

**BOARD OF COMMUNITY SERVICES MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Via ZOOM, SANTA ROSA, CA**

September 22, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Quant at 4:07 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Carole Quant, Vice Chair Terri Griffin, Board Members Logan Pitts, Madonna Cruz, Steven Spillman and Carolina Spence

Board Member Spillman left the meeting at 6:15pm.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – The minutes from August 25, 2021 were approved including Chair Quandt's edit to Director Updates stating the County will be cutting, instead of the County is in progress of cutting large, dangerous eucalyptus trees at the Rural Cemetery.

5. REPORTS ON ACCOMPLISHED EVENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

A list of accomplished and upcoming events was distributed to the Board and made available to the public prior to the meeting. Deputy Director Santos, highlighted the upcoming Floating Pumpkin Patch and more Halloween events to come closer to the end of October. A request for proposals (RFP) was released on September 9th to replace playgrounds at South Davis Neighborhood Park. We received \$285K in per capita funding from state parks for this project.

6. DIRECTOR UPDATES

Deputy Director Santos announced that Board Member Cynthia Rich is no longer able to serve on the Board due to personal reasons and she thanked Ms. Rich for her service. Santos reminded the Board that personal cell phones used during a BOCS meeting may be subject to Public Records Act requests. Board Members must remain on camera during meetings to maintain a quorum. The Finley Aquatic Center wading pool will be removed to make way for a spray ground. The pool will be closed for 6 months for construction in summer of 2022, with a targeted Spring 2023 reopening. Public meetings for the Dutch Flohr Neighborhood Park playground replacement have been concluded and this item will be presented to the Board in October or December for a recommendation to Council. The RFP review committee has selected a consultant for the redesign of Fremont Park pending Council approval in the coming months. Roseland Creek Community Park master plan is scheduled for Council on September 28, 2021.

7. SCHEDULED ITEMS

7.1 SENIOR PROGRAMS UPDATE

Recreation Coordinators Mickey Remy and Al Pritchard will present the Senior Programs status as well as recap services provided by the Senior Programs team during the pandemic.

Recommended Action: Information

Recreation Coordinator Mickey Remy highlighted the ways Senior Programs benefit people and contribute to L.I.F.E (Learning, Independence, Friends, Energy). The pandemic had a major effect on the number of participants in Senior Programs. Recreation staff actively worked during the quarantine to keep seniors engaged and in contact through activities such as phone calls, distance learning programs, and care packages. Senior programs were able to re-open in June of 2021 with special consideration of social distancing, masks, and other safety protocols. The Senior programs staff hope that the senior programs and special events will be back in full swing and capacity by Spring 2022.

Discussion ensued by the Board.

Public Comment: None

7.2 MEASURE M – PARKS FOR ALL - PRIORITY PLAN UPDATE

Parks Deputy Director, Jen Santos, Interim Recreation Deputy Director, Jeff Tibbetts and Field Services Deputy Director, Jeremy Gundy, will provide an update regarding the Measure M Priority Plan progress.

Recommended Action: Discussion and Input

Deputy Director of Parks, Jen Santos, provided an overview of Measure M Funding and provided a Measure M Priority Plan update. Measure M was approved by voters in 2018, calling for a 1/8 cent sales tax for 10 years, which provides approximately \$1.9M annually to the City of Santa Rosa and requires a baseline commitment. A Fiscal Oversight Committee oversees expenditures to ensure compliance. With eight years remaining in the sales tax and an expected 14M in Measure M funds, staff requested the Board of Community Services provide input on a future spending strategy. Since last discussing Measure M with the Board of Community Services, staff has held eight public meetings and conducted intensive surveying to identify community priorities for fund allocation. Three distinct funding strategies were presented and discussed.

Deputy Director of Field Services, Jeremy Gundy, outlined potential maintenance enhancements that could be funded with Measure M including weed management, invasive plant reduction, Howarth Park tennis court repairs, Galvin Park tennis court light improvement, sports field improvements, playground fall protection improvement and irrigation system improvements. Gundy also noted a Parks Condition Assessment is underway, and results are expected in early 2022. This report will provide valuable information on parks maintenance needs.

Jeff Tibbetts, Interim Deputy Director of Recreation, proposed a 6-year spending plan for Measure M funds for recreation rather than an 8-year plan based on COVID-19 restrictions and sales tax uncertainty, preparation, and the need for further community outreach and input.

Deputy Director of Parks Jen Santos asked the Board for a recommendation to Council on an overall strategy for the Measure M Parks for All Priority Plan Update as presented.

Board discussion ensued.

Board Action:

Board Member Griffin made a motion that the recommendation of the Board of Community Services for the Measure M overall spending strategy allow approximately 50% of funding toward capital improvements, allow approximately 40% of funding towards maintenance enhancements and fire reduction, and allow approximately 10% funding towards Recreational purposes. Board Member Pitts seconded the motion.

Motion carried with 5 ayes and 0 nays.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

8.1 Mayor's Lunch for Committee/Board Chairs
Recommended Action: Information

Chair Quandt reported that no luncheon was held.

8.2 Santa Rosa Waterways Advisory Committee
Recommended Action: Information

Creek Week is coming up as a mostly virtual program. The Waterways committee is considering doing a trash pick-up at Prince Memorial Greenway. Chair Quandt invited others to participate.

9. WRITTEN AND/OR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

None

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

11. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Quant adjourned the meeting at 6:26 pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on October 27, 2021, at 4:00pm.