

FOOTHILLS PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

July 23, 2019

The regular meeting of Foothills Park & Recreation District was held at Peak Community & Wellness Center, 6612 South Ward Street, Littleton, Colorado 80127.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Director Bosanko called the regular meeting to order at 6:03pm.
- II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Director Bosanko led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.
- III. **ROLL CALL:**
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| Director Farrar: | Absent |
| Director Butman: | Present |
| Director James: | Present |
| Director Meyer: | Present |
| Director Bosanko: | Present |

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Paul Rufien, District Counsel; Ronald Hopp, Executive Director; Dennis Weiner, Director of Finance and Administrative Services; Barb Butler, Director of Recreation Programs; Derek Eberhardt, Director of Operations; Tom Woodard, Director of Golf; Colin Insley, Director of Parks, Planning and Construction; Richelle Riley, Recording Secretary; other Foothills staff and members of the public.

Potential conflicts of interest were disclosed pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes 18-8-308(2), 24-18-109(3)(a), 24-18-110, and 32-1-902(3).

IV. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

MOTION: Director Meyer moved that the Foothills Board of Directors approve the July 23, 2019 agenda as submitted. Director Butman seconded the motion. Poll of the Board: Director Butman, aye; Director James, aye; Director Meyer, aye; Director Bosanko, aye. The motion was approved.

V. **APPROVAL OF JUNE 25, 2019 MINUTES:**

MOTION: Director Meyer moved that the Foothills Board of Directors approve the minutes of the June 25, 2019 board meeting as submitted. Director Butman seconded the motion. Poll of the Board: Director Butman, aye; Director James, aye; Director Meyer, aye; Director Bosanko, aye. The motion was approved.

VI. **COMMUNITY COMMENTS:**

A. **Staff Introduction**

Kate Drago, Communications & Marketing Supervisor, introduced Tory Pearson, the District's new full-time Community Outreach Specialist. Ms. Pearson has background and knowledge in government and non-profit organizations. She has been helping with communications and will be helping the marketing department overall.

B. **Youth Coach Volunteer Recognition**

Mike Hanson, Youth Leagues Coordinator, recognized eight individuals for their service to the District's youth sports program. The youth coach volunteers recognized were: Luke Fedderson, Greg Body, Vince Denome, Larry Tobin, Pablo Correa, Ray White, Jay Walsh, Sam Samienago.

C. **Part-Time Scholarship Award Recipients**

Ronald Hopp discussed that the part-time and seasonal scholarship award was initiated by the Board of Directors quite a few years ago. Scholarship award recipients tonight were Isabel Gallegos, Linda Dunbar, Nick Selfridge, Megan Johnson, Samantha Johnson.

Diane Suchomel, District Resident, asked the Board for support in taking care of vandalism in the parks. Ms. Suchomel listed parks that have been vandalized multiple times in recent weeks and talked about time and cost for clean-up, a tagging crew has been very active in the area.

Ms. Suchomel strongly encouraged staff to report vandalism to the Sheriff's Office so it can be officially documented. Colin Insley indicated staff are instructed to make sure vandalism is reported before it is cleaned up.

VII. OLD BUSINESS:

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Schaefer Batting Cage Project

Referring to the memo provided, Barb Butler, said the batting cages at Schaefer Athletic Complex and Clement Park have been identified as projects for mill levy funds that were allocated. She indicated when the original allocation was made, the thought was to replace the old machines with new machines. Staff have found a new product that would enhance the District's batting cage services, and would like to consolidate the experience with one premier batting cage, Ms. Butler explained. Staff have determined it would be the best course of action to make the batting cage upgrades at Schaefer Athletic Complex, Ms. Butler discussed. Funding would be pulled from both the Clement Park and Schaefer sites and the total amount would be used to do the renovations at Schaefer Athletic Complex. Ms. Butler described the recommended replacement equipment according to the chart provided, and talked about renovations that would need to be done to the batting cage. If the site redevelopment concept at Clement Park includes renovation and enhancing of the batting cages, staff would look at that at a future date. There was discussion and questions were answered. Ronald Hopp clarified that the services being provided with implementation of the new machines at Schaefer duplicate both batting cages together. Staff will monitor and see if there will still be a demand for Clement Park in the future.

