



likely at the present time, then the dam needs a fish ladder, screen, and tailrace barrier. He stated that this is the last remaining barrier to fish passage on the Deschutes River between Big Falls (west of Terrebonne) and Wickiup Reservoir. Mr. Vora said any fix from dredging is temporary and is a poor use of taxpayer money. He urged the board to look at longer-term solutions.

## **WORK SESSION**

### **1. Presentation and Staff Recognition for CAPRA Accreditation Visit – *Michael Egging***

Mr. Egging gave a review of the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) re-accreditation process, stating that it was a years-long process. The review was conducted virtually due to the pandemic. There were three reviewers, two from Colorado, and one from Missouri. He said that it was unfortunate that staff was unable to host the visitors here in Bend to show them all of the parks and facilities and provide the opportunity to engage in more meaningful conversations, but the visit still went well. The reviewers said it was one of, if not the easiest visitation they've all had. They complimented the organization on clarity of evidence, ease of accessing documents, and said important details were easy to find. Mr. Egging credits the comments to the months and years of preparing for it.

Mr. Egging commented that while the week-long visit is an important and momentous occasion, the true benefit of CAPRA accreditation is the process. He said the initial accreditation process in 2015 was a lot of work, finding and creating needed documents for the first time. The reaccreditation process confirms the documents, ensuring plans and procedures are being reviewed as stated. CAPRA proves that the district does these things well, benchmarking with national best practices, as determined by years of fine-tuning the process and consulting with park and rec professionals around the country with decades of experience.

Mr. Egging described how the tasks were organized and commented that the process connects staff in departments and at all levels within those departments. This builds appreciation for other departments and exemplifies how the work done in one department impacts other areas of the district. Team leads were assigned and district managers were notified of the information they would need to prepare over the next three years. Early planning combined with constant support and communication kept CAPRA in mind in a positive way.

Mr. Egging said Capra accreditation is concrete evidence that park and recreation services are worth investing in. Coupled with rising satisfaction rates in the community, it further demonstrates that the community has confidence and trust in the district to provide excellent service. Mr. Egging concluded by saying that the next accreditation review visit starts now, and there will be three new standards for a total of 154.

The board commented that because the CAPRA team did not need to ask a lot of questions should give everyone peace of mind that staff is doing a great job and affirm to the community the pursuit of excellence for the public.

## 2. Update on Team Up Program and Funding – *Matt Mercer*

Mr. Mercer gave an update on district programming that has been impacted by the hazardous smoke in the area. He said all outdoor programming has been canceled or moved indoors at Juniper Swim and Fitness and sports programming has been delayed. He said additional challenges include prepping fields for game days because crews are not able to safely work outside.

Mr. Mercer said the Team Up childcare program starts tomorrow. Staff has been training and setting up the sites at the schools. The district is offering the program at 15 schools with just under 400 kids enrolled. All applicants got a spot in the program; however, about 50-60 kids were offered spots outside of their home school. Over 50 percent of the participants need financial assistance. Mr. Mercer said that reaching these families was a goal, and added that 40 families (10%) are Spanish speaking families which corresponds to the Latino population in Bend.

Mr. Mercer said the district ended up using the modified free and reduced lunch standards, this allowed staff to offer services to families that may not have been included before. In addition, many fees were waived at a higher level with this standard.

Mr. Mercer spoke about the funding for the program. He said the district is able to accommodate many more families due to \$50,000 received from the city CARES fund and Better Together came through with funding that will be distributed based on the need of families served. An additional \$100,000 from the United Way will also go to Better Together and the district is anticipating receiving some of this funding as well.

Mr. Mercer said there continues to be challenges with staffing, but the district does have the minimum needed to open the program and will continue recruiting for additional staff. Bend LaPine Schools trained district staff on using the technology to support kids in the program and prioritized iPads for use in district and Boys & Girls Club programs. He added that the provided space at the schools will work well as long as kids aren't in the schools, when BLS goes to a hybrid schedule, space will be a challenge to work out. He said it is likely that kids will return to school sooner than originally thought and the schedule is likely to be announced tonight or tomorrow.

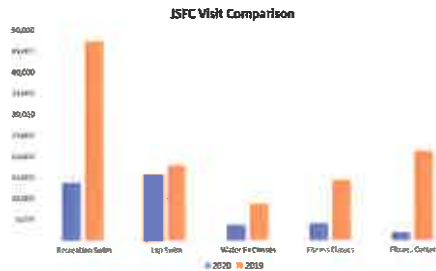
The board asked about the funding the district has received. Mr. Mercer said the memorandums of understanding (MOU) are being drafted to accept the funding. The funding is intended to fill the gap and serve families in financial need. He said he does not expect any obstacles to getting the funding the district needs to run the program through Dec. 31. The hybrid school schedule will change some of the enrollments to the Team UP program and likely there will be less space available at schools; the district anticipates that kids in the program will still be served, but may not allow for new enrollments.

