



Western Gateway Recreation & Park District

MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Wednesday August 21, 2024

Regular Meeting 6:30 pm

Buttermaker's Cottage

- 1) **Call to Order** - Meeting called to order at 6:34 PM. Sharon Lewis led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 2) **Roll Call** – Nancy Peirce, Chairman, present; Sharon Lewis, Vice Chairman, present; Brandon Lindsen, present; Dion Reif, present
- 3) **Introduction of guests** Due to attendance numbers, guests were not asked to introduce themselves. Guests included Tina Imus, Paul Towne, Marko Glendinning, Steve Twitchell, Bridget Higginbotham, Ron Curtis, Judi Mosley, Mary DeLeon, Art DeLeon, Brian Kelly, Forrest Stuckey, Michael Travers, Andrew Spiropoulos, and Jeff Stoops.
- 4) **Agenda Approval** – *Director Lewis suggested placing 9b and 9c following public comments. Director Lindsen moved to approve as amended, Director Lindsen seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.*
- 5) **Public Comments** – Marko Glendinning asked about the dog park funds agreed to at the last meeting. Chairman Peirce had discussed this with Tom Hartnett, advising the reimbursement will occur upon submission of receipts. Mr. Glendinning is hoping the electrical work will be done in a few days. Gray Electric has visited the site and provided a bid. The new leak has not yet been resolved. According to Eye on Water, the new leak is producing 10 gallons per hour. Mr. Glendinning noted the water seems to be seeping out at a much lower rate. There may also be a leak at the dog park water faucet, where the ground has been continuously wet for weeks. Chris Ryan added that the water has also been found left on. Dave Ryan added that there is a large, standing dead pine tree in the dog park that will need to be removed. The park will obtain estimates.
- 9)b **Pickleball Courts** – Steve Twitchell spoke about the pickleball club board's vision and goals. The non-profit club has over 400 members and not enough courts for the fastest growing, most popular sport in the country. They currently have an arrangement with the City of Grass Valley at Memorial Park for 14 hours a week on the six courts and they also pay to play indoors at the Veteran's Hall. There are long waits to play existing courts. To alleviate this, the club board would like to propose a phased approach to convert the current WGP tennis courts to ten fenced courts, with pleasing aesthetics. The Pickleball Club will donate the funds for this \$130K renovation. Club members pay \$60 a month and some members possess skill sets that can be utilized to reduce the overall cost. In return, the club would like to have exclusive use of the courts from 8:00AM to 12:00 PM daily, plus four weekends per year for tournaments or community events. Club members would also offer free lessons to the community. Issues they have identified include limited parking, access to water, irrigation and access to restrooms. Chairman Peirce advised the tennis courts has plumbing for treated NID water as previously there was a drinking fountain and that there is irrigation in that area of the park. Director Rief asked about the proposed phases and costs. Mr. Twitchell clarified that the club still needs to approve the proposal, which will be presented to members upon WGP board approval. Phase One will cover the courts and nets. Director Reif asked if once approved by the club, the phases could be laid out. Mr. Twitchell mentioned the courts could potentially be a source of income to the park. Chairman Peirce noted the park is able to book courts but is not currently staffed to monitor/police court use. Options for court use were discussed. Judi Mosley inquired about park insurance requirements; Chairman Peirce noted that similar to disc golf, insurance would be required for tournaments. Port-a-Potty use was discussed. Chairman Peirce advised to move forward the park board would need to review the report indicating the current tennis courts could be resurfaced and in exchange she will provide current MOUs so the club will have a sense of how an understanding with the park would work. Director Lindsen suggested an option B of locating the courts in another area of the park, which would provide both ample parking and restroom access. Brian Kelly noted that pickleball courts have vastly improved use of Memorial Park in Grass Valley.
- 9)c **Disc Golf Course** – Chairman Peirce recently met with Jeff Stoops, Michael Travers and Mike Woodman

