

- Consider impacts to river bank on river-right with or without the dam
- Provided more accurate cost information
- Engage stakeholder groups to refine design options

Mr. Hudspeth said a stakeholder group was set up as part of the goals for the project. He said it was a seven-member technical advisory committee (TAC) and the group included two members from the City of Bend, and one member from each of the following groups: the general public, Bend Paddle Trail Alliance, Upper Deschutes Watershed Council, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and United States Forest Service. The TAC met four times over a six-month period and the district also met with property owners, including Mirror Pond Solutions, about acquiring the needed easements.

Mr. Hudspeth said the conceptual design was done in 2017, the construction design began in 2018 and was completed in January of this year. Currently the project is in the permitting phase and staff expects to receive the notice to proceed this winter. Mr. Hudspeth explained the easements that are needed for the project and showed a map of where they are located. Most of the easements have been acquired with a few still under negotiation, including the easement with Mirror Pond Solutions.

Mr. Hudspeth said the original masterplan was approved by the board in December of 2017. He added that the design has been refined and incorporated into the full construction documents and some bank work was added to the restoration project with Upper Deschutes Watershed Council. He showed some slides that detailed the bank restoration and the trail alignments.

2. All Day Childcare Program during BLP Comprehensive Distanced Learning – *Matt Mercer*

Mr. Horton said the district has been working for months with Bend LaPine Schools (BLS) on offering childcare in the schools. He said there is a misperception on social media that the district is making money from this program, when actually the district is subsidizing it. He reported that there has been a higher percentage of people that need assistance applying for the childcare program, and staff is pleased that the people that really need the help are responding. He added that it has been challenging to hire staff for the program.

Mr. Mercer said staff has been working to build this new full-time program and plan to open registration on Monday for a lineup of additional part-time programs. Programming includes:

- Art Station classes
- Science and enrichment
- sports
- outdoor programs.

The all-day childcare program has been named Operation Recreation Team Up. He said the name is an adaption of Operation Recreation programming offered by the district on non-school days and Team Up acknowledges the partnership with the school district. Capacity of the program is about 500 and at closing of the registration, there were about 450 applications. The district will continue to accept applications. Approximately half of the applications received have requested financial assistance. Mr. Mercer attributes this higher level of scholarship applications to the outreach efforts by district and school district staff.

Mr. Mercer reported that the school district has committed to provide educational support to the program. A BLS staff member will be assigned to each cohort of 20 kids. BLS will also provide training to district staff on the structure of distance learning. Once the district has a better understanding of the needs of enrolled kids, staff can request additional support.

Mr. Mercer commended the efforts of the Community Relations team. He said they have worked on messaging through social media and emailed a newsletter about the program to district families and sent a more personal invitation to families already using scholarships. The Outreach Team, Amanda and Kathya, went door to door in communities that would qualify for scholarships and took laptops to sign people up. BLS allowed FAN advocates to work ahead of their return schedule and listed this program as a priority upon official return.

Mr. Mercer said that he is expecting an additional \$50,000 from a reputable non-profit. He said he cannot release full details yet, but the money has been committed. He is anticipating additional help from the county that may flow through the organization, Better Together. Mr. Mercer said he is hoping to scholarship 130 registrations that demonstrate high need at 100 percent.

Mr. Mercer said the challenges of the program include staffing and the uncertainty of the length of the program. Due to staffing concerns, the program may not be able to serve everyone at the beginning, the number of students may need to be limited until staffing is fully in place. He added that other childcare providers are experiencing the same staffing challenges and finding qualified applicants.

The board commended staff on the efforts they have made on this program and the outreach that has been done to reach so many families in need. The board asked why kindergarten children were not included. Mr. Mercer responded that staff did not think it would be appropriate to add this group because they have never attended school and adding this age group would have meant creating a Kindergarten cohort. This would have taken too many resources from the district focus to provide the most capacity to help families. He also said that the private sector may have better opportunities to serve this age-group; however, the district is offering other part-time programming that includes Kindergarten aged children.

