



LIVERMORE AREA RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT

MINUTES

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2017**

ROBERT LIVERMORE COMMUNITY CENTER  
4444 EAST AVENUE, LIVERMORE, CALIFORNIA

REGULAR MEETING  
7:00 P.M.

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

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Tim Barry, Consulting Project Manager Tonie Cox, Patricia Lord, Jeffrey Schneider, Gretchen Sommers, Monica Streeter

1. **CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**  
Chair Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. All Directors were present.
2. **PRESENTATION**
  - 2.1 **RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE DISTRICT'S 70<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**  
On behalf of the California Legislature, Assemblywoman Catharine Baker presented a resolution to the Board commemorating the District's 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. She congratulated and thanked the District for all that it offers to the community and its stewardship of open space.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**  
No public comment.
4. **CONSENT AGENDA**
  - 4.1 **BOARD MINUTES**
    - 4.1.1 Regular Meeting of November 8, 2017.
  - 4.2 **COMMUNICATIONS**
    - 4.2.1 General Manager's Monthly Report (71/5).

Director Furst requested that the minutes of the November 8, 2017 Board meeting and the General Manager's Monthly Report be pulled. He requested a correction in the Nov. 8 minutes in item 7.3 regarding Holdener Park trail names. He noted that the Monthly Report had information about a rescue at the RLCC

Aquatics Center. He would like there to have been more focus on a successful rescue at the pool.

Moved by Director Faltings, seconded by Director Furst, approved the Consent Agenda, with revisions to minutes by the following voice vote:

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

**5. CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS**

None.

**6. BIDS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None.

**7. OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

**8.1 SUNSET PARK PLAY TRAIL CONCEPTUAL PLAN**

Chair Wilson stated that the Board will consider approving the conceptual plan for the grant-funded Sunset Park Play Trail.

Director Palajac recused herself because she lives next to Sunset Park.

GM Barry introduced the District's new Assistant General Manager Patricia Lord. Ms. Lord provided details regarding the program in which LARPD participated in order to receive grant funding for this project. She reported that the grant will be used to partially fund Phase 1 of improvements to Sunset Park. As the Board is aware, LARPD removed the playground from the park recently, as it was in dangerous proximity to a compromised valley oak tree, which the District is preserving. Ms. Lord stated that the District notified neighbors of the park of two public meetings at which the play trail was discussed. She introduced Consulting Project Manager Tonie Cox and Chad Kennedy, Principal at O'Dell Engineering, who prepared the conceptual plan.

Ms. Cox gave a presentation on the park and the project, discussing the various play elements of the improvements, project timeline, etc.

Director questions/comments/discussion: pleased that the soccer play area will not be disturbed by the improvements; this would be a great area to have a terrain slide feature; clarification that Phase 2 would be part of 2018/19 budget; distance between the three different play pods; bees in the oak tree; reasoning for number of play pods; new play equipment durability and vandal resistance.

Director Furst asked for clarification on how the matching \$60,000 grant works and how much money the District will be spending. Lengthy discussion ensued regarding what the total cost of the project will be and how it affects the District's CIP Budget; Directors' wish to receive much more information (design, budget, timeline) on this project and others, much further in advance of when they are

asked to approve plans or budgets; timeline for purchasing equipment; suggestion that the District formalize whether the Board sees grants; agreement that the Board needs to get more information sooner, but does not wish to hold up this project.

Chair Wilson opened public comment.

- 1) Terry McCune thanked the Board for moving this ahead faster than glacially. Expressed concern regarding significant vandalism in the area near where the Arroyo play pod may be placed, vandalism of memorial trees; drug use and homeless camp in arroyo; urged Board to relocate the Arroyo play pod.
- 2) Laura Kell said that her family did not think the playground would leave when they moved into the neighborhood. Said there are lots of young families. And the area and removal of the play equipment has affected them. Feels that removal of the playground has caused an increase in a less family friendly element in the park; a bad element of people. The proposed new equipment will be well used and well loved.

Chair Wilson closed public comment.

Continued discussion regarding the budget and the provision of information to the Board further in advance, particularly that the Board wishes to know what the maximum cost of this project is estimated to be. Staff and Ms. Cox were not able to provide total project costs at this time. Directors expressed that they did not wish to delay the project unnecessarily, and that the Board is being asked to approve only the conceptual plans at this time, not the budget.

Moved by Director Faltings, seconded by Director Pierpont, approved the conceptual plan for the grant-funded Sunset Park Play Trail by the following voice vote:

AYES:	<i>Pierpont, Faltings, Furst and Chair Wilson</i>
NOES:	<i>None</i>
ABSTENTIONS:	<i>Palajac</i>
ABSENT:	<i>None</i>

Staff will come back to the Board with concrete numbers for this project.

