

Ms. Johnson shared that volunteers to the district support recreation programs, park and trail maintenance, special events, projects and fundraising. The majority of the district volunteers are in youth sports. Teen volunteers work in aquatics, preschool, youth art and camps.

2. Needs Based Assistance Report for Fiscal Year 22-23 – *Matt Mercer*

Mr. Mercer reviewed the Needs-based Assistance program. He explained that scholarship use has continued to go up with outreach efforts and is projected to be just over \$700,00 from \$200,000 in 2018-19. More households are applying and qualifying for scholarships, some are individuals and some are households. High need vs. moderate need is also increasing in the applications.

Mr. Mercer said last summer, 299 households (144 Spanish speaking) and 1,251 individuals (594 Spanish speaking) were issued free summer family passes. This resulted in 3,643 visits.

Mr. Mercer added that scholarships are funded by grants, tax support, cell tower leases, sponsorships and donations.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes: 3/21/2023
2. Extend Deadline for Bend FC Timbers Phase 2 Development

Director Hovekamp made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Director Barram seconded. The motion was approved unanimously, 4-0.

BUSINESS SESSION

1. 445 NE Penn Avenue Multiple Unit Property Tax Exemption (MUPTE) – *Michelle Healy and Rachel Colton*

Ms. Platt reviewed the Multiple Unit Property Tax Exemption (MUPTE) program, including eligibility and application requirements, public benefit requirements, and other program considerations. She said the Penn Ave. project is the first MUPTE application; the program sunsets in 2030.

Mr. Russell and Mr. Andrews from Hiatus Homes gave an overview of their company and explained the microunit developments they build. The target market for the Penn Project is remote workers, and Bend has the highest percentage of remote workers in the US at 12%. The development will have some parking and EV stations and 12 of the 40 units could be deed-restricted. The developers stated that due to the interest rate hikes, it is difficult to make multi-unit projects to pencil out and need the MUPTE to make this work.

Ms. Colton explained that this project is not eligible for SDC waivers and can only qualify for the MUPTE exemption. This project waives \$112,000 and more projects are coming, making it challenging for the district to plan ahead for the amounts that will be requested for waiver. Ms. Healy said that BPRD staff are not housing experts, and these projects impact the tax collections of the district; she added that the district does not have other means to make up for the loss of revenue.

The board shared their appreciation for the project and expressed concerns about the financial impact to the district. Ms. Platt added that if this project does not go through, the board is just deferring tax revenue as the lot sits empty.

Director Hovekamp made a motion to support the applicant's request for a ten-year tax abatement for a 40-unit residential development at 445 Penn Avenue as part of the City of Bend's MUPT program. Director Owens seconded. Director Schoen voted in favor and Directors Hovekamp, Barram and Owens voted against. The motion failed, 1-3

2. Award Professional Services Contract for Pine Nursery Park Phase 5 Project – *Bronwen Mastro*

Ms. Mastro explained some of the improvements that staff is considering for phase 5. She said staff issued a request for proposal (RFP), and using the new process she reported that five strong proposals were received, three were invited to provide more information and staff ultimately chose Cameron McCarthy. She said they have extensive experience in turf fields. Ms. Mastro noted that the design for phase five will be brought back to the board at a later date.

Director Owens made a motion to authorize the executive director to negotiate and execute a professional services agreement for Pine Nursery Park Phase 5 to Cameron McCarthy with a cost not to exceed \$593,165, and to approve an additional 10% contingency of \$59,316.50, for a total design budget not to exceed \$652,481.50. Director Hovekamp seconded. The motion was approved unanimously, 4-0.

3. Approve Needs Based Assistance Plan for Fiscal Year 23-24 – *Matt Mercer*

Mr. Mercer shared with the board the changes to the Needs-based Assistance Plan from the prior year:

- Priority registration of high need, vulnerable youth. Eliminate holding spots back and filling some with the listed populations prior to opening registration.
- No-cost access to recreation facilities for mentor programs serving vulnerable youth.
- Change in scholarship level and contribution for programs offered through contractors.
- Addition of outreach and communication.
- Potential changes with grant funding.

He said he is anticipating the scholarship use to go down due to funding, since the district will not have the grant funding received last year and shared the regular funding sources:

- Tax Support
- Cell tower leases
- Sponsorships
- Donations
- Grants
- Other (Opdycke Fund, BPR Foundation Gap Fund and partner contributions)

Mr. Mercer explained the potential strategies for sustainability of the assistance program as the following:

- Reduce assistance levels
- Cap the amount of assistance provided per individual/household
- Provide scholarship assistance for core programs only
- Eliminate adult assistance on passes

Director Hovekamp made a motion to approve the Needs-Based Assistance Plan for Fiscal Year 2023-24 and include funding resources to support the plan in the 2023-24 Budget Proposal. Director Owens seconded. The motion was approved unanimously, 4-0.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Deputy Executive Director Healy said she is amazed at what this district does for Needs-based assistance and reminded the board about the Budget Tour next Wednesday at 8:30 am.

PROJECT REPORT

BOARD MEETINGS CALENDAR

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Director Hovekamp said it was a difficult discussion on the agenda tonight, he acknowledged the board and suggested that they will hear from others about the decision. He appreciated the robust discussion on a difficult topic and remarked that he is confident in the decision made.
- Director Owens acknowledged a discussion at the last board meeting that she missed and said in her absence she should have created an out of office notice while on vacation and hopes that people that have emailed understand.
- Director Barram said she is looking forward to the Budget Tour and said it will be educational.
- Director Schoen said she appreciates how thoughtful the board is with difficult decisions.

ADJOURN 8:33 pm

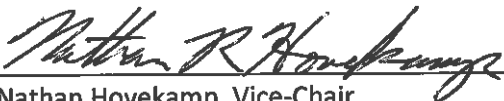


Prepared by,

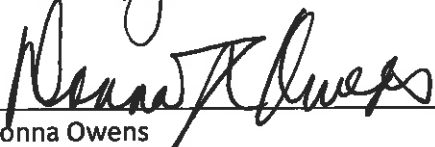
Sheila Reed
Executive Assistant



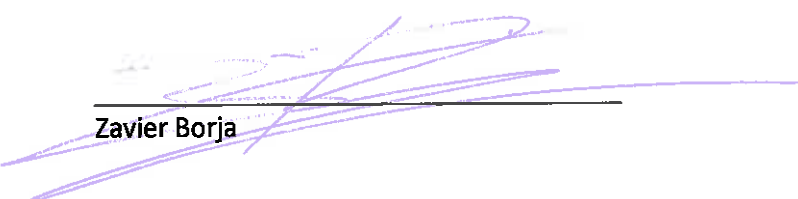
Deb Schoen, Chair



Nathan Hovekamp, Vice-Chair



Donna Owens



Zavier Borja



Jodie Barram