to review the disc golf course map and MOU. Hanging Oaks Disc Golf Association has produced by-laws, etc. to further legitimize their organization. Drew Spiropoulos is president and Mr. Stoops is the vice president. Mr. Travers is acting as representative for the Gold Country Disc Golf Association. Both groups are listed on the MOU. Mr. Stoops and Mr. Spiropoulos confirmed that HODGA has approved the MOU. Mr. Travers confirmed that GCDGA has approved the MOU and noted that he is a consultant, not a board member, to GCDGA. Chairman Peirce clarified that as an acting representative he does not need to be an officer. Director Lindsen moved, and Director Lewis seconded a motion to approve the MOU. Director Reif abstained. Unanimously approved. Chairman Peirce noted that the groups were tasked to bring ideas for course improvement. Some were agreed upon and some need to be further addressed by the two clubs. Mr. Travers has noted the approved changes on the map and will relay these to GCDGA and a priority list will be created for the changes. Chairman Peirce advised the final changes will need to be approved by the WGP board. Mr. Travers further noted that these will be presented at the ad hoc committee meeting before being presented to the WGP board for approval. Mr. Spiropoulos suggested the Hole changes be presented individually for approval.

- 6) **Correspondence** The Dog Park has extended an invitation to an Open House on September 22nd. Director Lindsen cannot attend. Director Lewis and Chairman Peirce will attend. Director Reif will be able to determine attendance in a couple of weeks. Chairman Peirce will relay the current information.
- 7) **Board Minutes** – Chairman Peirce noted an error in section 11a stating that the vault toilets had been left unlocked to prevent break-ins. The correct statement is that they have been locked to prevent vandalism. Director Lindsen moved to approve as amended, Director Lewis seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.
- 8) **Financial Report** – Director Reif moved, and Director Lewis seconded a motion to approve the July financials as presented. Unanimously approved. Chairman Peirce discussed issues with the county authorized parcel fee collection and noted the park can still bill property owners that were eliminated at the county level for parcel fees.
- 9) **Old Business**
 - a. County of Nevada Fees Waiver – A meeting has not yet been scheduled between WGP board members and county representatives regarding presenting the resolution to the BOS.
 - b. Tennis Courts – *See above.*
 - c. Disc Golf Course – *See above.*
 - d. Bike Trails – Director Lindsen reached out to Jane Ragan of BONC who will check if the BONC board has any interest in re-establishing a relationship with the park .Director Reif has spoken with a team of volunteers but due to a recent hospitalization has not been able to check out all current needs for the bike trail. The goal is to start small and controlled for bike trail clearing and maintenance.
 - e. Board Positions – Director Lewis advised that Tina Imus was attending the meeting and may have interest in joining the board. Director Reif invited Brian Kelly as a possible board member, but it was determined Mr. Kelly lives just beyond the district. Mr. Kelly recently created a large map of the park but was not able to locate a map for the disc golf course. Chairman Peirce advised this can be found on udisc.com. Mr. Kelly has been bringing his children to the park and is impressed with its beauty and many amenities. Chairman Peirce introduced Paul Towne, who attempted to sign up for candidacy but came up against the deadline as he was approached very recently regarding the open board position. Mr. Towne has been promoting the park within Lake Wildwood to expose the residents of the many park amenities. Mr. Towne considers it a wonderful, but under-utilized park. Mr. Towne has varied board experience. Director Reif praised his fundraising efforts and Chairman Peirce agreed, adding his long-time involvement with the park made him an excellent candidate for the open board position. Director Lewis moved, and Director Reif seconded a motion to vote Mr. Towne in as a board director. Unanimously approved. Director Towne will be sworn in at the September meeting.
- 10) **New Business**
 - a. Park's Tri Counties Solar Loan and Credit Card – Chairman Peirce is listed on the solar loan and credit card as the bank needed a social security number and driver's license, listing her as the responsible party. Chairman Peirce is retiring from the board at the end of 2024, at which time the credit card can be switched but the loan must be refinanced or paid off. The balance due is \$29,000, with a payoff date of April 2026. Director Lindsen asked about using restricted funds which will be augmented on December 10th and April 10th when the county pays out parcel fees. Chairman Peirce discussed the financial benefits of the on-grid solar array.
 - b. Tri Counties Checking – Chairman Peirce and Director Lindsen are currently listed on the account. Director Lewis is the most available for signatures and should be added. Per bank policy, all involved parties must go to the bank together to amend signature approvals. Director Lewis stated that Friday is a good day of the week.
 - c. Picnic Tables – The concrete tops of picnic tables, original to the park, have been repainted multiple times and the concrete is pitted. Director Lindsen suggested they might be planed with a grinder and resealed. Chairman Peirce will investigate possible options to repair the tabletops.
 - d. Creek Crossing – Tom Gomes, who has construction and roadwork experience, accompanied Chairman

