

**ITEM: CONSENT AGENDA – 1 A**

**FULTON-EL CAMINO RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
August 19, 2021 – 6:31 PM  
MINUTES  
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THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FULTON-EL CAMINO RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT was held August 19, 2021 and continued to August 24, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Chair Seaman.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Seaman at 6:31 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Michael Seaman – Chair  
Kathleen Stricklin – Vice Chair  
Laura Lavallee, Secretary  
Jessica Dias – Director (Absent on 8/20, present on 8/24)  
Teresa Higgins – Director

Staff Members in attendance  
Emily Ballus, Jaden Delfer, Becky Lopey-McDaniel  
Via Zoom: Ryan Harder, Robin Romines

**VISITORS**

Visitors present  
Jeffrey Schneider (CFO) Livermore Area Recreation & Park District  
Leroy Munsch (Resident)

**3. VISITOR COMMENTS**

Resident LeRoy Munsch addressed the Board and once again stated his displeasure that the tree stumps in Cottage Park have yet to be removed. He went on to say that if he wasn't coming to the meetings to voice his displeasure the stumps would still be there 3, 5 or 10 more years. He also informed the board that they are being negligent about the district's finances and that the board has an obligation to figure out how to increase revenues and to get serious about the district's major needs. He went on to state that Rotary had given money to the district and that the money was not spent correctly for the barbecues.

**4. CONSENT AGENDA**

**BOARD ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA:**

Chair Seaman informed the board that more items have been added to the consent calendar as a means to speed things up. He went on to remind the board members that they may pull items off the consent agenda at any time for discussion.

On a motion by Stricklin, seconded by Higgins the board approved the consent agenda:

Ayes – 4 Noes – 0 Absent - 1:

**5. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION**

**5.1 CALPERS Unfunded Liability Repayment Option-Pension Obligation Bond**

General Manager Ballus introduced Jeffrey Schneider (CFO) of Livermore Area Recreation & Park District to discuss how Livermore decided to obtain a POB (Public Obligation Bond). He explained that their district wanted to reduce the unfunded liability costs at a much lower interest rate. The fixed rate enabled the district to fund 95% and create a pension reserve to pay down the unfunded liability. Director Lavallee asked if there was a guarantee that the pension costs would not be burdened with added money. Mr. Schneider stated that there is uncertainty, but the risk exposure is minimal. Chair Seaman asked why they didn't fund the full 100%. Mr. Schneider

responded that it does fluctuate and that they wanted that flexibility.

The board went on to discuss the how the district could save money by obtaining a lower interest rate. Director Higgins voiced concern about the attorney and consulting fees associated with moving forward. General Manager Ballus informed her that those fees would be included in the package. The Board directed the Admin/Finance committee to do a bit more research and bring a proposal to the September meeting.

## **5.2 2021/22 Final Budget Resolutions**

General Manager Ballus informed the Board that the August presented budget provides a more precise budget. She indicated that as the Assessment Districts provide funding for dedicated purposes, this year's budget has been modified to realign with those expectations. Further, the new budget reflects the removal of the Bridges After-school program and the addition of the Facilities Rental program.

The General Manager noted that the Excel program used to create the budget continues to have formula flaws that result in miscalculations. Director Lavallee requested that Board review page 66 referencing step percentages and advised steps were calculated incorrectly. After further discussion regarding the step discrepancies, the board asked the General Manager to redo the personnel steps portion of the budget. She was requested to leave the 5% increase for the staff assigned that increase, change the 5 percent back to 4 percent for staff assigned that increase, and remove any COLA.

The Board further advised the General Manager to provide two budget scenarios: 1). Budget with a one percent COLA and 2). Budget with a one percent COLA and step increase.

The Board agreed to continue today's meeting to Tuesday, August 24, 2021, at 4:00 pm via ZOOM to discuss the two scenarios, select one scenario, and then vote on the final budget resolutions.

