



Livermore Area
Recreation and Park District
An independent special district

LIVERMORE AREA RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT

REGULAR MEETING of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2024

1:00 P.M.

ROBERT LIVERMORE COMMUNITY CENTER
4444 EAST AVENUE, LIVERMORE, CALIFORNIA
CRESTA BLANCA ROOM

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Chair David Furst, Vice Chair Jan Palajac, Maryalice Faltings,
James Boswell, Philip Pierpont

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Mathew Fuzie, General Manager (GM)
- Jill Kirk, Community Services Manager
- Fred Haldeman, Parks and Facilities Manager (PFM)
- David Weisberger, Community Outreach Supervisor (COS)
- Michelle Kleman, Human Resources Manager
- Alyssa Nolan Smith, Aquatics Coordinator II
- Amber Maugeri, Senior Human Resources Analyst
- Andrea McGovern, Community Outreach Coordinator
- Chelynn Watkins, Senior Human Resources
- Crystal Meyer, Administrative Assistant
- Daniel Aguilar, Field Supervisor, Park Operations
- Jeannie Bodenhausen, Accounting Assistant
- John Mottashed, Park Maintenance Technician II
- Joseph Benjamin, Recreation Supervisor
- Linda VanBuskirk, Executive Assistant
- Mia Guarnieri, Natural Resources Technician
- Patrick Lucky, Recreation Supervisor
- Rene Venus Dalusong, Executive Assistant
- Michelle Newbould, Administrative Assistant
- Scott Stramaglia, Field Supervisor, Parks

DISTRICT COUNSEL: Andrew Shen, Esq. with Renne Public Law Group (DC)

1. CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chair Furst called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. All Directors were present. Chair Furst led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT: Chair Furst opened the Public Comment period.

Chair Furst read comments from the LARPD Board Meeting Speaker Cards obtained from three unidentified LARPD employees:

- 1) Staff wants to have the option to cash out some vacation hours.
- 2) Staff would like a four-day work week.
- 3) How do we keep staff feeling appreciated? In the past, longevity was recognized, and now we are not. Moving forward, how can we stop high-level staff from turnover when new staff are being hired with the same level of qualifications but making more money? [Chair Furst suggested this item go to the Personnel Committee for discussion.]
- 4) Scott Stramaglia, Field Supervisor, Parks, thanked the Board for the investment put forth toward the parks. He commented that the Parks crew is doing their best to make the parks better and to do as much as they can moving forward.

There were no further speakers, and the public comment period was closed.

3. CONSENT ITEMS:

- 3.1 Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on April 10, 2024.

Public Comment: Chair Furst opened the public comment period. There were no speakers, and the public comment period was closed.

MOTION:

Moved by Director Faltings, seconded by Director Palajac, approved the Consent Agenda Item 4.1, by the following voice vote:

AYES:	<i>Directors Palajac, Boswell, Faltings, Pierpont, and Chair Furst (5)</i>
NOES:	<i>None (0)</i>
ABSTENTIONS:	<i>None (0)</i>
ABSENT:	<i>None (0)</i>

4. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:

- 4.1 Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Use of Facilities Maintained by LARPD The Board will discuss facilities such as The Barn, Veterans Memorial Building, and the Carnegie Building that LARPD maintains but does not own.

- Chair Furst introduced item 4.1 and requested a staff report. *[GM Fuzie- No written staff report. The item was a continued discussion only].*

- GM Fuzie reminded the Board that the item was a continuing discussion of an ongoing matter and provided a brief history of the facilities. He also noted that the District and the City of Livermore have a master property agreement on how to operate the facilities. The Veteran, Barn, and Carnegie buildings are no longer programmable except Ravenswood.
- Chair Furst explained the direction of the discussion with Board questions and clarifications followed by public comments and Board discussion. *[The Board did not have questions].*

Public Comment:

PFM Haldeman favored keeping the Barn and continuing its use for storage purposes. The County is heavily involved and has taken responsibility for maintaining the Veteran's building. The District has an insignificant footprint with maintenance costs which provides little benefit. The Carnegie building has aged, is not programmable, and the elevator is in poor condition. The City is currently maintaining the park. Furthermore, Ravenswood provided value.

There were no further speakers, and the public comment period was closed.

- GM Fuzie clarified in the Master Property Agreement, it is the owner's responsibility for major capital outlay and discussions are between the Board and Council. *[Chair Furst questioned the timing cutoff of the capital outlay – GM Fuzie said it was not clearly defined; and was dependent on the type of maintenance and capital outlay].*
- Chair Furst asked for additional thoughts on possible actions from the Board.
 - Director Faltings was in favor of keeping the facilities that benefited the community such as Ravenswood and the Barn. Due to the County's frequent use of the Veteran's building, the facility can be returned to the County.
 - Director Palajac would like to return the Barn to the City due to the confusion of ownership amongst storage users; and return the Veteran's Memorial Building by providing an advance one-year notice to the County; and in conclusion, return the Carnegie building to the City since they currently maintain the park.
 - Director Boswell agreed with Director Palajac's comments. He added that the Carnegie building is starting to crumble; and noted the Barn issues discussed during the Arts Council meeting were security, liability, and the building's dilapidated state; and lastly, bowing out of the Veteran's building. He would like to move forward and let the master agreement dictate the process.
 - Director Pierpont agreed with the Board's comments. He is in favor of returning the Barn considering the proximity of the building and Carnegie building given that the City is maintaining the park. Director Pierpoint is open to future discussions about the use of the Veteran's building.
 - Chair Furst was not in favor of releasing control of District facilities. After hearing the Board's comments and suggestions, Chair Furst directed

staff to provide detailed pros and cons to return the Barn and Carnegie to the city.

