



**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

REGULAR MEETING

RUSH PARK
3021 Blume Drive
Rossmoor, California

Tuesday, June 13, 2023

A. ORGANIZATION

1. CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Directors Maynard, Searles, Shade, President DeMarco

Absent: Directors Barke

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Janae Roberts, The Youth Center

4. PRESENTATIONS:

a. The Youth Center – Maryam Guirao, Director of Development

Janae Roberts, Youth Program Supervisor, presented an overview of The Youth Center programs running in conjunction with the Los Alamitos Youth Center and thanked RCSD for its ongoing support.

Discussion followed regarding current openings and the need and requirements for volunteers.

b. Southern California Bluebird Club – Peggy Blanton, “The Bluebird Lady”

General Manager Mendoza announced that Ms. Blanton was unable to attend this evening and will make a presentation during next month’s RCSD Board meeting.

General Manager Mendoza presented an overview of the Southern California Blue Bird Club box program.

B. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA - None

C. PUBLIC FORUM

President DeMarco opened the Public Forum portion of the meeting.

Maureen Wauters thanked RCSD and RHA for the graduation parade and for the recent Family Food Fest; spoke favorably regarding pickleball at Rossmoor Park and mentioned some residents who complained about pickleball have played and brought their dog onto the court.

Susan Kaplan spoke about the pickleball “pressure test”; discussed noise impacts to nearby neighbors; mentioned that mitigation efforts have not worked; noted that tennis has been adversely impacted; expressed concerns about decreased property values and people urinating on the courts; addressed challenges with enforcement and urged the Board to vote, “No” on extending pickleball temporarily or permanently.

Rob Kaplan spoke about pickleball players playing on walkways and other courts rather than playing on the designated court; discussed lack of staffing, noise and lack of enforcement and urged the Board to stop pickleball at Rossmoor Park.

Sue Clark spoke about RCSD mission and policies relative to recreation; discussed impacts of the freeway noise in Rossmoor; urged the Board to consider whether pickleball is harming residents and claimed that if it is causing harm, it is the Board’s responsibility to make it stop. She added that pickleball is interfering with residents’ quality of life and quiet enjoyment of their properties.

Lize Keats reported that pickleball is negatively impacting her; reported she suffers from anxiety and has to take medication; asserted the noise is unfair to residents who live near the park; complained that the issue has caused friction in the community.

Michele Fieldson alleged increased demand in Rossmoor was never proven; felt the Board should consider whether Rossmoor Park is the right location; believed Rossmoor Park is at capacity; opined the Board has dismissed the thriving tennis community at Rossmoor; noted the need for a project plan, a site plan and an acoustical study and quoted the Consultant hired by RCSD who spoke about lawsuits related to pickleball being too noisy.

Bob Sanger reported there are not enough courts for pickleball and tennis; suggested signage should have included playing tennis at Rossmoor Park; noted there are plenty of courts at El Dorado Park and in Seal Beach and confirmed the noise from pickleball is annoying.

Frank Manis expressed concerns with the current conflict in the community; spoke about noise related to pickleball; noted what people want needs to be balanced with what people need; felt the needs of the community outweigh the wants of people wanting to play pickleball and opined pickleball does not belong in Rossmoor Park.

Janice Manis alleged the noise from pickleball is disturbing the peace of residents and neighbors living near Rossmoor Park; spoke about witnessing pickleball-related noise from the Keats’ backyard; questioned the Board’s consideration of adding pickleball at Rossmoor Park and urged the Board to preserve the peace at Rossmoor Park for all residents.

Eunice Oh spoke about the benefits her family has experienced by playing pickleball at Rossmoor Park including bringing the community together.

Ralph Vartabedian noted he has a direct line of site from his home to the pickleball courts; believed all four sides of a pickleball court should be mitigated with acoustic blankets; spoke about people breaking park rules and felt the Board is changing the character of the neighborhood.

Administrative Assistant Carolyn Whang reported receiving over 154 emails as well as texts and phone calls and noted responses are split down the middle in terms of those in support of and in opposition to pickleball at Rossmoor Park.

There being no others wishing to address the Board, President DeMarco closed Public Forum.

D. REPORTS TO THE BOARD

1. TIMELINE FOR NEW WEBSITE

Administrative Assistant Whang presented an update on the status of the new RCSD website.

2. MONTHLY TRAFFIC SAFETY UPDATE

General Manager Mendoza presented details of the Monthly Traffic Safety Update; reported Orange County has hired a consultant who will present the findings of a study on July 6, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at Rush Park during the Traffic Committee meeting.

Director Maynard spoke about a speed sign that needs repair near the Library, on Montecito.

E. CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by Director Maynard, seconded by Director Shade, to consider Items No. E.1. and E.2., separately. Motion passed 4-0, with Director Barke, absent.

1. MINUTES:

a. Regular RCSD Board Meeting of May 9, 2023

Motion by Director Maynard, seconded by Director Shade, to approve Item No. E.1., as presented. Motion passed 3-1, with Director Searles, abstaining and Director Barke, absent.

2. APRIL 2023 REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REPORT

General Manager Mendoza discussed notable items in the April 2023 Revenue and Expenditure Report.

Director Searles suggested having the General Manager present a report on budget deviations for parks and facilities.

Motion by Director Maynard, seconded by Director Searles, to approve Item No. E.2., as presented. Motion passed 4-0, with Director Barke absent.