## **6. INFORMATION ITEMS – No comments**

### **6.1 General Manager's Report**

General Manager informed the Board that we are all back to masking based on the County of Sacramento Covid-19 guidelines. Staff continue to advocate for COVID-19 relief and American Rescue Plan Act funding. The General Manager outlined the meetings she has attended and highlighted that she will be speaking at the CSDA conference on homelessness. Addressing the year-end budget outcomes, the District's financial projections for 2020-2021 are better than anticipated due to staff hard work. The Directors congratulated staff and thanked them for their hard work. The General Manager discussed National Night Out that she and Recreation Supervisor Delfer attended on August 3 at Swanston Estates. Mr. Delfer informed the Board that there were between 40-50 residents in attendance and General Manager Ballus advised the Board that she was able to discuss Babcock Park with City Council member Loloee, who represents the area. Ms. Ballus discussed calls with SMUD for collaboration on the proposed Bohemian Park Community Center are very productive. The General Manager then touched on the remainder of her report that included the Library's summer explorer event held at Howe Park as well as the new pickle ball program and Supervisor Romines connection to the Crocker Art Museum who gifted supplies for the youth programs. She also indicated she is doing preliminary research on Joint Powers of Authority and police departments.

**7. Committee Reports** – Admin/Finance met and Director Higgins reported that the committee is working with staff to finalize things for the new fiscal year budget that will be presented at the August meeting.

### **8. Director's Comments**

Lavallee – Commented that the signs on the restrooms at Seely Park have been graffitied and that men are unintentionally going into the women's restroom. She went on to ask that staff blow the walkways after the parks have been mowed and not leave the grass on the walkways. She then asked if the new food truck at Howe is ours. Superintendent McDaniel responded and let she and the board know that the food truck has been vetted and that the food is very good.

Stricklin – Stated that she and the advocates for Arden Arcade would like to see a history and arts festival. She went on to say that she recognized that there is a great deal more work to putting an event on and asked that staff look in to hosting a festival.

Higgins – Was excited to report the amount of support our after-school program has in the Mission Oaks area. She went on to state that people were asking on-line where the best place was to take their kids for programming and three people immediately popped up and said "go to FEC." Director Higgins then thanked staff for the hard work on the budget and reiterated the need for new budget software.

Seaman – Stated he was very happy to see that we are a Vote Center and that we will continue to be one moving forward. Mr. Seaman informed the board that the people running the library event in Howe Park were very pleased with the venue as well as the turnout. He went on to state that he attended the CSDA retreat held here at Howe Park July 28. He spoke to CSDA about how we can use the new community center going in at Bohemian Park and how it now provides a great deal of leverage when talking to people about library usage, homelessness and how we are a good partner for housing. He went on to say that he read the Federal Infrastructure Bill and was pleased to see that there is money in it for bicycle pathways and that the district is in need of pedestrian/bicycle bridges.

### **9. Information/Correspondence/Announcements**

A. Letter supporting Municipal Utility District (SMUD) Proposal. (No comments)

B. CSDA Newsletter: Budget update – Special District Relief Funding

C. CSDA: Changes to SSDA – Streamline agreement

D. CSDA: Upcoming Training Opportunities, including CSDA Annual Conference August 30 –

September 2, Monterey, Ca. – Chair Seaman asked if anyone other than the General Manager was going to attend. Mr. Seaman stated that he will go down for 1 day to support the General Manger's session on Homelessness.

E. Announcement by Sacramento County Public Health on Covid-19 Indoor Mask Mandate

With no further business, the meeting ended at 8:06 p.m. and was continued on Tuesday, August 24, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. via ZOOM.

Meeting reconvened at 4:00 pm on Tuesday, August 24, 2021 to discuss and approve the 2021-2022 budget resolutions.

*Reconvened meeting minutes.*

The Board resumed the August 19 meeting on Tuesday, August 24 at 4:00 p.m. and voted to approve the final budget as follows.

Staff returned with a revised budget with recalculated staff and employee benefits costs for two scenarios 1). Cost of living increase of one percent and 2). Cost of living increase of one percent

and a step increase. The General Manager reported on the two scenarios. Motion made by Director Higgins to adopt the following resolutions, which included the one percent cost of living increase and step increase:

1. Resolution 2021-22-4 General Fund, Final Budget,
2. Resolution 2021-22-5 Assessment #1, Final Budget,
3. Resolution 2021-22-6 Assessment #2, Final Budget,
4. Resolution 2021-22-7 Gann Limit 2021-2022

Motion seconded by Director Lavallee. Resolutions adopted 5-0-0-0 with Chair Seaman, Vice Chair Stricklin, Secretary Lavallee, Director Dias and Director Higgins voting Aye. There were no Nays or Abstentions.

Respectfully submitted by: Becky L. McDaniel Superintendent of Recreation

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Seaman, Chair  
Board of Directors

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Laura Lavallee, Secretary  
Board of Directors