- GM Fuzie was thankful for the Board’s philosophies and comments which he will use to discuss with various entities.
- Director Palajac would like cost analysis added to the next steps.

NEXT STEPS:

Chair Furst suggested staff look into the details to return the facilities to the City and County for Board review to determine the next steps.

4.2 DISTRICT GENERAL ELECTION

The Board considered a resolution calling for the District’s election on November 5, 2024 and requesting that the Board of Supervisors of Alameda County permit consolidation with the statewide general election on November 5, 2024.

Director Questions/Comments: Chair Furst noted that Directors Boswell and Palajac were up for re-election in November.

Public Comment:

Chair Furst opened the public comment period. There were no speakers, and the public comment period was closed.

RESOLUTION:

Moved by Director Palajac, seconded by Director Boswell, adopted Resolution No. 2807, calling for the District’s election on November 5, 2024 and requesting that the Board of Supervisors of Alameda County permit consolidation with the statewide general election on November 5, 2024, by the following voice vote:

AYES:	<i>Directors Faltings, Palajac, Boswell, Pierpont, and Chair Furst (5)</i>
NOES:	<i>None (0)</i>
ABSTENTIONS:	<i>None (0)</i>
ABSENT:	<i>None (0)</i>

5. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (No Action Required)

1. E-Bikes and E-scooters Update

- GM Fuzie provided an E-Bikes on Natural Surface Trails Buyers Guide flyer from Mike Ralph who owns a local bike shop.
- GM Fuzie gave a verbal update on the types of E-bikes and E-scooters and the District’s role and responsibilities regarding enforcement.
- The District, City, and School District are collaborating to educate the public on e-bikes.
- Director Faltings asked who decides the e-bikes legal rules and regulations. *[District Counsel Shen replied that it’s happening in all levels of government].*

- Chair Furst inquired about the next the steps or wait on the City's lead.
- Staff Stramaglia commented on an incident and suggested a dedicated play area for e-bikes.
- Director Faltings asked if there are e-bikes accident records available. [*Staff Stramaglia – No*].

2. Budget Update

- GM Fuzie noted staff is compiling and completing the budget which will be presented in the May 13, 2024 Finance Committee Meeting before presenting the budget at the May 29, 2024 Board of Directors meeting for consideration.
- Lastly, GM Fuzie noted the property tax increase, Cayetano turf field improvement funding update, and mower purchases.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Director Pierpoint, along with Director Palajac, reported his attendance at the April 22, Finance Committee meeting. The committee's meeting agenda was included in the Board's agenda packet materials. One of the meeting highlights included the mower purchases.
- Chair Furst, along with Director Palajac, reported his attendance at the April 11, 2024 Intergovernmental Committee meeting. The Committee meeting agenda was included in the Board's agenda packet materials. One of the meeting highlights was the City's decision to forego an evening fireworks event.
- Director Pierpoint reported his attendance at the April 16, 2024, Livermore Downtown Inc (LDI) meeting. The meeting highlight was the Street Fest event in May.
- Director Palajac reported her attendance at the April 15, 2024 Alameda County Agricultural Subcommittee for Trails Meeting. The main topic was the Brushy Peak connection to Los Vaqueros.

Action: This was a discussion only, no Board action was requested or taken.

7. MATTERS INITIATED/ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE DIRECTORS

- Director Pierpont announced the Hike for Hope event; and Community Service Day and encouraged volunteering the first weekend in May.
- Director Boswell had nothing to report.
- Director Palajac announced the goats at Arroyo Mocho and Holmes if interested in seeing them.
- Chair Furst asked to continue the conversation regarding the Bothwell facility and directed the Facilities Committee to follow up and update the Board.

8. MATTERS INITIATED/ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE GENERAL MANAGER

GM Fuzie made the following announcements:

- Clarification of Fourth of July events. COS Weisberger confirmed the events will include a fun run at Sycamore Grove instead of the Livermore Municipal Airport.
- Provided the Board with the new LARPD information card.
- Announced an email correspondence on April 16, 2024 from Matt Duarte, Executive Director of California Association of Recreation and Park Districts (CARPD), that Chair David Furst

received the Outstanding Board Member of the Year award. The award will be presented at the CARPD Conference on May 23, 2024.

9. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 2:11 p.m.

APPROVED,



David Furst
Chair, Board of Directors

ATTEST:



Mathew L. Fuzie
General Manager and
Ex-officio Clerk to the Board of Directors

Lvb/rvd