Mr. Mercer next spoke about summer attendance in programs and facilities. He showed the following slide and explained that in spite of the challenges of running camps with no field trips and the need to modify behaviors due to the pandemic, feedback from kids and parents was favorable.

### Youth Camp Comparison

	2020	2019
Camps Offered	235	289
Available Spots	4,646	6,048
Enrollment	4,016	4,656
% Filled	86%	77%

Visits to Juniper Swim and Fitness climbed steady through the summer as more programming was offered. Lap swimming was most popular and with the reservation system fell only slightly short of attendance last year. The data in the chart below demonstrates the change in attendance from last year for all of the programs offered at Juniper this summer.



The board commented that the high numbers of kids enrolled in camps this summer reinforces the trust the community has in district programming.

Mr. Mercer told the board that he should have more information on the Pavilion opening at the next meeting.

### CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes – 08/18/2020
2. Minutes – 09/01/2020

Director Méndez recommended changing the wording on the minutes for September 1 to reflect that the meeting did not stream live on Facebook, instead a recording was posted after the meeting.

***Director Kropf made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Director Méndez seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.***

### BUSINESS SESSION

1. MOU For Fish Passage – *Don Horton*

Executive Director Horton reminded the board the reason for bringing this memorandum of understanding (MOU) to the board. The MOU is the result of Resolution 430, that calls for the city and district to work jointly on an update of the Mirror Pond vision to allow for fish passage. He explained that the MOU does not require board approval, but he was seeking board review and approval because the board has changed since the resolution was written that asked for this MOU.

He reviewed the MOU that was included in the board report, he said there have been some modifications to some of the language in the MOU. Contributors to the changes include the city staff, district staff and Director Kropf. The MOU is divided into two phases. The first phase includes creating an update committee, which includes representation from several integral agencies. The committee will consider options to enable fish passage, reduce the frequency and quantities of future sediment removal, and identify a recommended funding strategy. The second phase would consider how the project would be funded. He added that COIC has agreed to be the facilitator for the update committee and will manage the process and meetings and will produce the final product for the committee.

He said this MOU is necessary to create an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) to move forward with the Drake Park trail project and acquiring the needed easements.

The board discussed whether the MOU fit well with the goals of the resolution that calls for it. It was suggested that the board wait until a solution is worked out with Mirror Pond Solutions (MPS) for the easements at Mirror Pond to approve this MOU with the idea that a delay may allow this process to be a little cleaner. A modification to the dam is mentioned in a few places in the MOU and the agreement states that modification is unlikely. Some of the board worry that the process is set up for challenges with these inconsistencies.

Executive Director Horton said he does not think that modification to the dam is relevant to the fish passage. He said PacifiCorp has agreed to be on the committee; they own the property and need to agree to the committee proposals. Executive Director Horton said he does not think that further postponement will be advantageous to the district. MPS is not concerned about fish passage and more concerned with maintaining Mirror Pond at the historic elevation and finding a way to do the dredge. In order to satisfy that, MPS needs to see that things are headed toward that end goal. He said more components need to be addressed, but these will happen in the IGA not this MOU. The IGA will be brought to this board and city council for approvals.

The board asked what the public process would look like for the update committee. Executive Director Horton said all meetings will be open to the public and allow for public comments that would be included in the final report. The board recommended that staff go to the 13 neighborhood associations meetings and provide reports. Executive Director Horton said that staff could reach out to the associations and request to be put on the agenda. Executive Director Horton said there was a lot of outreach in the original vision. He said there was some unfortunate speculation that work was being done behind closed doors when it wasn't. There were some meetings that were not open to the public between the district and the city about funding. The funding matrix that was done in these meetings was made public.

Some of the concerns raised by the board about the MOU is that it seems inconsistent with the resolution that dictates its creation, it does not allow for enough public opportunities, the MOU is not broad enough, and the funding process is not addressed well and does not ask for a final product that addresses all seven goals identified by the Mirror Pond ad hoc committee. It was suggested that the MOU is either a fish passage discussion or a wide community process for the whole project.

Executive Director Horton responded that the focus of the MOU is fish passage; the resolution was clear that no additional money will be contributed to the overall project. The intent of the document

was to come up with funding options for fish passage. He said the city added the language that funding for fish passage has not been identified.

Executive Director Horton explained the changes to the hybrid model of the Mirror Pond vision. The original intent of the agreed upon vision is still in the plan with the exception of dam removal and the park district board, due to cost, chose not to fill in part of the pond that would provide the district with an additional half acre of land. The spillway at the dam is no longer possible, but in keeping with the original intent and vision of the plan, the board asked the parties involved to find a way for fish passage.

