

Marinwood Community Services District

Minutes of Regular Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday February 10, 2009

Time and Place: 7:30PM Marinwood Community Center classroom.

Present:

Board Members: President Tarey Read, Bruce Anderson, Cyane Dandridge, Bill Hansell
Staff: District Manager Tom Horne, Recreation Director Shane DeMarta, Park Manager Gary Harrelson, Fire Chief Tom Roach
Commissioners: Leah Valentine, Gene Elliot, Mary Colombo

Board President Tarey Read called the meeting to order.

Agenda

No changes were made to the agenda.

Comments from Public on Non-Agenda Items

No comments.

Routine Business

1. Minutes of Regular Meeting January 13, 2009.

Names and affiliations of those present corrected. Recreation Activities corrected to clarify that Shane DeMarta, not Director Hansell, had reported on the Winterfest. Board Member Items of Interest were corrected to state that members of the community, not of the Marinwood Plaza Collaborative, were investigating annexation to San Rafael.

M/s Hansell/Anderson to approve Minutes of Regular Meeting of January 13, 2009 as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Payment of Claims 601-654:

M/s Hansell/Anderson to approve payment of claims 601-654. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Pooled Investments Report – the report was reviewed.

Board of Directors Position Vacancy

The Board asked questions of Board position applicants Park & Rec Commissioner Leah Valentine and Fire Commissioner Gene Elliot.

The Board scheduled a special meeting to be held at 7:00PM Tuesday, February 24, 2008 to appoint a Director.

Recognitions

Tarey Read expressed her appreciation to the two Commissioners for their service and for stepping forward to serve on the Board.

Tom Horne circulated a letter of appreciation to past Fire Commission Chair Jeff Naylor for Board signature. He reported that volunteers Geoff Mack, Ward Bouwman and Lonner Holden and he had worked on the Blackstone Canyon to Queenstone Fire Road connector trail on Sunday.

Correspondence

Correspondence items to San Rafael City Manger, the Marinwood Professional Firefighters and the Registrar of Voters, which had been sent pursuant to Board direction, were noted. Regarding the letter to San Rafael City Manager Ken Nordhoff asking for a one-year extension agreement, Tom Horne noted that he and Chief Roach would be meeting with Nordhoff and the San Rafael Fire Chief the coming Friday to discuss the agreement, and how to proceed with selection of a consultant. Horne reported that Nordhoff was now suggesting a less-than-one-year agreement to hold the City and CSD's "feet to the fire", and Horne speculated that City financial difficulties could also be a factor. He recommended a one-year contract because he did not want to limit time for community discussion of the issues likely to be raised, and because he wanted to be able to budget for the entire fiscal year. Horne was directed to place the item on the agenda for the February 24th special meeting.

Board Member Item of Interest

1. Marinwood Plaza Collaborative: Cyane Dandridge reported a meeting of the Collaborative was scheduled for March 3rd, and reported that Trammel Crow had closed some California offices. Bruce Anderson said that the Board should appoint a second member to the Collaborative, and that Supervisor Adams had encouraged it. The Board did not want to appoint before having a full Board.
2. Cyane Dandridge reported that a community member had expressed interest in having staff-led group hikes in Marinwood Open Space. She also reported on open Marin Community Foundation grant processes for programs enhancing access to open space and for habitat restoration.

District Manager's Report

Tom Horne noted that he had distributed Forms 700 financial disclosure forms to Board members for signature. He also reported that installation of bicycle racks at the community center, pool and playground had begun. The racks would be reimbursed from a Marin County Bicycle Parking Program grant.

Park and Recreation Matters

1. Park Maintenance Report: Gary Harrelson reported that the parks master plan was being taken up as a class project by a San Francisco State University program.
2. Summer program rates:
 - a. Summer Day Camp rates: Recreation Director Shane DeMarta presented his recommendations for 2009 summer camp rates and a comparison with other local programs. He recommended an overall 5% increase, and an additional increase for the youngest age camps because of the much higher camper/staff ratio. Bill Hansell and Bruce Anderson said that it was inappropriate to raise camp rates when so many in the community were suffering financial hardship in the current economic downturn. Tarey Read and Cyane Dandridge, as well as Commissioners Green and Colombo spoke in support of the proposal. The proposal died for lack of a second to Dandridge's motion to adopt the proposed changes.
 - b. Pool rates: Shane DeMarta presented his proposed pool rates, with an overall increase over the 2008 rates. M/s Anderson/ Read to adopt the rates proposed by DeMarta.
Motion carried unanimously.
3. Bruce Anderson announced that the CSD had established a presence on FaceBook, and that staff would be changing the FaceBook page to a business, not personal page. He also encouraged staff to consider establishing permanent ping pong facilities in Marinwood Park.
4. Tom Horne reported that staff would be meeting with a resident who had expressed interest in joining the Park and Recreation Commission in response to the CSD flyer announcing opportunities to serve on the Commissions and Board. He listed issues staff was facing which needed the input from an active Commission.

Fire Department Matters

1. Liability issues with proposed suburban interface fuel reduction: Tom Horne distributed a response he had received from Special Districts Risk Management Authority stating that open space land left in its natural state had an immunity from liability, and that doing fuel reduction maintenance in otherwise natural-state open space adjacent to private property could increase liability exposure. Gene Elliot said that mere ownership or control of the open space property carried some liability, and taking any action on the property might increase it. He added that the letter sent annually to property owners extending permission to do fuel reduction on open space does not necessarily reduce liability, and property owners could infer a CSD assurance that brush clearing will protect their properties.
4. Contracts for Services
 - b. M/s Anderson/Hansell to approve the revised Agreement for Fire Protection and Emergency Services in CSA 13. Tom Horne reported that the agreement reflected a compromise on the CSA's portion of 2007/8 adjustments related to defense and settlement of the Ponti lawsuits and the CSD's agreement to not charge CSA 13 for future costs related to litigation arising from CSD operations and property.
Motion carried unanimously.
 - c. M/s Dandridge/Anderson to approve the revised Agreement for Fire Protection and Emergency Response Services for the County Juvenile Hall site. The revision was necessary because the base charge is related to the CSA 13 budget.
Motion carried unanimously.
3. Fire Commission appointment. The Board reviewed the application of Russ Albano to serve on the Fire Commission. Chief Roach noted that Mr. Albano had previously served on the Commission, and had been a volunteer. He is a retired San Francisco firefighter.
M/s Anderson/Dandridge to appoint Russ Albano to the Fire Commission.
Motion approved unanimously.
5. Appoint representatives for contract talks with Marinwood Professional Firefighters.
Tarey Read appointed Gene Elliot and Bill Hansell to meet with the Marinwood Professional Firefighters to consider wage, benefit and working condition issues.
6. Fire Department 2009/10 draft budget. The draft budget was presented for review. The Fire Commission will consider the budget again, and the Board will to adopt a preliminary Fire Budget in March to submit to Marin County.

New and Other Business

1. Strategic Planning Workshop:
 - (b) Approve hiring a facilitator for second workshop: Cyane Dandridge asked that the matter be continued to March.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45PM on a motion by Bruce Anderson, seconded by Cyane Dandridge.

The date of the next Regular meeting Board meeting is March 10, 2009 at 7:30PM. A special meeting will be held to appoint a Board member February 24, 2009 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas Horne, District Manager