



## **WORK SESSION**

### **1. DEI update – *Sarah Bodo and Natalie Broadus-Beard***

Ms. Broadus-Beard explained that the district has hired Talitha Consults to guide the district through a diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) process which is also a strategic plan goal. She reviewed the following:

#### **Milestone schedule:**

- Currently in engagement (Feb-April)
- Assessment report (May)
- DEI assessment and engagement plan

#### **Work to date:**

- Kickoff meeting (Dec)
- Staff interviews and focus groups meetings (Feb-Mar)

#### **Next Steps**

- Staff and community surveys and Organizational DEI definitions (April)
- Board updates on assessment report and DEI engagement and assessment plan

Ms. Bodo said this is a collaborative effort with staff and the consultants. She added that further resources will need to be allocated for this project to move forward.

### **2. CM/GC Contract Closeout for Larkspur Community Center – *Brian Hudspeth***

Mr. Hudspeth reviewed the background of the Larkspur Community Center project and the construction manager/general contractor (CM/GC) contract. He explained that this type of contract brings the contractor (Pence Construction) on earlier in the process allowing work to be done with the design team, cost estimating and permitting of the project. This allowed for value engineering along the way and cost savings to the district. He said when the guaranteed maximum price (GMP) was decided, the construction manager then becomes the general contractor and can hire subcontractors and begin the structure. He said design changes were made to the project to save money, change orders of just over 4% were seen on the project, adding that under 10% is a good target for a project this size. Additional savings occurred by moving Senior Center programming to a high school to allow for construction and the project was finished on time. The formal evaluation report was included in the board packet.

### **3. Recreation Update – *Matt Mercer***

Mr. Mercer said he is happy to share good news tonight. He said the county has moved into the yellow zone, this allows more capacity in facilities and allows for more programming to occur as almost normal and outdoor sports will proceed without concerns for modifications. He said the district will still maintain a reservation system for patrons to schedule time in the facilities and is anticipating that status will not change from yellow next week. He suggested that moving to the green category will not really change much except indoor contact sports will be allowed and indoor facilities could go beyond 100 people. He explained that the state guidance will allow for a two-week grace period for any counties that are moving up in risk level to allow time for the county to recover.

This makes it easier to operate and not require the facility rules to bounce back and forth with the levels.

Mr. Mercer said the state released school guidance that reduces the likelihood of grades 4-5 to return to full time after spring break. The Team Up program numbers have decreased to about 170 students and staff will have to consolidate programs to certain schools. He added that parents have been notified that a change is coming and staff will decide later this week which sites will remain in operation.

Mr. Mercer announced that with the Larkspur Center opening on April 5, he is feeling confident about the risk levels and staffing abilities. He said some areas of JSFC will be closing temporarily, pools will remain open and some classes will be offered. He said staff will monitor the usage of the two facilities and will fully open both centers when demand increases. All options will be offered at Larkspur while JSFC is partially shut down.

Ms. Brown said the Larkspur Center opening communications began today, the opening information was shared with staff and patrons, social media and local media. Community relations and recreation have been working together to offer small group tours for existing patrons led by staff and volunteers. In addition, there is a facility tour video that will be shared on the website, offered in English and Spanish. She said the board has been sent a save the date for a small-scale celebration of the opening of Larkspur Center. More communications will be coming to ensure a smooth transition. She added that although Larkspur Center is opening, the Senior Center will not be able to offer social programs (meals, movies, card games, etc.) under the state guidelines.

#### 4. In-Person Meetings – *Don Horton*

Executive Director Horton explained that employees that can work from home are continuing to work remotely, park services staff are working, but not using the building and recreation staff are returning to the office as necessary. The district office and community room remain closed to the public. He said one of the rules that complicates meeting in person for board meetings is that masks would still be required and capacity for the room is low. He said staff has reached out to other agencies in the area and they are continuing to offer virtual public meetings. He said the Bend LaPine School Board tried a hybrid meeting that did not work well and they went back to virtual meetings. Executive Director Horton recommended to the board that the district continue to meet virtually and re-evaluate at a later date.

The board discussed their interest in making the board meetings as accessible as possible to every community member. This was also discussed as part of the diversity, equity and inclusion work. At minimum, the board supported filming board meetings and posting them on the website so the community could have a better understanding of how the board makes decisions. The board agreed to wait until face coverings are no longer required and higher capacity is allowed in the community room to accommodate visitors at the meetings to reinstate in person meetings.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Minutes 02/16/2021
2. Resolution No. 2020-05: Emergency Conditions and Granting Authority

**Director Schoen made a motion to approve the February 16, 2021 minutes. Director Schoenborn seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.**

**Director Méndez made a motion to extend Resolution No. 2020-05 to June 30, 2021. Director Schoen seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.**

## **BUSINESS SESSION**

### **1. Resolution No. 2021-03: Waiving SDCs for Veterans Village – Michelle Healy (20 min)**

Ms. Healy said the Veterans Village project is a 15-unit project on land owned by Deschutes County that will serve veterans that need housing. She said the project does not meet all the requirements to waive park SDCs and stated that the city of Bend has approved waiving city SDCs. She said that district staff asks the board to approve district waivers as well, these waivers will not count as part of the 150 additional waivers granted by the board earlier this year. She added that the financial impact is almost \$90,000 to the district.

Ms. McConnell commended the park staff on getting creative to make this development happen. The state authorized applicants to work around regular codes (because it is difficult to create these types of shelters) to make this development happen. She said veterans can move in and receive support and help to overcome issues and become more stable. The vast majority of homeless in the area became homeless while living here in Bend. Individuals have not yet been selected for housing in this project and she stated she did not know how many of them are locals. The waivers are provided to Bend Heroes, an organization in the area that has been working with veterans. She said Central Oregon Veteran Outreach (COVO) will operate the shelter. Adding that the housing is temporary use, and SDCs will be paid on the land when developed as something else.

**Director Méndez made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021–03 waiving SDCs for the Veterans Village project. Director Schoenborn seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.**

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- Executive Director Horton asked for two volunteers from the board to serve on the Benefits Committee. Director Schoen and Director Schoenborn volunteered to serve and recommended Tom Fisher for the budget committee. He reminded the board of the Larkspur Center opening celebration on April 2 and the budget tour on April 14.

## **PROJECT REPORT**

### **BOARD MEETINGS CALENDAR REVIEW**

#### **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

- Director Schoenborn said he is looking forward to the budget tour.
- Director Schoen said she attended the first foundation meeting as the board liaison. She said she shared with the foundation the need of families for childcare in the community and how staff is applying a DEI lens to these issues. The foundation is planning to align goals with district needs and showed interest in working closer with the board.
- Director Hovekamp suggested that the foundation present at the next need-based assistance update.

- Director Méndez acknowledged receipt of the petition of keeping the access open at Columbia Park. He praised the effort, but said the petition neglected to mention the cost of keeping it open and the proximity of the Miller Park access. He thanked the organizers for providing the information. Executive Director Horton said this is an ongoing process and invited the people involved to engage with opportunities offered by the district.

**ADJOURN** 7:32 pm

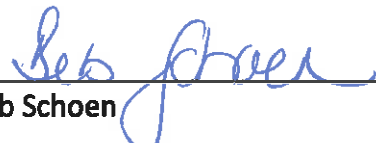


Prepared by,  
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