



Western Gateway Recreation & Park District

MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Wednesday, March 18, 2020

Regular Meeting 6:30 pm

Buttermaker's Cottage

- 1) **Call to Order:** Chairman Peirce called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The pledge was led by Director House.
- 2) **Roll Call** – Nancy Peirce, Chairman, Present; Dan House, Vice Chairman, Present; Jeff Glover, Present; Lisa Thomas, Present.
- 3) **Introduction of guests:** Sarah Hatten, Brandon Lindsen, Maintenance workers Anthony Hill and Christina Salinas
- 4) **Agenda Approval** – Director Thomas moved and Vice Chairman House seconded to accept the agenda as presented. Agenda approved unanimously.
- 5) **Public Comments** – Sarah Hatten explained that she was present to discuss the dog park. Sarah would like to organize a fundraiser for the dog park, possibly an information table with a donation jar. Chairman Peirce suggested that she, Sarah and Jeri Stone, President of The Friends of Western Gateway Dog Park, meet to discuss this.
- 6) **Approval of Minutes** – Director Thomas moved and Director Glover seconded to accept the minutes for the February 2020 meeting as presented. Unanimous approval.
- 7) **Correspondence** –
 - a) Chairman Peirce presented emails to the board from Marcia Salter, County Controller/Auditor and the county treasurer, regarding closure of county offices.
 - b) Chairman Peirce informed the board that Fast Land Sales had offered \$14,909.64 for 7 ½ acres owned by the park. She responded to their offer saying the park property wasn't for sale.
 - c) Chairman Peirce mentioned that Sandy Jacobson is planning a meeting for a recreation collaborative soon. Vice Chairman House informed her that he can attend.
 - d) Chairman Peirce shared with the board a notice from NID concerning the treatment of Squirrel Creek for weeds. Director Glover suggested that signs should be placed in the park to inform the public of the event. Maintenance worker Anthony Hill added that he would need 8 laminated signs to post.
 - e) Chairman Peirce mentioned correspondence concerning a meeting about the planning commission housing element progress report. She added that she will attend the meeting.
- 8) **Old Business** –
 - a) Corona Virus (CoVid-19) - Chairman Peirce raised the question of whether the park should remain open and how to handle cancellations due to the Corona Virus. Vice Chairman House commented that money should be refunded one time to those who cancel due to CoVid-19. The consensus was that District Secretary White should encourage rescheduling, but refund 100% if necessary.

Director Glover addressed the question of whether the park should remain open, asking how do we ensure cleanliness and safety for park users? There was a discussion concerning the risks and liability of leaving the park open. Maintenance Worker Anthony Hill stated that there will be a sanitation problem if the restrooms are locked. Chairman Peirce commented that having the gate locked would cause people to park along Penn Valley Drive, creating a burden on park neighbors. Guest Sarah Hatten asked whether the dog park would also be closed.

Director Glover made a motion saying, "Due to the current unprecedented public health risk and guidance from government health agencies, Western Gateway Park is temporarily closed and its gates are locked per the Board of Directors who will revisit this decision when appropriate and hope to reopen the park soon. This closure includes playgrounds, bike park, dog park, disc golf course, picnic areas, bocci ball courts, tennis courts, RC car track, baseball fields, and basketball court. However, for health and safety, we will keep two restrooms open, the main restrooms, both men's and women's, and the dog park vault toilet. All other restrooms will be closed." Director Thomas seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

b) Prop 68 State Recreation Grant - Chairman Peirce informed the board that the grant application by the park was denied. The reason given was that there were more requests than there was money to give out. She will work with a grant writer from the county on a future grant request as soon as more Prop 68 grants are announced.

c) Well Project – Maintenance Worker Anthony Hill reported that the water from the well to the dog park is almost completely hooked up. Water to the disc golf course is already connected.

d) Creekside Mobile Home & Creekside Crossings – Chairman Peirce updated the board on the situation concerning the request from Creekside Mobile Home Park to use park roads for their sewage clean-up project. Chairman Peirce spoke with Senator Dahle's office concerning CalTrans and the possibility of accessing Highway 20 directly for this purpose.

e) Board of Directors Vacancy - Chairman Peirce remarked that there will be a notice to the community concerning the vacancy on the Board of Directors.

f) Bylaws – The board reviewed the current bylaws, noting that two items need to be addressed. One is Article III, Section 3.1 which needs to be changed to "at a time designated by the Board of Directors affirmed at each annual board election" rather than "...at the hour of 7:00 p.m.". Also there is a typo on page 4 in Section 4.3 (b.) The word "of" should be "or". Director Glover moved and Vice Chair House seconded to accept the by-laws as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

9) **Financial** – Director Thomas moved and Director Glover seconded to accept the financial reports for February 2020 as presented. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

12) Advisory Groups - Presentations or reports

a) Buildings and Grounds

Maintenance Worker Anthony Hill explained that the lawn mower is continuing to have problems. Chairman Peirce commented that the park has budgeted for a new one. Maintenance Worker Anthony Hill added that the lawns will need fertilizer this year.

b) Upcoming events and reservations report

District Secretary White updated the board on the number of new reservations (28) since February 19th, 2020. Many of these reservations have canceled due to COVID-19. She mentioned an email received from Sylvia Wright about bluebird boxes and an email from J. Oliver about his desire to donate some sports equipment.

13) Director Comments – Vice Chairman House expressed a desire to install a memorial bench for his youngest daughter's loved one who has passed away. He mentioned that she will attend the next board meeting to discuss this.

14) Adjournment – Vice Chairman House moved and Director Glover seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Motion passed with unanimous approval. Meeting adjourned at 8:44 pm