MOTION: Director James moved that the Foothills Board of Directors authorize proceeding with the improvements to the Schaefer Athletic Complex Batting Cages as discussed, and further authorize the Executive Director to execute all required documents to facilitate the renovations of the Schaefer Batting Cages as reviewed and approved by staff and legal counsel. Director Meyer seconded the motion. Poll of the Board: Director Butman, aye; Director James, aye; Director Meyer, aye; Director Bosanko, aye. The motion was approved.

B. Tribute Bench Application

Referring to information in the packet, Colin Insley indicated there is a couple who wants to provide a tribute bench in Governor James B. Grant Park with comments about community. The bench will be one of the new benches being installed as part of the park improvement project.

MOTION: Director Meyer moved that the Foothills Board of Directors approve the memorial bench and plaque request from Alanna and Dean Larsen to be installed at Governor James B. Grant Park. Director Butman seconded the motion. Poll of the Board: Director Butman, aye; Director James, aye; Director Meyer, aye; Director Bosanko, aye. The motion was approved.

IX. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Referring to the report provided, Mr. Hopp noted that as part of the free concert series, Foothills Theatre Company is presenting Shakespeare in Clement Park, *Hamlet*. The last shows are this Friday and Saturday.

Mr. Hopp talked about Red, White & You. He extended appreciation to Directors James and Butman who joined him on stage to receive an award from Colorado Lottery for the splash park. Mr. Hopp mentioned that Red, White & You responsibilities will transition to the Marketing department this fall. He commended everyone that was involved with Red, White, & You, Regina Smith and Cultural Arts staff.

The BBQ on August 6th will include staff and families, Mr. Hopp requested RSVPs. He reminded the Board that August 8th is the grand opening celebration for the Clement Park Playground.

Mr. Hopp discussed that the Meadowbrook Heights Metropolitan District sub-division is proposing to have their own metropolitan district with park and recreation powers as part of their service plan that would allow them to maintain their own parks within their metropolitan district. It would need

to come before the Board because it is within the boundaries of another park and recreation provider, Foothills Park & Recreation District. Foothills would have to provide a consent resolution that would allow them to do that. The District would still get the tax base from the homes. Mr. Hopp pointed out other situations like that in the District are Dancing Willows and Silver Leaf, and assured this is not the same developer. Staff do not feel it is detrimental to the District, the same tax base would be collected, and the District won't have the responsibility to maintain their small parks. There was discussion and questions were answered. Paul Rufien discussed what would take place if the District didn't agree. It was requested that staff get background on the developer's park credits.

Mr. Hopp highlighted that the State of Colorado's Dam Safety Division would like to apply for a FEMA grant on behalf of Bergen for potential improvements and repairs to Polly Deane Dam/Hine Lake.

X. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Finance Update

According to the report provided for the year-to-date period ending June 30, 2019, Dennis Weiner said total Operating Revenues were lower than planned, and discussed the contributing factors. He reported that the total district Operating Expenditures were better than planned year-to-date, and detailed the largest reasons for that result. Net Operating Loss was better than planned. Net Non-Operating Revenue was better than planned, Mr. Weiner outlined.

Looking at the bottom line, Mr. Weiner reported net revenue for the first six months was ahead of the plan.

B. 2020 Budget Guidelines

Referring to information in the packet, Mr. Hopp gave an overview of the budget process that will start early August, and detailed the 2020 budget guidelines that will be distributed to staff. He went through the 2020 Proposed Budget Schedule, pointing out that around the end of August is when the District gets the preliminary assessments from the County.

Staff will present the estimated revenues and expenditures at the September 24 meeting, Leisure Services and Golf will present budgets at the October 22 meeting, and on November 12, Parks and Administrative Services will present budgets. At the December 10 meeting, there will be the public hearing, adoption of budget, appropriation of funds, and certification of mill levy. Mr. Hopp reminded the Board that the November and December board meetings are the second Tuesday of the month.