F. PUBLIC HEARING

1. FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 PROPOSED FINAL BUDGET FOR THE ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Accountant Matsumoto presented details of the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 proposed final budget for the Rossmoor Community Services District; addressed Workers Compensation costs and discussed early termination fees.

President DeMarco invited public comments. There being no one wishing to address the Board on this item, President DeMarco closed public comments.

Accountant Matsumoto presented highlights of the budget; noted that salaries include a 3% pay increase and discussed expenses listed under Administration.

Discussion followed regarding the 5% increase in the water budget, next year's anticipated revenue, calculation of reserves, street sweeping costs and impacts of rising interest rates on investments.

In response to Director Maynard's question regarding Board policy relative to public hearings and adoption of the RCSD Budget, General Counsel Preziosi reported that Board policy reflects what is in the RCSD law in terms of having two public hearings to review the budget prior to adoption.

Director Maynard suggested the Budget Committee have a discussion to revisit the Budget Calendar so that going forward, RCSD will have an approved budget prior to the start of the fiscal year.

Motion by Director Maynard, seconded by Director Searles, to accept the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Proposed Final Budget for RCSD and remain on schedule for a public hearing next month with the intent on voting to approve it. The motion carried 4-0, with the following vote:

AYES: Directors Maynard, Searles, Shade, President DeMarco
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Director Barke

G. RESOLUTIONS: None

ORDINANCES – None

H. REGULAR CALENDAR:

1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION RE: CHURCH OF CHRIST EXTENDED HOURS FACILITY REQUEST FOR USE OF RUSH PARK AUDITORIUM AND KITCHEN

General Manager Mendoza presented details of the report.

Motion by Director Shade, seconded by Director Maynard, to approve extending the hours for use of Rush Park Auditorium and Kitchen. Motion passed 4-0, with Director Barke absent.

I. GENERAL MANAGER ITEMS

General Manager Mendoza addressed upcoming events including Movies in the Park and Shakespeare in the Park and discussed a Proposition 68 capital project update, a carpet project, and the canopy at Rossmoor Park. Additionally, he commented on the recent bulky item pickup and mulch giveaway event by CR&R and the Family Festival.

Discussion followed regarding the Beer Garden and an incident with the eBike vendor.

General Manager Mendoza discussed the ending of the 90-day pickleball trial and an upcoming Parks and Facilities Committee meeting; commended Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig who recently hosted a swim safety program at Rush Park and spoke about the Orange County sewer pump project.

Director Searles spoke about inviting Public Works and the water company to the next Traffic Committee meeting to address cuts into new streets.

J. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

Director Searles asked General Manager Mendoza to invite Beau Berglund, the tennis pro, to the next Parks and Facilities Committee meeting to discuss tennis and pickleball.

Director Maynard commented favorably regarding the Graduation Parade; thanked the community for attending; spoke about residents who shop online being charged the Los Alamitos sales tax rate when placing an order from Rossmoor because it is tied to the 90720 zip code; reported there used to be a Rossmoor zip code (90721) and discussed the possibility of reactivating so that Rossmoor residents can be properly charged the non-incorporated Orange County sales tax.

Director Shade thanked Janae Roberts, Youth Program Supervisor, for her presentation; encouraged the Board to listen to community voices regarding pickleball and thanked Director Maynard and General Manager Mendoza for their participation in the Graduation Parade.

President DeMarco commented on the zip code issue.

General Counsel Preziosi spoke about the possibility of Rossmoor residents having recourse against the City of Los Alamitos for paying the higher tax rate.

President DeMarco encouraged residents to be safe during the summer months.

K. GENERAL COUNSEL ITEMS – None

L. CLOSED SESSION – 8:54 p.m.

1. APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, OR EVALUATION OF PERFORMANCE OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PER GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957(b)(1)

TITLE: GENERAL MANAGER

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR

Pursuant to Subdivision (a) of Section 54957.6, California Government Code

Agency Designated Representative: Joe Mendoza, General Manager

Name of Employee Organization: All Unrepresented Employees

Reconvene to Open Session: 10:00 p.m.

Report from Closed Session:

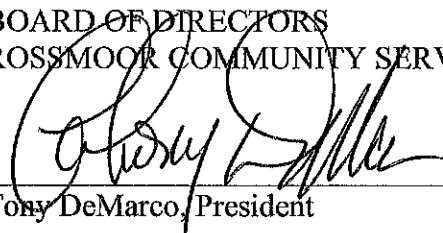
General Counsel Preziosi reported that for Closed Session Item No. 1, the Board of Directors authorized a potential bonus for employees in an amount not to exceed a total impact to the budget of \$9,100 to be further determined by the Organizational Committee and the Board of Directors authorized a one-time, performance-based salary increase to the General Manager in the amount of \$7,500.

M. ADJOURNMENT

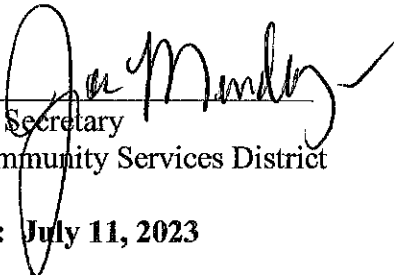
The meeting was adjourned at 10:02 p.m. without opposition.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT



Tony DeMarco, President



Joe Mendoza, Secretary
Rossmoor Community Services District

APPROVED: July 11, 2023