

**Bend Metro Park & Recreation District  
Board of Directors  
Work Session & Regular Meeting  
Minutes  
April 15, 2014**

**BOARD PRESENT:** Scott Wallace, Scott Asla, Ted Schoenborn and Craig Chenoweth.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Don Horton, Michelle Healy, Lindsey Lombard, Theresa Albert, Matt Mercer, Pat Erwert, Colleen McNally, Russ Holliday, Brian Hudspeth, Jim Figurski, Brad Vlcek, and Paula Lowery.

**LEGAL COUNSEL:** Paul Taylor.

**MEDIA:** None.

**VISITORS:** Keith Scott, Michael Graham, Kecia Weaver and Barbara Hippe.

**WORK SESSION**

Chair Scott Wallace convened the work session at 5:40 pm.

**New Employee Introductions**

Pat Erwert introduced Brad Vlcek, Park Maintenance Worker II. Brad stated that he had worked for the district for four years in a seasonal position prior to recently being hired full-time. He noted that he is from Chicago, recently married, and looking forward to bringing his wife to Bend soon. He stated he looks forward to doing his best in the years to come.

Pat Erwert introduced Kecia Weaver, the district's Park Resource Officer with the Bend Police Department. Kecia stated she has been with the Bend Police Department for 15 years and she has been working with the district since the beginning of March. She stated she is a hostage negotiator and has a specialty in crisis intervention and serves as a liaison and executive council of the Torch Run, a partnership with Special Olympics, and noted that she has participated in the Polar Plunge for the past eight years. She stated she enjoys living and working in Bend.

**Branding Campaign**

Colleen McNally introduced Georell Bracelin, GB2 marketing consultant, and reviewed the process to date in creating the district's new branding campaign. She also reviewed the history of the district's marketing plan. Colleen announced the new branding platform and motto will be "play for life", and explained how it is rooted in how the community views the district today. She shared how the new branding efforts will be incorporated throughout communications district-wide and presented the new playbook created with a new format and special features to complement the new branding campaign. She noted that the image on the cover of the current playbook was designed to appeal to the adult demographic to help increase readership as well as participation from that group, and that will be continued in future issues.

### **Simpson Pavilion Rink Size/Sport Flooring & Ice System**

Matt Mercer stated that in response to the board's direction to consider an Olympic size ice rink for the Simpson Pavilion staff has prepared a cost benefit analysis of the current plan specification of an NHL size rink and an Olympic size rink. He explained the cost analysis includes construction and operating costs and programming benefits and drawbacks for each size. Matt conducted a PowerPoint presentation comparing the differences between the two rinks and explained that NHL size rinks are the standard in the United States. He shared a cost benefit analysis from a staff perspective including value added and risks of an Olympic size rink and an NHL rink. He stated that staff determined there would be limited added value in terms of programming and little to no additional revenue gained from an Olympic rink. He also reviewed additional construction and operating costs associated with an Olympic rink, and the anticipated increase in subsidy as costs increase over time. Matt added that the additional 15 feet of an Olympic rink would expose that section of ice to sun virtually all of the time. He reported that discussions with the stakeholders indicated they would prefer an NHL size rink. Craig Chenoweth asked if Matt had information about the preference for competitions held at an outdoor Olympic size rink compared to an indoor facility. Matt stated indoor facilities provide reliable ice conditions that he felt competitions would prefer. John Laherty reported on Bend Ice's board discussion regarding an Olympic rink compared to an NHL rink. He explained they considered the benefit to the community as a whole as well as hockey. He stated it is hard to determine the benefit of an Olympic rink as there is currently not a short track population in Bend, and he understands that high level figure skaters prefer to skate on an Olympic size rink, but consistency is important and it is difficult for figure skaters to train on one size rink and compete on a different size rink. He stated an NHL rink would accommodate cross ice youth hockey and shared Bend Ice's concern that increased operating costs of an Olympic rink would result in increased cost for ice time for their program. He stated that based on an informal poll of Bend Ice board members, from a purely hockey standpoint, suggests a lean toward an NHL rink.

Matt Mercer reviewed two options for ice refrigeration systems. He explained one option is to use an in-slab refrigeration system and portable, modular sport flooring for non-ice seasons. He stated the other option is a permanently installed multi-purpose sport court surface with a removable ice mat system for the ice rink season. He noted that in either case removable dasher boards would be used to provide maximum flexibility during the non-ice season. He reviewed the benefits and limitations of each option including lifespan, potential problems with start-up and takedown, costs and limitations and flexibility of repair. Scott Wallace asked about the initial cost between the two. Matt explained the construction cost of an in-slab system involves a thicker slab, differences in drainage installation and the cost of the coils.

Matt Mercer presented information regarding potential flooring solutions for both of the ice systems. He explained that staff had selected seven flooring types for evaluation and manufacturers were asked to provide approximately 12' x 12' samples for testing. He noted that two of the samples are permanently installed floors and five are portable modular floors. Matt explained that staff has evaluated and rated the floors and stakeholders representing a variety of user groups were also invited to test and share feedback on the flooring options. He reviewed the benefits and limitations of each of the floor types tested and associated costs.