C. General Obligation Bond Extension Projects Follow-Up

Outlining the memo provided, Mr. Hopp recalled that at the December 11, 2018 board meeting, a presentation was given to the Board that outlined processes utilized to develop some General Obligation Bond Extension Projects to perform and continue due diligence. On May 21, staff provided some design concepts that were developed utilizing a local architectural firm and local landscape architect for potential improvements for a possible bond extension election. Conservative construction estimates were provided as well as generalized estimates of net financial performance. At the end of the presentation, members of the Board were provided a spreadsheet with weighted criteria to rate each of the projects. Members of the Management Team filled out the same rating spreadsheet. Mr. Hopp detailed the criteria.

Mr. Hopp provided background information about the bond issue that was passed in 2000, it is scheduled to expire in 2020. The District could potentially ask voters for an extension of that bond for possibly another 20 years without raising taxes. Mr. Hopp discussed the processes that have been done to determine the projects that could be accomplished if an election were successful. If a project doesn't come to the top of the list as a General Obligation Bond project the District would move forward with, there are other funding mechanisms that are possible, Mr. Hopp explained.

Mr. Hopp went over the project information that was presented at the May 21 board meeting, including selection criteria and rating criteria.

Using PowerPoint, Mr. Hopp provided a general overview of the concepts, and the board and staff ratings for each project: Ridge Recreation Center; Peak Community & Wellness Center; Lilley Gulch Recreation Center; Fehringer Ranch Fieldhouse – 6-court indoor basketball, 4-court indoor basketball; indoor tennis center; Foothills Golf Course Clubhouse – renovation of existing facility, new facility; Clement Park Tennis & Pickleball Courts; Sixth Avenue West Pocket Center and Splash Park; Columbine West Pool; Easton Regional Park Ballfield; Dutch Creek Trail; Meadows Golf Course Expansion.

Mr. Hopp summarized the projects in order from highest to lowest with the combined rating scores of the Board and staff. Director Meyer questioned the survey being about feasibility, satisfying needs, etc. and not necessarily rating for overall preference. There was discussion.

Michael Sexton, district resident, asked if there is any possibility of using revenue bonds for Foothills Golf Course Clubhouse, it's the one place where the District has revenue. It would take away from the argument that golfers don't make up enough of the voters so that people won't vote for it.

Mr. Hopp discussed two potential funding mechanisms that could be used for the clubhouse; Revenue Bonds and Certificates of Participation. There was discussion and questions were answered. He reiterated that investment would not generate enough money to pay for the improvement, and acknowledged there is no doubt the clubhouse is in need of something.

Nancy Werkmeister, President of Women's League at Foothills, said a lot of public golf courses in this area have built and expanded their present clubhouses and they are finding ways to generate money. She suggested people who voted on the projects go to other golf courses to see what they have done and how they are generating money. Ms. Werkmeister distributed Divot Magazine to the Board.

Tom Woodard said he did a survey of new clubhouses that have been built in the last three or four years, and discussed his findings. He pointed out that almost 80 percent of golfers that play the District's golf courses are non-residents. When surveys are done asking if residents are in favor of building a new clubhouse, the residents for the most part do not play the golf courses. That is an explanation as to why other districts built new clubhouses and Foothills has not. There was discussion.

Paul Rufien explained that COPs would be a challenge for the clubhouse and collateralizing; Revenue Bonds would be more probable for golf related activity because it would focus on golf course generated revenue.

In answer to Director Bosanko, staff talked about why they rated the projects the way they did. Mr. Hopp acknowledged the importance of clubhouses, this may not be the right funding mechanism, and agreed with the need to figure something out.

Mr. Hopp indicated staff would like to do a preferential worksheet. Based upon that feedback, and feedback from tonight, he suggested a recommendation can be developed for the Board to consider, potentially in August. Mr. Hopp pointed out the Sixth Avenue project is in the process of reconfiguration, the bond issue is everywhere in the District but Sixth Avenue; that investment, election and ballot process was discussed.

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

The regular meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm. The next regular board meeting will be held at 6pm on Tuesday, August 27, 2019, at Peak Community & Wellness Center, 6612 South Ward Street, Littleton.

Submitted by:

Richelle Riley, Recording Secretary