

# **Board of Directors**

March 5, 2019
District Office Building | 799 SW Columbia | Bend, Oregon

# 5:30 p.m. MEETING CONVENED

#### **BOARD PRESENT**

Brady Fuller, Chair Ted Schoenborn, Vice Chair Nathan Hovekamp Lauren Sprang

#### **ABSENT**

Ellen Grover

## **MEDIA**

Jacob Larsen, KTVZ Stephen Hamway, The Bulletin

#### **STAFF PRESENT**

Don Horton, Executive Director
Matt Mercer, Director of Recreation
Julie Brown, Manager of Communications and Community Relations
Lindsey Lombard, Administrative Services Director
Sheila Reed, Executive Assistant
Brian Hudspeth, Development Manager
Michael Egging, Recreational Analyst
Jeff Hagler, Park Stewardship Manager
Becky Curfew, Youth Recreation Coordinator
Amanda Jamison, Outreach Coordinator
Kayla Sickard, Recreation Intern
Betsy Tucker, Finance Manager

#### 5:30 p.m. Meeting Convened

## **WORK SESSION**

1. Recreation Program Report: Expanded Afterschool Care Programs – Sue Boettner and Becky Curfew

Ms. Boettner reviewed the time changes the school district will be making to the schedule next year. She spoke about the impacts this decision has on District programs, stating the after school care will

likely face the biggest impact. Ms. Curfew said this year 92 percent of the current after school spots are full and five schools have waitlists. Staff conducted a parent survey, 70 percent of respondents indicated that they need childcare past 4:00 p.m. Staff is preparing for a greater need for childcare next year with the change of the school times and extending the time to later in the evening. Programming is planned to accommodate child care until 6:00 p.m. with options for shorter programs that end at 4:00 p.m. Staff is anticipating needing more building space and is working with the school district.

Ms. Curfew went on to say that with an earlier start time for elementary kids, there may not be a need for before school care. This will be determined on a school by school basis depending on parent interest and need.

The Board asked how the changes may impact staffing. Ms. Curfew responded that the change may work in favor of staffing if there shifts are no longer split for before and after school care.

2. Needs-Based Assistance and Supportive Outreach – Sue Boettner, Matt Mercer and Amanda Jamison

Mr. Mercer shared the long-term trends of needs-based assistance. The long term trends have shown a growth in need for the program; this was likely due to the economy. Due to the work with partner groups, the costs are now trending down slightly. These trends have prompted staff to question the limitations of the District to offer more needs-based assistance. There are approximately 1436 individuals approved annually for needs-based assistance. Of these that qualify, 40-45 percent qualify as moderate need and 55-60 percent qualify as high need individuals. Most of the assistance is used in youth recreation programs that include Kids, Inc. and Op Rec childcare programs, followed by Juniper Swim and Fitness passes and programing, therapeutic recreation programs and programs offered at the Pavilion. Need-based assistance includes other options, but they are not accessed as frequently.

Mr. Mercer said that he wanted to look at how the District compares to other organizations in offering needs-based assistance. In researching this information, he found that the District does very well with the offerings of assistance. The chart below reflects the collected information.

City/Agency	Population	Median Income	Poverty Rate	Assistance Provided	Assistance Per Capita
Bend	94,520	\$60,563	10.9%	\$210,000	\$2.22
Tualatin Hills	230,000	\$64,619	12.6%	\$196,000	\$0.85
Willamalane	62,353	\$41,700	21.3%	\$70,000	\$1.11
Eugene	168,916	\$47,489	21.7%	\$94,505	\$0.50
Portland	647,805	\$61,532	16.2%	\$600,000	\$0.98
Boulder - 2017	107,125	\$64,163	21.6%	\$63,777	\$0.60
Boulder - 2018	107,125	\$64,153	21.6%	\$248,713	\$2 32
Gak Padk, Illinois	52,261	\$87,271	6.3%	\$67,000	\$1.25

Ms. Boettner introduced the changes to the scholarship program. She said that the District will increase the high-need eligibility level, extend application renewal process, streamline income verification (by partnering with other programs that require income verification) and increase support for complementary programs. The complementary programs that are offered through contractors currently are subsidized by the District 25 percent. Staff is working with contractors and will be asking them to match the subsidy (scholarship) with another 25 percent allowing for a 50 percent discount on the program offered by the contractor.

The Board asked if there is an appropriate way to recognize the partners/contractors that choose to match the scholarship. A few ideas were brainstormed amongst the Board and staff on ways that this can be done.

Ms. Jamison spoke about targeted programs of needs-based assistance. These programs include:

- Ariel Glen summer day camp: This is a partnership with Neighborhood Impact and Housing Works, it is a free program offered to the kids in this housing development.
- FAN voucher program: Vouchers will be given to qualified families to offset the costs that are not covered by the scholarships.
- Discover the Outdoors: Outdoor programming for Latino and low income populations with transportation provided to remove further barriers of participation.
- Kids on the Move: Recreation programs offered at Ensworth and Silver Rail schools.
- Days of Play: Free community events offered at various parks where BLS offers the summer lunch programs.