Executive Director Horton said the original resolution brought to the board and city council did not include fish passage. When it was brought to the board, Director Hovekamp suggested adding the language for fish passage and the city council agreed. The city asked that the MOU be created in advance of funding the dredge. Director Hovekamp agreed that the genesis of this MOU came from the direction of the board to staff. He said it was intended to be a meaningful, written and signed MOU that takes a serious look at fish passage. He said there is a lot of consistency in the MOU with the priorities of the board at the time. Executive Director Horton acknowledged that this MOU does go beyond what the board decided. Director Schoenborn recalled that when this was discussed, it was to bring the idea of fish passage to the resolution. He added it was not intended to be a poison pill that would kill the whole project. He said that it appears that the board is now trying to use fish passage to obfuscate the dredge project and continue talking about the dam as if it will be torn down in the near future, when PacifiCorp has committed to retaining the dam.

Executive Director Horton said a delay to this MOU would cause a delay in the trail project as well. He said the board cannot pass an IGA until the MOU is signed. He estimated that the process for the update committee would take about three months and would be facilitated by COIC. He recommended moving forward with the MOU and then address the larger issues as a whole. He added the committee would have a process to go through and the board would adopt the recommendations as an update to the vision.

The board recommended changing the wording to funding for alternative fish passage instead of mirror pond preservation project throughout the MOU.

***Director Schoenborn made a motion to authorize the executive director to execute a memorandum of understanding with the city of Bend to modify the 2015 Mirror Pond Community Vision as defined in the attached MOU and to allow for any minor revisions and editorial corrections made by the district's legal counsel or city attorney. Director Schoen seconded. Directors Schoenborn and Schoen voted in favor, Directors Hovekamp, Méndez and Kropf voted against. The motion failed, 3-2.***

The board asked that the phase two of the MOU be narrowed to funding for the alternative fish passage and not for the Mirror Pond Project as a whole. The board asked for the MOU to be brought back to the board for consideration at the next board meeting.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT**

- Executive Director Horton said that two years ago the district faced closures due to snow and smoke in the same year. He said policies about closures to facilities and programs were created and they have been used again this summer. He said it good to have the policies in place because the district may find more need to consult them in the future.
- Executive Director Horton said if the board knows anyone from the Better Together board to please thank them for the partnership and financial support. He said the district has been putting together the fall childcare programs that typically take months in just a few weeks. He is unaware of any program in the state with any agencies that have been able to put together such a large program. He mentioned the CAPRA visitors’ comments on outreach, and added that the district has a great relationship with school district and together created programs for those that need it most.

**PROJECT REPORT**

**BOARD MEETINGS CALENDAR REVIEW**

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

- Director Kropf reminded everyone that it is Welcoming Week in Bend and virtual events will be held. He also commended staff for the childcare program.
- Director Méndez said he watched the Virtual Latino Festival as a part of Welcoming Week and said it is very worthwhile to watch, adding that it is a fantastic introduction to the Latino culture. He also commented that he believes that the streaming of board meetings is reaching more people and would like the board and staff to consider continuing this practice when the board returns to meeting in person.
- Director Hovekamp asked what guidance the district is waiting on to return to in person meetings. Executive Director Horton said the district is waiting to get to phase three.
- Director Schoen echoed the comment that the Latino outreach video is done very well and encouraged everyone to watch it. She said the CAPRA visitors said the district provides an unprecedented community response and they were reviewing the district just as staff was putting together childcare program. She also commented that she appreciates staff’s efforts in all the work that has gone into the MOU for fish passage and appreciates the detail paid attention to by the board.
- Director Schoenborn said Mr. Egging’s presentation shows that the district staff is ridiculously good and makes him proud to be on the board. He said he can’t say enough about the work that is being done. Director Schoenborn would also like to continue to offer streamed meetings.
- Director Hovekamp commented about the fires that have been burning in the state of Oregon. He spoke about the impact this has on Oregon on top of the crisis of the pandemic, the economic fallout from the pandemic and racial injustice demonstrations and other unrest. He added that he wondered what could be next. In light of all this, Director Hovekamp said it is incredible to see the work that the staff of the district continues to do, keeping the needs of the community as the priority and helping people through this. Director Hovekamp addressed the board and said his intent is to accommodate a full flushing out of comments, but to balance and bring things to a closure in a reasonable amount of time. He said he is always open to suggestions to do this better and added he is proud of the conversations that the board can have and maintain civility.

**ADJOURN:** 8:26pm

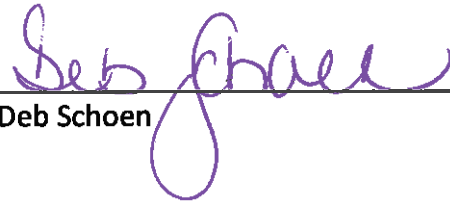


Prepared by,  
Sheila Reed  
Executive Assistant

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nathan Hovekamp, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ariel Méndez, Vice-Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jason Kropf

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deb Schoen

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ted Schoenborn