

**Bend Metro Park & Recreation District  
Board of Directors  
Executive Session & Regular Meeting  
April 7, 2009**

**BOARD PRESENT:** Bob Woodward, George Thayer, Scott Wallace and Ruth Williamson.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Don Horton, Bruce Ronning, Lindsey Lombard, Wayne Smith, Ed Moore, Paul Stell, Norm Ziesmer, Jan Taylor and Paula Lowery.

**LEGAL COUNSEL:** None.

**MEDIA:** Erin Golden, The Bulletin.

**VISITORS:** Mike Lovely, Bill Martin and Michael Graham.

Chair Bob Woodward called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

### **Business Session**

#### **Arbor Week Proclamation**

Chair Bob Woodward read for the record a proclamation declaring April 5<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009, Arbor Week for the Bend Metro Park & Recreation District. The proclamation was endorsed by all board members present.

#### **Consent Agenda**

Minutes – March 3 & 17, 2009  
Haul Road property exchange with Deschutes County  
Harvest Park construction bid  
Pine Nursery Park construction bid  
Fertilizer purchase  
District office furniture, fixtures and equipment (FF&E) contract  
Vermont Systems, Inc. – RecTrac contract

Scott Wallace moved to approve the consent agenda. George Thayer seconded the motion. Ruth Williamson clarified that her motion imposing the SDC fee and approved by the board on March 3, 2009, set the fee at the current rate and does not include an increase until July 2010. Bruce Ronning explained the fee schedule included in Resolution No. 312 is identical to what is currently imposed. Scott Wallace, George Thayer, Ruth Williamson and Bob Woodward all voted aye. Motion passed.

#### **Executive Director's Report**

##### **Scholarship Program Update**

Don Horton reported that to date the district as spent approximately \$90,000 on scholarships, equal to what was spent for all of last year. He stated the summer registration will be occurring before the beginning of the new budget year and staff is estimating that approximately \$135,000 will be spent for scholarships this year; an increase of between \$40,000 and \$50,000 over last year. He stated he would like to fund the need through the end of the year with general fund and allow more time for future board discussion regarding

funding this program. Lindsey Lombard noted that the heaviest users of the scholarship program are KIDS Inc. and swimming programs at JSFC. Don stated that the board and staff may need to consider whether some scholarships are denied and he would like to allow enough time to fully evaluate the program to ensure we are doing the right thing.

### **Shevlin Park Damage**

Don Horton reported the tree removal from Shevlin Park is nearly complete. He stated it is anticipated the district will receive approximately \$13,000 from the sale of the logs that will help fund the clean up from the storm damage. Ed Moore stated some slash burning remains to be done along with some trail restoration; however, the park has been reopened to the public. Bob Woodward asked if the trees that fell into Tumalo Creek were removed. Paul Stell explained those trees had to remain in the creek, however, some were reconfigured to enhance fish habitat and riparian areas.

### **Compass Park Playground Renovation**

Don Horton reported the replacement equipment for Compass Park is being assembled at the Park Services shop and will be transported to the park as soon as that work is completed.

### **Off-Leash Areas**

Don Horton reported that off-leash areas have been fenced at Hollinshead, Riverbend and Pine Nursery parks. He noted that the parks are not officially open until May; however, people are already using the sites, particularly the site adjacent to the river in Riverbend Park. He stated he believes this is a project that will be well received by the public, although amenities to accommodate humans remain to be installed. He stated funds will be included in next year's budget to continue that work.

### **Benefits Committee**

Don Horton stated that as part of the budget process, the Benefits Committee needs to meet with staff to consider employee benefits. Bob Woodward and George Thayer volunteered to serve on the committee. Don stated that staff has done a great job on preparing a conservative budget. Lindsey Lombard reminded the board of the budget committee tour scheduled for April 22.

### **Legislative Issues**

Bruce Ronning reported the district has been engaged in advocating for and against several initiatives such as HB 2054; the SDC bill which he noted would not receive a hearing. He also cited HB 3099 that would prohibit of community parks in high value farmlands. He stated that staff had testified on the bill although it would not have as great an impact on the district, as land along the Willamette River and Metro sites in the Willamette Valley. He stated that staff would continue to follow the bill closely. He also referred to a copy of a letter provided to the board in support of HB 2902 and companion senate bill 635 to create a new grant fund in support of urban trails with dedicated lottery funds. Bruce also noted that there are several workplace marijuana bills proposed and the board will be kept up to date on those.

### **Trails Update**

Bruce Ronning referred to the Planning & Development update provided in the board report and noted information provided regarding a trail behind Kohl's along the north parkway. He shared photographs of the site and stated that Steve Jorgensen is working with city of Bend planners to try to extend the trail to Empire Boulevard to make the connection from the river trail to the Riverhouse, across 3<sup>rd</sup> Street to this trail out to Empire and then connect to Pilot Butte and COID trail.

**Good of the Order**

Scott Wallace referred to a meeting he had with the school district maintenance department and noted they are interested in working with the district parks staff regarding certification and recognition with the district's sustainability efforts.

George Thayer noted the state masters swimming championships are scheduled to be held at JSFC next Friday through Sunday that would bring in an excess of \$2,000. He suggested those funds be directed to scholarships for swimming lessons.

Bob Woodward reminded the board and staff that a new television show will be aired on Thursday, called Parks and Recreation.

**Executive Session**

The board recessed to executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2) (e) for the purpose of discussing real property transactions and ORS 192.660 (2) (i) to review and evaluate the performance of the executive director. Bob Woodward announced the board would reconvene the business meeting following the executive session.

Chair Bob Woodward reconvened the business session at 6:45 pm. Ruth Williamson moved to authorize the executive director to negotiate and execute a contract with Edge Vertical Development for the acquisition of 3.9 acres known as Merada for an amount not to exceed \$829,000. Scott Wallace seconded the motion. Ruth Williamson, Scott Wallace, George Thayer and Bob Woodward all voted aye. Motion passed.

As there was no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:48 pm.

Prepared by,

Paula Lowery, Executive Assistant

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Bob Woodward, Chair

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Scott Wallace, Vice-Chair

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Ted Schoenborn

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George Thayer

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Ruth Williamson