



FULTON-EL CAMINO RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Teresa Higgins **Michael Seaman** **Kathy Stricklin** **Laura Lavallee** **Chris Fischer**
Chair Vice Chair Secretary Director Director

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM: Minutes 4.1

THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 2025
6:30 PM

RICHARD T. CONZELMANN COMMUNITY CENTER
2201 COTTAGE WAY, SACRAMENTO, CA 95825
BOARD ROOM

1. CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Higgins called the regular Board meeting to order at 6:30pm and led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ceremonial Swearing in of Newly Appointed Official

Chair Higgins administered the oath of office to Chris Fischer, the newly appointed Director of the Fulton-El Camino Recreation and Park District Board of Directors.

2. ROLL CALL

Board Members:

Teresa Higgins, Chair - Present
Michael Seaman, Vice Chair - Present
Kathleen Stricklin, Secretary - Present
Laura Lavallee, Board Director - Present
Chris Fischer, Board Director - Present

Staff Members:

Emily Ballus, GM	Ryan Harder, Staff
Mike Chahal, Staff	Jaden Delfer, Staff
Beth Johnson, Staff	Robin Romines - via Zoom
Jennifer Buckman, District's Counsel	Gavin Ralphs, District's Counsel

Public Attendees:

Steven Rice, District Resident	Katherine Guilford, District Resident
Anne Fischer, District Resident - via Zoom	Trent Davis, Former Employee
Samir Khanna, Westwood – via Zoom	Tom Hare, RRM Design - via Zoom
Angelina Rahimi, Aura Planning	Jerry Azevedo, Integrated Communications

3. PUBLIC COMMENT - Items not on the Agenda

Katherine Guilford, a resident living near Seeley Park, shared her appreciation for the park, highlighting its value as a safe and beautiful space where families can enjoy the outdoors and where dog owners can walk and play with their pets.

Ms. Guilford expressed concern regarding the park's closure before sunrise and after sunset. She noted that the Sacramento Sheriff's Department routinely uses a loudspeaker to order visitors to vacate the premises at dusk and indicated she has been berated on several occasions.

Ms. Guilford indicated she feels safe walking her dog in Seely, especially during the summer evenings. She requested that the Board consider extending the park's opening hours during the summer months to allow access before dawn and after dusk.

Trent Davis stated that he served with the park safety department for over five years. He indicated he has requested from administration to have his Community Service Officer (CSO) badge. Mr. Davis expressed that it would be a great honor to display the badge alongside those of his parents, both retired deputy sheriffs, as a tribute to where his career in law enforcement began.

4. CONSENT ITEMS (Motion)

The Consent Calendar items are those expected to be routine and noncontroversial. They will be acted upon by the Board of Directors after providing an opportunity for public comment.

Public Comments:

No public comments were made.

4.1 Approve the Minutes of March 20, 2025, Regular Board Meeting, Minutes of March 24, 2025, Special Board Meeting, Minutes of March 10, 2025, Personal and Finance Committee Meeting, and Minutes of March 14, 2025, Programs, Facilities and Projects Committee Meeting.

4.2 Accept Financial Activity

- a. Summary Financial Statement of Activity YTD March & March 2025
- b. Received Budget to Actual Department Reports for YTD March 2025
- c. Receive the Program Revenue and Refund Report for March 2025
- d. Receive Revolving Fund Report for March 2025
- e. Receive the Payroll Report for March 2025
- f. Receive Claims for March 2025
- g. Receive Parks, Recreation, Facility Rentals, and Security Report March 2025

4.3 General Manager's Monthly Update (under separate cover)

Chair Higgins asked for a motion and Secretary Stricklin made a motion to approve the consent agenda, Director Lavalley seconded the motion. The vote taken to approve the consent agenda passes with a vote of 5-0-0-0 (Ayes, Noes, Abstain, Absent).

5. PRESENTATIONS

5.1 Angelina Rahimi of Aura Planning presented the results of the survey she conducted at Bohemian Park. GM Ballus stated that Ms. Rahimi worked with District before when she completed the transportation needs assessment sponsored by SMUD for Bohemian Park. Ms. Rahimi surveyed all ethnic communities around Bohemian Park on their desires for park improvements. Ms. Rahimi surveyed 109 people. The area of needs in common are for job training, English language classes, and American culture classes.

