

MINUTES
A. REGULAR MEETING OF THE
MONTE RIO RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Monday, February 8, 2021, at 6:00 pm
Virtual Meeting

1. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Board Chair Steve Baxman.

2. Roll Call and Approval of Agenda and Minutes from Previous Meeting

Present: Directors Steve Baxman, Marina McTaggart, Paul DuBray and Linda Santa Cruz; Administrator/Board Clerk Sherry Pimsler and Brian Grant of PRAXIS Architects. Absent: Director Jean Sasso.

Marina moved and Paul seconded approval of this evening's agenda and minutes of January 11, 2021.

3. Public Comment – None.

4. Old Business – None

5. New Business –

A. Resolution 000438 Declaring that Members of the MRRPD Board of Directors and Volunteers Shall be Deemed Employees of the District for the Purpose of Providing Workers' Compensation Coverage while Providing their Services (Discussion/Action): Brian asked if community gardeners would be covered; Sherry said she would check with CAPRI (*and later confirmed that they are*).

B. Draft of MRRPD Board of Directors Guidelines (Discussion): Sherry asked directors to pay particular attention to the section on ethics. There is no deadline for finalizing, but Board input is essential to completion.

C. Discussion of Impact to MRRPD during Monte Rio Bridge Replacement Construction (Discussion): Steve introduced the item. Chris Seppeler of Sonoma County PRMD; John Mack and Samuel Baumgardner-Kranz of Sonoma County Transportation & Public Works were in attendance. Brian asked John about community meetings. There is one planned for March 4th at 6 pm, which will invite public input on items such as lighting, railings, etc. After that, there will be an environmental impact report, followed by a Notice of Preparation and a scoping meeting, all as part of CEQA requirements. Brian thanked them; the meetings are important and will engage the public.

6. Reports & Information

A. Board Reports – Marina thanked Steve and Leslie for help with the Wonderland sign.

B. Staff Reports

- The Friends of Monte Rio Annual Report was distributed. Not much to report because of the pandemic.
- Sherry attended a CSDA webinar on COVID relief: A new round of letters is being sent to the State requesting that special districts be included in the latest relief package. Special districts are encouraged to co-sign letters to county supervisors to release a portion of money remaining from the previous CARES package to special districts.

- In light of the COVID crisis, CalOSHA has released new regulations requiring employers to pay employees sent home due to exposure in the workplace (in contact within 6' for a cumulative total of 15 minutes over 24 hrs). Pay must continue during period of quarantine. The contact period includes 2-days prior to symptoms or test, and 10 days following. Sick leave may be deducted before exclusion pay kicks in.
- Sherry is attending a series of ADA workshops and will have more to report.
- She also attended a free webinar on the Brown Act sponsored by CSDA.
- CAPRI held a round table on COVID relief.
- Certain Board members took both Sexual Harassment Prevention and Ethics workshops. Sherry asked them to please send her their certificates.

C. Budget Committee – Meeting with Accounting Consultant Craig Collins is scheduled for February 18.

D. Facilities/Safety Committee – Minutes from the February 3rd meeting were distributed.

Highlights were:

- Steve, Leslie and Sherry met with Cary Sorenson of Everclean North to discuss removal of garbage from the Beach during the summer season. They would charge \$10/can for 10 cans, which they would empty and haul to the dump from approximately late May through August.
- So. Co. Agricultural and Open Space District (SCAOSD) performed a site visit for the conservation easement at Creekside Park, with the following findings:
 - Soil and a wooden pallet are to be removed from Dutch Bill Creek
 - MRRPD should have sought SCAOSD approval before installing the awning.
 - MRRPD must make the easement agreement a part of the Lightwave lease.
- Committee reviewed the Lightwave Café Commercial Lease. As of January 2022, Lightwave will have the option to extend their lease for another 3 years. Sherry will discuss current utility costs with Ori and Gal Ginsburg upon their return from Israel. The SCAOSD lease will be attached to their lease and this specific wording added: “Lessee understands and agrees to comply with the terms and conditions of the easement agreement.” Sherry will make sure certificates of insurance are received annually.
- Committee also discussed the 15-year Operating Agreement with Fish & Wildlife for operation and management of the parking lot, restrooms and boat ramp, which expired on May 2, 2020. F&W has asked if there are any additions or changes the District would like to incorporate into the new agreement. Suggestions: Door to the F&W restrooms need replacement (particularly the ADA door); if F&W is unable to help with the cost, Sherry will ask if the Wildlife Conservation Fund is a possibility; also, assistance with septic pumping would be helpful.
Sherry will also confirm that requesting donations for parking is permissible. Any proceeds would go toward clean-up of the area. The kiosk will be a temporary structure to avoid vandalism and attendant will wear MRRPD identification.
- Spring set-up: Leslie will coordinate with Steve to bring the office trailer back from storage so the AC can be replaced before moving to the Beach.
- Bridge replacement impact: Committee recommends a peer review of the NEPA (federal) and CEQA (state) documents once publicly available. Kevin Doble of LACO also recommends hiring a professional consultant to assemble an economic impact report for all of the properties, owners and businesses that will be negatively affected by the Project. (Neither NEPA nor CEQA will address economic hardships.)

- The Per Capita Grant/MAC Grant match: Brian will contact Solar Works to get a firm estimate on solar panels for the Community Center. The MAC Grant match has a deadline to expend by June 2021. Sherry is prepared to request extension if need be. (Guest Cynthia Strecker said she had contacted Sonoma Clean Power regarding possible grants for solar panels.)
- Sherry was in communication with volunteer Suki McCoy who will get back in touch once her health improves to assist with grant search.
- Sherry has asked McLarens to identify which of the losses their reimbursements have covered to-date so that CalOES can settle. A meeting with CAPRI and McLarens is set to discuss Wednesday, February 10.
- Flood/Emergency Preparedness: Brian is still looking into cost to fabricate flood gate parts locally. Presray estimate was \$6,762. Sherry is attending Emergency Plan webinars through CSDA. She asked for assistance in writing a handbook. Kyra Wink has experience in compiling emergency manuals for hospitals and offered to assist.
- Safety Committee Report:
 - Steve has been in conversation with Steve Ehret of Regional Parks regarding a planned controlled burn in the area they now own.
 - As mentioned, staff is exploring replacement costs for the ADA door on F&W restroom.
 - Steve and Leslie refreshed the ADA symbol on the upper parking lot when they re-stripped.

E. Personnel Committee – No report.

F. Marketing & Public Outreach Committee – No report.

G. CWA (Creekside Wastewater Authority at Creekside Park) –

- Operating agreement not finalized.

7. Correspondence – None

8. Action Items –

A. Resolution 000438 Declaring that Members of the MRRPD Board of Directors and Volunteers Shall be Deemed Employees of the District for the Purpose of Providing Workers' Compensation Coverage while Providing their Services: Resolution passed with a vote of 4 ayes (Baxman, McTaggart, DuBray and Santa Cruz); with 1 absence (Sasso).

9. Review Monthly Accounts Payable: The P&L report for January reflected \$10,272.15 in expenses.

10. Next Meeting/Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at 6:25 pm. The next Board meeting will take place on March 8, 2021 at 6 pm.