Director Palajac returned to the dais at 8:19 p.m.

## **8.2 DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS TO ORDINANCE NO. 8**

Chair Wilson stated that the Board will consider the introduction of amended Ordinance No. 8 and consider waiving the first reading.

AGM Lord reported on the proposed amendment, which concerns clarifying leash regulations for dogs on trails, and the desire to be consistent with the City of Livermore, which is also revising the section on leashes in its ordinance.

Moved by Director Faltings, seconded by Director Palajac, approved a waiving of the first reading of amended Ordinance No. 8, by the following voice vote:

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

The Board had no revisions to suggest. Chair Wilson directed staff to publish and post a notice of public hearing stating that this topic will be addressed at the January 17, 2018 Board meeting.

### **8.3 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2018**

Chair Wilson stated that the Board will set the time and place for Board meetings and adopt a Meeting Schedule for 2018.

Directors recommended a few revisions to the schedule and directed GM Barry to research what regulation the District is following in establishing the second and last Wednesdays of the month as Board meeting dates, and to report back at a future meeting.

Moved by Director Furst, seconded by Director Pierpont, set the time and place for Board meetings and adopted a 2018 Meeting Schedule, as revised, by the following voice vote:

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

### **8.4 ANNUAL BOARD POLICY MANUAL REVIEW**

Chair Wilson stated that the Board will discuss whether it wishes to make any revisions to the Board Policy Manual.

GM Barry reported that staff has prepared a revised section regarding the costs of handling candidate statements. This item was already deliberated by the Board; the revision memorializes what the Board already decided on.

GM Barry brought up the topic of the timing of election of Chair and Vice Chair of the Board. This item had initially been brought up by Director Furst, who explained that it could be very difficult and awkward for new Directors to have to vote for Board Chair and Vice Chair in December, when they had just been elected a month prior. The matter was discussed by the Personnel Committee earlier this year, and the Committee directed GM Barry to provide an alternative to December elections. GM Barry offered the alternative of holding the election of officers in February, as well as making committee assignments then. Perhaps the Board could start this practice next year.

The Board discussed the scenario of both officers losing their seats in the general election; what then? It was determined that staff would conduct research on this and come back to the Board for further consideration. Perhaps this topic can go back to the Personnel Committee for discussion.

### **8.5 ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS FOR 2018**

Chair Wilson opened the nomination for Chair and Vice Chair of the Board of Directors for calendar year 2018.

Moved by Director Furst to nominate Vice Chair Faltings to serve as Chair of the Board of Directors for 2018. No other nominations received. Chair Wilson closed nominations for Chair.

The motion to elect Vice Chair Faltings as Chair of the Board for calendar year 2018 passed unanimously, by the following voice vote:

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

Moved by Chair Wilson to nominate Director Furst to serve as Vice Chair of the Board of Directors for 2018. No other nominations received. Chair Wilson closed nominations for Vice Chair.

The motion to elect Director Furst as Vice Chair of the Board for calendar year 2018 passed unanimously, by the following voice vote:

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

**9. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Director Furst reported on the Dec. 6 Chamber of Commerce Business Alliance meeting.

**10. MATTERS INITIATED/ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE DIRECTORS**

- 1) Director Faltings reported that the Victorian Yuletide event on Dec. 10 was very successful. The next Ravenswood event is the August Ice Cream Social. Special thanks to Sandy Silva of the Ravenswood Progress League, for the beautiful decorating of Ravenswood.
- 2) Chair Wilson encouraged the public to attend the Nutcracker this weekend. It is a wonderful local presentation with a live orchestra.

**11. MATTERS INITIATED/ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE GENERAL MANAGER**

GM Barry made the following announcements:

- 1) The LARPD winter/spring activity guide is out.
- 2) Upcoming Sycamore Grove Park hike.
- 3) 23rd annual Yule Log Hunt in Sycamore Grove Park on Dec. 17.
- 4) RLCC is closed Dec. 25, 26, 29 and 31, and will have a limited holiday schedule when open.
- 5) RLCC Aquatics facilities closed for maintenance Dec. 22-Jan. 5. The 13<sup>th</sup> annual Polar Bear Slide will be on Jan. 13.

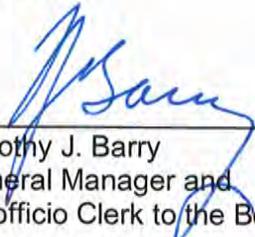
**12. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

APPROVED,

  
Maryalice Summers Faltings  
Chair, Board of Directors

ATTEST:

  
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Timothy J. Barry  
General Manager and  
Ex-officio Clerk to the Board of Directors