5.2 Samir Khanna, Senior Project Manager, Westwood on the Bohemian Park Expansion Project. Additional presenters: Tom Hare, FEC owner's representative; Anthony Harris, Principal, and Jeff Peterson of PBK.

GM Ballus introduced the Westwood Team and Tom Hare as a FEC Owner Representative. Mr. Hare summarized the process from the RFP to finalizing the concept plan. Tom Hare stated that the team now needs design concept agreement to proceed. Mr. Hare indicated the team is ready to start concept refinement.

Mr. Khanna indicated that they prepared four schematics for the board to review and that demonstrate costs needs for each. This process was done to accommodate Director Seaman's suggestion that the project now includes a gymnasium. Samir introduced Tony Harris of PBK, which handles architectural designs for Westwood. Mr. Harris indicated the four concepts are for budgeting purposes and review and demonstrate how different options affect the project and costs. Mr. Harris added that the team is at a point where they need the Board to decide which option to proceed as costs are rising.

Public Comments:

Steve Rice stated that this appears to be a 2-part project when broken out, which are the Building and the Park. His thoughts were to move forward with the park first to avoid rising costs since we are not ready to move forward with the Building project.

Discussions:

Director Lavallee and Chair Higgins indicated that the grant funding is for the community center and park together and must be used for those purposes. Vice Chair Seaman suggested that we have not spent enough time on reviewing a gymnasium and indicated we should have started this process 6 months ago and this needs to go through the Programs, Facilities, and Projects Committee.

Vice Chair Seaman recommended two critical steps that need to be taken:

- Convene the District's citizens to get their thoughts on how to spend the Bond funds; and
- To take the results and present it to the Facilities Committee in an expedited manner, because he is not comfortable with deciding tonight how much money we are going to spend on the project tonight from the grant and the bond.

Director Lavallee stated that the grant and the bond funds are not tied together and does not agree with the Vice Chair Seaman on how to proceed. Secretary Stricklin requested the staff provide a table or chart that shows the grant and the bonds funds commitments.

GM Ballus stated that the staff has continued to provide the Board with material and information on what the grant is for, and that the RFP indicated a construction of a community center with no mention of a gymnasium and that Vice Chair Seaman was included and participated in that RFP development. The architects have now provided options on what can be built with the grant funds on hand. Staff brought these designs to the Board for the Board to now make a recommendation.

Vice Chair Seaman requested that Mr. Hare and Mr. Khanna prepare a CPM Chart indicating the Board should not ignore that the District now has an additional \$24 million in bond funds. He indicated that projects could have multiple phases and District grant funds can be leveraged against other funds for future use.

Director Lavallee stated that the bottom-line issue is does the Board wants a full-size gym or not. She stated that the District does not have enough money from the grants to create a full-

size gym, a full kitchen, multipurpose rooms, and all the things we hoped we could have. Thus, does the Board allocate some of the bond funds for a community center with a full-size gym or scale the project back to a multipurpose room and move forward.

Chair Higgins stated more public input is needed. She would like to know if the public wants a gym at Bohemian Park. She recommended staff do a survey and get input on a gymnasium. Director Lavallee thanked the staff, Westwood and RRM, for the four schematics.

After further discussions a motion was made by Vice Chair Seaman to obtain information from our residents via survey and report back to Board, the motion was seconded by Director Chris Fischer. The vote taken and the motion passes with a vote of 5-0-0-0.

6. DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION ITEMS (Motion or Approval Required)

6.1 Approve the Agreement with Integrated Communications Services LLC for Communications Strategic Planning.

GM Ballus introduced Jerry Azevedo from Integrated Communications Services LLC. Mr. Azevedo provided a summary of the services they provide. He presented a 6-month contract.

Director Lavallee made a motion to Approve the Agreement for 6 months with Integrated Communications Services LLC for Communications Strategic Planning. The motion was seconded by Secretary Stricklin. The vote taken and the motion passes with a vote of 5-0-0-0.

6.2 Approve the Measure Q Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee Slate of Committee Members.

GM Ballus introduced the Bond Oversight Committee members, and the members provided a summary of their background.

