

Ms. Mastro said the strategic plan identified that the district needed a diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) plan; Talitha Consultants were hired to help in this process. Ms. Hnin introduced herself and explained the definitions of some of the language used in her presentation. She reviewed the process of the organizational assessment and the key learnings. She said the community survey used for the reports was offered online, in paper form and in English and Spanish, with other language options available through Talitha.

Mr. Mottau explained the survey responses and tracking. He said 937 people interacted with the survey and 429 finished the survey. Staff held seven outreach events led by the DEI workgroup at the district. The survey offered text boxes and open-ended questions. The survey reached a high percentage of under-represented community members.

Ms. Hnin reviewed some of the open-ended responses: where people said they recreate and responses as to why people do not participate in district offerings. Overall the survey showed a positive message in feeling welcome in district programs, parks, trails and facilities by the community overall.

Next steps include the final assessment report, development of DEI action plan and plan implementation. Staff will follow up with the board again in January.

3. Sawyer Park Asset Replacement Project – *Bronwen Mastro*

Ms. Mastro said Sawyer park is just under 54 acres in town and on the river with a natural feel. She reviewed the parking and said the parking lot has fallen into disrepair which is limiting access to the park and trails. She spoke about the parking study that was conducted this summer and explained the main components: video-based traffic counts, periodic observations of how vehicles park and evaluation of “big data” primarily taken from blue tooth activity. Additional considerations included the pandemic, trail counter data collected by district staff and anecdotal information.

Ms. Mastro reviewed the data of the parking study considering individual users, school groups and projected growth. She explained the scope of the project that includes replacing the existing parking lot and the next steps for the project which includes public outreach and identifying grant opportunities.

The board had a discussion about the parking proposal and overall would like to have a broader conversation about parking and discuss some guidelines for future projects as well.

4. Budget Committee Applications and Review Process – *Sheila Reed*

Ms. Reed explained the process for appointing a budget committee member and asked the board if they would like to open applications or reappoint the person whose term is expiring. The board opted to reappoint this time and re-evaluate the process at a later date.

5. Service Levels Update – Matt Mercer

Mr. Mercer spoke about the outreach efforts for scholarships to the community. He said an unprecedented amount of \$180,000 was given out this summer, the next closest year was \$76,000. Grant funding awarded to the district this summer made this possible. He said the service levels to the community have remained steady, but the district is still struggling to be fully staffed.

Mr. Mercer mentioned that the Art Station lease is coming to an end in March of 2022, and staff is still looking for another place to hold classes. The public has been informed and staff wants to assure the users that art programs will continue. Staff is investigating alternative spaces for art programs including preliminary discussions with the library. Staff is planning to move forward with an interim plan utilizing the Hobby Hut and Boat House on district property.

AGENDA

1. Minutes: 11/02/2021

Director Schoen made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Director Borja seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

BUSINESS SESSION

1. Authorize Pre-work Amendment for Drake Park DRT Project Phase 1 – Brian Hudspeth

Mr. Hudspeth explained the permit process on this project and the separation of this project into phases to avoid expiration of the permits and additional costs. He reviewed phase one work, explaining that all work will be on district property and does not require any further easements. He said the work would include the beach area and trail work. He reviewed the permitting status and schedule for the entire project with a projected finish date of winter 2023.

Mr. Hudspeth explained that the cost of this project has gone up due to an increase in costs, expired permits and delays to the project. He spoke about the status of the easements, most have been recorded and three more are in negotiations.

Director Schoen made a motion to authorize the executive director to negotiate an early work amendment with Emery and Sons Construction Group, LLC not to exceed \$1,787,133, and to authorize an additional 5% owner's contingency of \$90,000 for a total cost of \$1,877,133 dollars. Director Hovekamp seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Horton spoke about the following items:

- The district received a grant from PacifiCorp to test a battery powered mower.
- The fish passage study will cost \$30,00-\$50,000 he said the workgroup is hoping to get some funds from environmental groups.

- December 21st board meeting is canceled.
- He asked the board to consider in person meetings.
- Vandalism in parks is up, he shared with the board that some restrooms were recently hit at Pine Nursery Park and a restroom at Farewell Bend was set on fire. Staff is trying to learn more about what is causing this increase in vandalism.
- There has been some press about the FC Timbers lawsuit. The former Executive Director is being sued by the soccer club. The district will let the courts take care of the dispute.
- Email complaints have come in about some bike jumps that were created at Eagle Park. Staff has removed them and will investigate the possibility of creating a designated area of the park for this type of creative play.
- Sara Anselment, the newest planner for the district will begin just after Thanksgiving.
- Kristin Donald, the new Administrative Services Director, will start work December 8 and Eric Baird, Finance Manager, will begin at the end of December.
- He suggested some changes to the Budget Committee appointment process, including term limits and mentioned trying to recruit and diversify the applicant pool.

PROJECT REPORT

BOARD MEETINGS CALENDAR REVIEW

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Director Hovekamp remarked on the great discussions tonight on parking and said he looks forward to continuing the discussion. He acknowledged the emails the board has received about the COID property that may be developed. He said it is a complex situation, a beautiful piece of property and he would like to see some protections for land like this and invited the public to stay engaged in the topic.
- Director Kropf said he appreciates conversations tonight and including discussions about climate change and protecting the environment.
- Director Borja commented on a staff member, John Battacan-Wilson, he had a table at a local campfire community event did an excellent job representing the district.
- Director Schoen commented on how grateful she is to work with a civil board. She also attended the Strong Town presentation and shared some points from the speaker.
- Director Méndez spoke about the board retreat for the next meeting. He suggested that public comments could be discussed in the good of the order. He invited the board to exchange views in meetings. He commented that there are still issues with in-person meetings stating that hospital numbers are still high and the hospital message is to remain vigilant and he said he struggles with hearing everyone when they are wearing a mask while speaking.


● **ADJOURN** 9:47pm



Prepared by,


Sheila Reed
Executive Assistant


Ariel Méndez, Chair


Jason Kropf

Zavier Borja


Deb Schoen, Vice-Chair


Nathan Hovekamp

