex-officio Clerk to the Board of Directors