Ms. Jamison spoke about the community partnerships that the District has developed with Pacific Source and Mosaic Medical. Other partnerships include Tour Des Chutes cancer survivor classes, OSU STEM camp, and Opdycke Fund for therapeutic recreation programs (overnight programs that provide opportunity to therapeutic recreation participants and respite care for families).

Further free offerings include community events, senior social programs, free family nights at Juniper and low fee family skates at the Pavilion. Ms. Jamison said that funding requirements are increasing year over year, making community partnerships more valuable in sharing the costs. The District funding sources come from a variety of places, grants, sponsorships, the Foundation, cell tower leases and the general fund. This year the costs of these programs decreased due to partnering with other agencies.

Ms. Jamison said that outreach is built into every program, service, community member interaction and short and long term goal plans. Outreach is designed to increase awareness, increase engagement and demonstrate the District's commitment to serving all members of the community. In addition, there is a focus to reach low income and Latino populations; community partners have helped to identify more ways to reach these populations. Part of this effort has been to rebrand needs-based assistance to a recreation scholarship program that people may understand better. For the low income and Latino populations, staff created events and brought the recreation survey to them last fall and

asked for their feedback. The survey reaffirmed the need to continue outreach to diverse populations with new and innovative strategies.

Staff also hosted a focus group with other local agencies to collaborate about reaching and communicating with diverse populations, best practices were shared and staff received feedback in how to increase outreach efforts. Staff will continue to meet and work with partners to provide consistent messaging.

6:50 p.m. BREAK/TRANSITION 7:00 p.m. BUSINESS SESSION

#### **VISITORS**

None

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- 1. Meeting Minutes 2/19/2019
- 2. Approve Needs-Based Assistance Plan for FY 2019-20
- 3. Resolution No. 420 Local Government Grant for Drake Park

Director Schoenborn made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Director Sprang seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

#### **BUSINESS SESSION**

1. Board of Directors' Fund Balance and Reserves Policy – Lindsey Lombard and Don Horton

Ms. Lombard said this is a follow up to the Board Workshop. She began by explaining that reserves are important for the following reasons:

- plan for contingencies
- good standing with rating agencies
- avoid interest expense
- generate investment income
- ensures cash availability

Ms. Lombard said the current practice of the District follows the recommendation of the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). GFOA recommends two months or 16 percent of annual operating expenditures or revenues. The District uses expenditures for reserve planning. Ms. Lombard said the GFOA is now recommending that organizations determine the target level of reserves based upon the risks an organization may face. Ms. Lombard described the risk analysis and the effects of natural disasters, taxes and fees, wages and benefits could have on the District. Historically, she said the District outpaces both the targeted and budgeted reserves every year and actual savings is about 23-28 percent of the actual general fund balance for the last five years.

Ms. Lombard demonstrated the category analysis tool that has been provided by GFOA. The tool allows her to plug in the District data and assess the score that is derived from the tool. At first glance the tool recommends a range of 17-24 percent for the reserve, which is what the District reserves have been accumulating.

In addition to the reserve account, the District has additional considerations to make on keeping separate accounts or incorporating into the general reserve fund for the following:

- Facility reserve fund
  - Asset management reserve
  - Park maintenance facility reserve
- Equipment Reserve Fund
  - Vehicle and equipment reserve
- PERS reserve

The Board discussed that by keeping the accounts separate, they are easier to understand and allows for more structure.

Ms. Lombard reviewed the next steps:

- Amend and adopt policy
- Complete risk analysis
- Implement in proposed budget for 2019-2020
- Annual discussion at January Board workshop

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Executive Director Horton passed out some handouts to discuss the SDC methodology and provide further feedback from the City. The handouts show a list of requests from the City to the changes to the District SDCs. He said that the requests are not unreasonable and should be considered. The City is in the process of changing the transportation SDC fees that they charge; this change is likely to come in the next year and a half. The City would like the District to follow their methodology of charging SDCs on single family homes until they have made their own changes. If the City decides to implement a tiered approach, the District could implement the tiered approach then. The City also recommends looking at a five tier scale instead of the District's proposed four tiers. Other items that the City has asked the Board to consider include reducing the current project list and reconsider the 100 unit cap per year on affordable housing exemptions. The Board discussed lifting the 100 unit cap and it was suggested to instead limit it to 400 units overall until the sunset date of the plan four years from now. The Board was agreeable to waiting on the tiered approach of the SDCs. Executive Director Horton directed the Board to the project list and made some recommendations on projects that could be added, reduced and removed from the list. The Board discussed the list and reached a consensus that some projects were not likely to happen and would be willing to remove them.

The Board expressed interest in looking once again at the costs of the railroad bridge that will connect to Alpenglow Community Park; they are looking for assurance that the costs are indicative of all anticipated costs to provide the bridge.

# BOARD MEETINGS CALENDAR REVIEW PROJECT REPORT GOOD OF THE ORDER ADJOURN 9:02 p.m.

Prepared by, Sheila Reed Executive Assistant

Brady Fuller, Chair

Ellen Grover

Lauren Sprang

Ted Schoenborn, Vice-Chair

Nathan Hovekamp