



Western Gateway Recreation & Park District

MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Wednesday, March 22, 2017

5:00 pm Closed Meeting 6:00 pm Open Meeting

Buttermaker's Cottage

1. **Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance**

The meeting was called to order at 5:06 pm by Chairman Peirce. Vice Chair House led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **Roll Call/Establish Quorum** – Nancy Peirce, Chairman, Present; Dan House, Vice chairman, Present; Jim Driver, Present; Chris Harris, Absent; Cliff Bryant, Absent

3. **Adjourn to Closed Session** – 5:04 pm

a. Personnel Issues

4. **Adjourn Closed Session** – 6:01 pm

5. **Reconvene Open Session** - 6:06 pm

6. **Report of Closed Session** – Chairman Peirce had no report of the closed session as it concerned personnel issues. No vote was taken.

7. **Introduction of guests** – Brittany Cournyer (Vice-President), Clayton Rapoza, Michael Allgeier (President), and Cindy (Treasurer) all with the Civil War Re-enactors group.

8. **Agenda Approval**– Vice-Chair House moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Director Driver seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

9. **Public Comments** – None

10. **Minutes** – The minutes for February 22, 2017, Board of Director's Meeting were tabled until next month.

11. **Old Business**

a. Michael Allgeier (President), Cindy (Treasurer), Brittany Cournyer and Clayton Rapoza presented more information for the Civil War Re-enactments they would like to hold here at our park. Michael said that the spring dates would not work out. The Reservation is set now for the middle of October, as they want to make sure it is held during school days. They will set up on a Thursday evening, have school field trips all day Friday, and will have stations for cooking, ball-gowns, firearms, and doctors. Then battles for the public Saturday and Sunday. They will contact the schools ahead of time, from seniors down to 4th grade. Teachers love it, as they are very interactive. Director Driver added that President Lincoln was nominated by Aaron Sargent from Nevada City; also, they use black powder, so fire will shoot out. He asked if the Suters will be there and Brittany replied they have been invited. Clayton said that the East Area will be more controllable as far as people walking around. Michael asked if the Board will give a discount. Chairman Peirce replied that the Board of Directors will discuss that. Brittany explained that they would like Thursday setup and camping for free, Friday at a discount, and then Saturday and Sunday at full price. Chairman Peirce shared that they will be given the non-profit price, and that we want them to succeed. A Gate fee is permissible. Brittney asked if an above ground fire-pit will work, and was told that was alright.

b. David Gagnon, Nijitsu Martial Arts - Chairman Peirce explained that David will be giving lessons here at Buttermaker's Cottage every Tuesday and Thursday, from 4 pm to 6 pm. Temporarily we are charging him \$15.00 per hour, long-term Cottage rent.

c. Cargo Containers – OM Favetti shared that the check has come in for the cargo containers, and that Bob said the ground in the Maintenance Area is pretty much ready to set the containers.

d. Ball Field Signage - Chairman Peirce explained that Shirl Mandonca's article in The Union newspaper about the ball field banners facing Highway 20 created discussion in the community. OM Favetti added that we

received four phone call responses (and one in person), and all were very positive for the park and the banners. Chairman Peirce stated that although the signs are now turned inward and the issue has resolved itself, we still need to have a policy in place. Director House said that he is working with the Senior Leagues to install banners at their field and will in turn buy the grass seed that usually comes out of the park budget.

12. **New Business:**

a. Lighting Chamber Informational Sign at Ball Fields - Chairman Peirce said that Susan George of the Penn Valley Chamber of Commerce wants to have electricity and water for lighting and landscaping the Highway 20 visible sign. Both utilities would have to originate from the Senior Ball Field and under the roadway to the sign area. Director House replied that the irrigation would be easy to install, and that the cost can be calculated. Director Driver added that the additional electricity would be easy to calculate, also.

b. Waste Management Grant for Landscaping - Chairman Peirce shared that the Penn Valley Chamber of Commerce representatives Susan and Jeff George will apply for a grant for the landscaping previously mentioned and would like to have the park as a co-applicant.

c. Director Position - Chairman Peirce explained that recent Director/Vice-Chairman Cliff Bryant probably would not be back, although his current employment may not be permanent. She is keeping him updated on park events and issues, getting his feedback as needed. She urged the rest of the board to think about when to call his position vacant and begin the process to fill his seat.

13. **Correspondence**

a. Chairman Peirce read a thank you card from Sue Burns regarding the gift of money contributed personally by the board and secretary to replace her worn out vehicle tire. Sue was very grateful!

b. Correspondence from The Union newspaper announcing Western Gateway Park voted as the second place park in Nevada County in their Best of the Best contest for 2017.

14. **Financial**

a. Review of Financial Reports - Chairman Peirce questioned the cost of the new storage containers being posted to Equipment Expense. OM Favetti explained that in her opinion the containers are an asset, and therefore would go under Assets and then depreciated over time.

b. Chairman Peirce pointed out that the firewood sales are growing, but still not what was projected in the budget. Sales have now paid for the initial outlay for the bundled wood program equipment.

c. Workshop – Mid-Year Review of Budget for 2016-2017 and Update Rental Schedule – The Board of Directors elected to have a workshop meeting to discuss the current rental fees and the possibility of raising them. The date scheduled is March 28th, 2017, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm.

d. Director Driver made a motion to accept the Financial Reports. Vice Chair House seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

15. **Liaison Reports**

a. Chairman Peirce received an e-mail from Dog Park President Jeri Stone that asked for consideration of a fountain/water feature for the dog park. They are missing the fountain that Nevada County made them remove since it wasn't permitted and had filtration issues due to the solar panel being stolen. Chairman Peirce stated that there are no plans to install electricity to the dog park or the bike park at this time. We have to remember the maintenance cost. In addition, they are considering an open barn like structure in the big dog area for cooling. It could possibly draw more rentals by the dog trainers. Chairman Peirce suggested to Jeri that any improvements be done before the grace period ends for free building permits with the County.

b. Director House shared that the ballfield coalition is putting in six-thousand dollars of dirt, and has twenty-four man hours invested on one field. Chairman Peirce asked that he relay to the players that we appreciate the funds donated and work done to maintain the ball fields.

16. **Director Comments** – Vice-Chairman House - none. Director Driver said he had spoken with Richard at Penn Valley True Value Hardware, and they are interested in supplying more trees for the park. Director Driver would like to see pecan trees that are large and produce nuts! Chairman Peirce thought they might be

messy for mowing. Chairman Peirce suggested thinking about planting forage trees such as fruit trees. Pears and plum trees were suggested as carefree and good in our area. OM Favetti offered to bring a Catalpa tree to be planted. Discussion followed.

17. Adjournment

a. Motion to Adjourn by Vice-Chair House. Director Driver seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:39 pm.

Submitted: Patti Favetti, Office Manager