The board asked for more information about the staffing challenges and scholarship levels. Mr. Mercer said that in order to open with 30 kids at each school, the district will need at least a dozen new staff members and to get to full capacity, the district will need an additional dozen. Staff will likely be retained for Kids, INC programs when school resumes, but will be working fewer hours than the 40 hours that is needed now. Mr. Mercer described as a four-tier scholarship system offering 50-100 percent relief. He said this is a higher level of scholarship than is normally offered by the district, but should better align with the assistance that families are receiving from other resources. In addition, the FAN advocates in the schools will continue to work to identify interested families that have not yet applied for the program.

Mr. Mercer said the district is looking at using some contingent funds from the district budget and anticipates that up to \$50,000 may be required. He said this may be needed later in the year depending on the school district schedule and the length of the Team Up program.

Overall, the board expressed their appreciation for the efforts and the partnerships to serve a large childcare need for families in the community.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

- Executive Director Horton said the CAPRA review for reaccreditation was last week and asked Director Schoen to talk about the review. Director Schoen said the reviewers did not find many areas to improve upon. The reviewers said the process was very professional, there was a lot of attention to detail, and they commented that staff works well together and appear to enjoy the work. The review team did comment that they were surprised that the district did not have as many CPRP certified staff, but acknowledged that there are several staff members working on the certification now. The review team praised the district for outreach efforts and employing a full-time outreach coordinator. Director Schoen shared that the district staff member that led the reaccreditation, Michael Egging, made a passionate statement at the end of the review about the importance of being an inclusive agency. Director Schoen shared some of his comments with the board. She said she is expecting that the district will be reaccredited. Executive Director Horton echoed the praise for Mr. Egging’s work and complimented Mr. Mercer and Director Schoen on their guidance as well.
- Mr. Mercer shared with the board that a long-term employee of 33 years, Russ Holliday, recently retired. He said that normally staff would have had a lunch and included the board to celebrate Mr. Holliday. He said after the pandemic, staff will do something to honor him.
- Mr. Mercer said he would have Mr. Egging present at the next board meeting on the CAPRA visit and will provide a copy of the self-assessment.

PROJECT REPORT In board packet

BOARD MEETINGS CALENDAR REVIEW

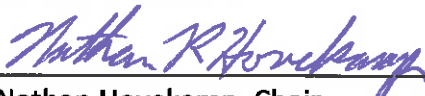
GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Director Kropf thanked Mr. Mercer and his team for their efforts they have made in addressing scholarships and families that need childcare.
- Director Méndez said he would like to see the DEI statement that Michael Egging wrote and presented at the CAPRA visit. He commended Kathya Avila-Choquez and the outreach work she has done with the Latino community and commented that she has built a lot of trust with Latino families. He expressed his respect for staff and fellow board members.
- Director Schoenborn voiced his gratitude for the CAPRA work and presentations this evening. He said it is a privilege to be a board member and recognized the good work by staff across all levels.
- Director Schoen said she saw a family at Al Moody park and they were struggling to hang a pinata in the shelter and asked if staff could install something to make the task easier.
- Director Hovekamp apologized that the meeting was not a live feed tonight and said that staff will make efforts to air the next meeting live. He added that public comments are accepted through email to be read into the record and are accepted until just before the meeting.

ADJOURN: 7:24pm



Prepared by,
Sheila Reed
Executive Assistant

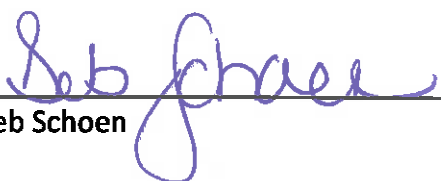


Nathan Hovekamp, Chair




Ariel Méndez, Vice-Chair

Jason Kropf



Deb Schoen



Ted Schoenborn