Director Lavallee made the motion to approve Measure Q Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee Slate of Committee Members, and the motion was seconded by Chair Higgins. The vote taken passes with a vote of 5-0-0-0.

6.3 Approve the 2025 Slate of Candidates for the California Association of Recreation and Park Districts' Board Officers, which Vice Chair Seaman is a potential candidate.

Director Lavallee the motion to approve 2025 Slate of Candidates for the California Association of Recreation and Park Districts' Board Officers. The motion was seconded by Secretary Stricklin. The vote taken passes with a vote of 5-0-0-0.

6.4 Adopt Updated District Policies, Section 4000: Board Policies and Policy 3085: Disposal of Surplus Real Property, Vehicles and Personal Property.

GM Ballus introduced the District's Counsel to review the amended policies. Attorney Gavin Ralphs indicated the policies have been updated to include present statutes.

Vice Chair Seaman made the motion to adopt the Updated District Policies as indicated above, and the motion was seconded by Secretary Stricklin, The vote taken, passed with a vote of 5-0-0-0.

7. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (No Action Required)

7.1 Correspondence/Announcements/Information

- a. Park Safety Update - Beth Johnson provided the Board with an update on the final stages of transition from the Park Police Department to Park Safety Department. She thanked all members of the staff for their help with getting the task completed. She mentioned that we continue to build our partnership with the Sacramento Sheriff's Office via continuous communications. She also provided the Board with equipment and vehicles that were re-purposed to the maintenance department for use.
- b. Park Maintenance Update – Ryan Harder provide an update of progress by the Maintenance Department. Cleared the dead trees from our parks that fell during the fall and winter months. Made improvements to the softball fields, and maintenance needed to the summing pools.
- c. Seniors' Programming Update - Robin Romines provided an update on the Senior Program and the projects undertaken by the group. The Senior group is expanding via social media.
- d. Unity Fair and Celebration Flyer – Jaden Delfer provide an update on the progress of getting things arranged with the County and other vendors for the Unity Fair.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Personnel and Finance - Chair, Director Lavallee provided an update from the Committee meeting with items discussed, such as high Legal Fees and updates in the District Policies. The Legal Fees are in part due to the former Park Safety Department and Public Records Requests. Director Lavallee indicated that the new policies lay out consequences for the Board member for violation of District Policies.
- b. Programs, Facilities and Projects – Chair, Director Seaman – Committee did not meet.
- c. Community Relations - Chair, Director Stricklin – Secretary Stricklin stated the no meeting held and requested that Chris Fischer be added to the Committee, also requested to change the name to Community Relations and Security. Currently the issues with Security are being brought to the entire Board.

Chair Higgins mentioned that the change in policy for the terms of Board positions is now for two years rather than one yar.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/MATTERS INITIATED/ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE DIRECTORS

Director Chris Fischer thanked the members, staff and the public and is looking forward to working with everyone.

Director Lavallee revisited the new Community Center project by stating that the decision will need to be made between having a full-size gym or having a multipurpose room, a meeting room, and a full kitchen.

Vice Chair Seaman stated that it was disappointing to hear the resident was held up near the Santa Anita Park. He asked about the opening of the Creekside Nature Area, and was concerned about the maintenance of the area and would like a report on access issues, if any. He gave an update on the CAPRD meeting and issues discussed. He is also working with an individual for the Arts Council.

Secretary Stricklin requested that security be on the agenda for our next meeting. She gave a couple of incidents that occurred near her house and would like to have this on the next agenda. She also would like to discuss the option of converting one of the houses on Edison to a Women's Center. She thinks this will be heavily utilized based on the survey.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/MATTERS INITIATED/ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE GENERAL MANAGER

GM Ballus indicated that the staff works well and extensively with the Afghan community and community leaders. She indicated that she wrote a letter on SB 315 to show support.

11. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chair Higgins adjourned the meeting at 8:45pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Mike Chahal, Director of Finance and Administration / Clerk of the Board.

APPROVED: _____
Teresa Higgins, Chair, Board of Directors

ATTEST: _____
Kathleen Stricklin, Secretary, Board of Director