Peirce during meeting with Rob Lawless of Dundas Geomatics and Michelle Layshot of Millenium to view the culvert damage and repair needs. Culverts have rusted through and rebar with 4" of concrete are left without adequate support underneath. Mr. Lawless and Ms. Layshot were concerned a large storm could wash out the crossing. Mr. Kelly highly recommended Bryan McAlister of Sierra Land Solutions for this project. Erosion in the area was also noted.

- e. Prop 68 Playground Committee – Chairman Peirce has reached out to community member parents who might be interested in forming a community playground subcommittee. Our playground rep, Seth Mariconi, is very willing to facilitate the process and has fundraising ideas if needed. Director Lindsen will take this task on to expedite the playground enhancement.
- f. Sprinklers – the park has purchased two and a half cases of sprinkler heads this year. Some have fallen to vandalism, some are old, some have been driven over. Tom Gomes has trained Marty Martinson to replace. Broken sprinkler heads also affect water pressure on the remaining sprinkler heads. Chris Ryan added that there is a standing pipe faucet at the edge of the dog park and asked if it could be related to leaks. Chairman Peirce responded that it was installed for the bike trail use and could be locked, but the locks are easily broken.

11) Advisory Groups - Presentations

- g. Buildings and Grounds.
 - i) General Park Maintenance – Chairman Peirce drove the dump truck to the local landfill station during which time the brakes failed. A local mechanic, John, near the park has been assessing the brake repair and other issues that need to be addressed. John did some repairs during his inspection. The estimate for the brakes is \$714. The amount for repairs done during inspection, which was several hours, will be invoiced and is expected to total \$1500. A new truck will be needed within a couple of years.
 - ii) Asphalt Patching – the first two companies did not respond to requests; a third, Andrew's Paving & Excavating, will be at the park to provide a bid on September 3rd .
 - iii) Farmers Market and CRV Program – the Farmers' Market currently has eight vendors bringing in \$290/week, and is still receiving requests from other vendors. The staff is still hauling recycling in and Chairman Peirce has ordered banners for the recycling trailer that specifies redemption value only.
- h. Upcoming events and reservations report – upcoming events include Hipper Than Hip, Porsche Club pitstop, Praise in the Mountains, Four Creek Sites rented by Bridge Church & E Clampus Vitus and two other gatherings, and West Area reserved by Western Sierra Medical. Four upcoming weddings in October, 530 EOR&R doing a Halloween event October 19th, and six new dates added for the Rockin' the Gateway series in 2025.

Chairman Peirce recognized a guest who had not spoken up during the meeting. As a representative of a local HOA, attendance was motivated by concerns regarding possible security lighting at the dog park. Chairman Peirce explained that the dog park board had considered exterior security lighting due to recent theft and encouraged attendance at future board meetings. Chairman Peirce extended an invitation to be added to monthly agenda distribution. Chris Ryan noted it's a different park at night and additional patrols may be needed.

12) Director Comments – Director Reif inquired about use of tools for volunteer workdays. Chairman Peirce noted the park has limited tools as over the years they have disappeared. Marko Glendinning suggested providing tools. Director Lindsen advised to check with him if power tools were needed. Director Rief asked if the park was interested in regularly scheduled food vendors as income for the park. Chairman Peirce noted the board had established a policy for food vendors.

13) Adjournment Director Lewis moved and Director Reif seconded motion to adjourn at 8:58 PM.