Matt advised the board they would be given an opportunity to visit the test site at the end of the meeting to test and provide input on each of the flooring surfaces.

Matt Mercer stated as a result of the research, comparisons and testing staff recommendation is an NHL size rink, in-slab ice refrigeration and either the premium portable sport court or hybrid sport court surfaces. He explained that staff is also recommending the purchase of larger samples (half-court basketball size) of the premium and hybrid sport courts to be installed in a location to be tested for playability in different conditions over the next year. He noted we have time to do this since the sport court flooring will be installed until April 2016. Scott Asla shared his experience with the interlocking mats and stated they don't hold up. He added he would expect a three-year lifespan rather than the eight-year time period that was indicated. Ted Schoenborn stated he is comfortable with the NHL in-slab refrigeration and it is clearly the most responsible thing to do. He asked for clarification of the differences between the premium and hybrid court surfaces. Matt explained the anticipated differences based on types of use and how that would be better defined with a yearlong test of each surface. Craig Chenoweth stated that the cost savings of the NHL rink applied to the cost of a full season sport court makes the most sense. Scott Asla stated he is comfortable with the staff recommendation in terms of providing a quality product to hold up for the long-term. Following discussion the board reached a consensus to go with an NHL rink and in-slab ice refrigeration system.

The work session was concluded at 7:20 pm.

## **REGULAR MEETING**

Chair Scott Wallace called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

## **VISITORS**

Keith Scott addressed the board regarding park maintenance. He rated the district's park maintenance as A+, number one, as the parks are always well maintained. He stated he hopes this standard is maintained.

Barbara Hippe addressed the board regarding the crowding at Juniper Swim & Fitness Center. She stated she is hoping there is a future plan for inclusion of a pool at the Simpson site. She stated that we need something on the west side and she feels upon the completion of the expansion of the senior center it will be at capacity quickly. Don advised Ms. Hippe that it is anticipated a recreation center will be built on the Simpson site and it is likely there will be a pool included in that facility. He stated that project is planned for the distant future.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

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**Contract Award: Ponderosa & Pine Nursery Landscape & Irrigation**

**Contract Amendment: Simpson Pavilion A&E Contract Amendment**

Ted Schoenborn moved to approve the consent agenda. Scott Asla seconded the motion. Scott Wallace, Scott Asla, Ted Schoenborn and Craig Chenoweth voted aye. Motion passed.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Don Horton reported the trail improvements at 1<sup>st</sup> Street Rapids Park will be done ahead of other work on the river right section of the project.

Don Horton explained the funding for the Alpine Trailhead adjacent to Tetherow. He reported the improvements will consist of road improvements and a connection to Tetherow.

Don Horton reminded the board of upcoming public meetings for Simpson Pavilion at the district office community room and the south canyon bridge at Elk Meadow School.

Don Horton announced the permit system for business operations in parks will begin June 1. He stated that Jan Taylor had reached out to those who conduct businesses in parks and conducted an open house to inform the business owners.

Don Horton reported the Mirror Pond Engineering Report is under review for an update. He explained this report is bound by the nondisclosure agreement with PacifiCorp and will be released following PacifiCorp's review, redaction of information they do not wish to release, and approval of release of the report.

Don Horton reported a spray park will be installed at the Pine Nursery off leash area in honor of dog park volunteer Bob Wenger.

Don Horton reported the ethics complaint filed against the board has been dismissed.

Don Horton reported that Earl Williams has filed a recall petition against Scott Wallace, Scott Asla and Ted Schoenborn. Paul Taylor reviewed the recall process for the board, including filing of the petition, formation of a PAC, establishing a campaign funding account, approval of the signature sheets, collection of 4,500 signatures per board member within 90 days of approval, certification of the signatures by the county clerk, resulting in an election within 35 days following the certification. He stated if the election occurs the district will be required to reimburse the county for election costs. He cited factual inaccuracies contained in the petition and explained the penalties for making false statements in a petition. He also reviewed the process for filing a complaint with the Secretary of State regarding false statements and advised the board he will research this process further.

Don Horton advised the board that Foster Fell's petition regarding Mirror Pond had been withdrawn and refiled as a result of the challenge filed by Neil Bryant. Paul Taylor explained the process has resulted in a new ballot title prepared by the district attorney and following the county clerk's notification to The Bulletin and notification to Foster Fell, he may begin collecting signatures for the petition. He noted that Mr. Fell will have two years to collect the required number of signatures before the petition will be considered for the ballot.

Don Horton reported that Spencer Dahl has indicated he will submit a petition to be placed on the ballot to ensure the district and the city will guarantee that due diligence is followed prior to any steps either agency would take with regard to Mirror Pond. Don stated that he feels

open communication with Mr. Dahl would be beneficial and offered to arrange a meeting with him to discuss his concerns.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Lindsey Lombard shared the details of the upcoming Budget Committee tour.

As there was no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm. The board then met at the sports court testing site to evaluate the flooring options.

Prepared by,

Paula Lowery  
Executive Assistant

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Scott Wallace, Chair

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Dan Fishkin, Vice-Chair

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Ted Schoenborn

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Scott Asla

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Craig Chenoweth