

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING

APPROVED MINUTES

September 14, 2011

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Judy Friedman and Dan Wilkins

STAFF PRESENT: Cindy Gustafson, Bob Bolton, Layne Van Noy, Roger Adamson, Kelli Twomey, and Amy Norman

OTHERS PRESENT: No others were present

The September 14, 2011 meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m.

1. COMMITTEE PRIORITIES FOR 2012 PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGET

Ms. Gustafson asked the Committee about their priorities for the upcoming year. Talk turned to the Policy Statement. Objective 3.1 states 'Increase efficiency and cost-effectiveness by developing a computerized maintenance management system.' Mr. Bolton and Mr. Adamson have been meeting with Sean Barclay for the Geographical Information System (GIS). They determined main categories and what is listed under each. Staff will be inventorying each area and looking at the maintenance management system to input this inventory. Mr. Adamson has experience with these systems and feels they are very efficient, especially with staff time.

Objective 3.2 'Generate outside funding through grants and public/private partnerships.' The requests for Rideout, Highlands and the dog park have been completed. Objective 3.4 is 'Maximize staffing efficiencies through use of seasonal, part-time, contract, California Conservation Corps (CCC's), and volunteer labor.' Ms. Gustafson would like to see the District maximize our staffing efficiencies with more focus on volunteer labor.

Director Wilkins has some items of concern. The PUD had \$425,000 in a reserve fund for the bike trails last year. Does the District want to use this to overlay the existing bike trails or look at the possibility of widening them in areas along the Truckee River where it is feasible? This is something that the Board needs to discuss. Ms. Gustafson pointed out the erosion issues and the damage done by the rafters. Mr. Bolton and Ms. Twomey toured the trails recently and saw definite areas that could be widened but not the entire trail due to limitations with the river and steep walls. Mr. Bolton added that Caltrans created this situation with the new road design and the pull offs. Director Friedman thinks Caltrans should be brought into any discussions the District has on this matter.

Another item Director Wilkins brought up was the boat ramp. How much would the District have to raise the rates to have the ramp break even? If the rates were raised to \$15 or \$20 it would still be less than Obexer's which is \$25 for in and out.

Director Wilkins added that the PUD should set up a replacement reserve for the Parks Department. One portion is handled through the routine maintenance of the budget but some is not and could be covered through a reserve.

Director Friedman is pleased with the efforts staff is making with the marketing efforts. Ms. Twomey is working with Ms. Norman on implementing a new email blast system called Constant Contact.

Talk turned to the purchase of the Tahoe City Golf Course. Mr. Adamson has experience with golf courses which will be useful. The course currently has three full time staff which seems adequate for maintenance for the condition the course is in. Ms. Gustafson stated that the District would have to look at the numbers the course is bringing in. The real money maker would be putting in a driving range. Director Wilkins sees three operational models. First having a concessionaire like at Highlands, second having the District running it all, and third having a combination where the District maintains the course and has a concessionaire running the bar and restaurant.

Director Wilkins pointed out that the golf course is an investment in time. How much time is the District willing to give it to break even? How is all of this going to fit in with the budgeting process? How much money can the PUD pull from existing reserve accounts and feel comfortable with? There will be an initial dollar amount that will be required to begin the maintenance on the course.

Ms. Gustafson said that if Placer County would pay the PUD the full amount to maintain Commons Beach and Lake Forest, and if State Parks would pay the full amount to run Skylandia, the PUD could come up with the million dollars it needs to help fund the purchase of the golf course. If the owners accept the offer from the PUD, there will be 180 days for due diligence, and another 60 days to come up with financing. The PUD would open the course in the spring or even sooner if a concessionaire could be found for the winter.

Discussion turned to the future of the Tahoe Community Center (TCC). Ms. Gustafson wants to push out any major capital for the building until the plans for West Commons Beach have been completed. She would like to see NLTRA take this on as the PUD will be too busy with the golf course. The PUD would still be involved but wouldn't be running the project. A public meeting will be held on October 17 concerning alternative concepts and funding for West Commons Beach. This will be a joint meeting with NLTRA and the consultants.

2. DEPARTMENT UPDATES AND REPORTS

Mr. Bolton gave his report. The Rideout kitchen is still with the DSA who have been reviewing it with the ADA. Melanie Jackson who has promised to fund the project through her self directed fund with the TTCF is still on board.

Mr. Bolton has a meeting with the Foothill Farmers and TCDA concerning moving the Farmers Market from Commons Beach to 64 Acres. Both sides are uneasy about the move but the

direction from the Board is to move. It is going to cost approximately \$10,000 to get the necessary permits from the Forest Service and to pay for the consultant.

Mr. Bolton is working with Auerbach Engineering on the bike trail near Midway Bridge to discuss the erosion issues. They will be testing several options over the winter.

Mr. Adamson reported on taking over the maintenance on more Placer County properties. So far the park and bike trail in Squaw Valley and the Customs House have been very routine with no surprises. Director Friedman asked about plowing the trail in Squaw in the winter. Ms. Gustafson replied that it would be a safety issue with the ice buildup and compacting the snow would be the only option.

Mr. Van Noy reported on Recreation. The aquatics program is in full swing even though Lake Forest pulled out from lending us their pool. Tahoe Tavern is allowing us use of their pool at no cost through the month of September. The fall brochure is out and advertises our upcoming programs.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

No one was present for this item.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

Amy Norman, Administrative Assistant

Prepared by Amy Norman