

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

March 24, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Quandt at 4:01pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Carol Quandt, Board Members Terri Griffin, Logan Pitts, Carolina Spence, Pamela Van Halsema, and Sandra Wandel

Absent: Kathy Hayes

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The minutes from the February 24, 2021 meeting were approved as submitted.

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. Tomorrow is the last in a series of Measure M public meetings held for each quadrant of the City. The meeting focusing on the SW quadrant begins at 5:30pm March 25th. Jen Santos, Deputy Director of Parks introduced Kelley Magnuson, Deputy Director of Recreation. Deputy Director Magnuson highlighted Car Bingo and addressed the Board's questions about the very popular event. Magnuson said Recreation staff reached out to the various churches that rented the Finley Community Center pre-Covid and have invited them to return the first week of June when the School of Rec has ended.

6. DIRECTOR UPDATES

Deputy Director Santos welcomed new Board Member Logan Pitts. The Dutch Flohr Park community meeting had 45 attendees and the online survey had 52 responses. Data will be analyzed soon and the Board will receive an invitation to the next meeting. An application for a Community Development Block Grant will be submitted soon with Martin Luther King, Jr. Park selected as an option for providing improvements. We stand to receive between \$500K - \$1.2 M if selected. The link to the Measure M Parks for All meeting (SE quadrant) on March 25th is located on the website: srcity.org/parksforall. We are considering holding a City-wide Measure M meeting to encompass all quadrants and offer another opportunity for public input. Finley Aquatic spray ground had its kickoff meeting and engineers are currently at work there. It's scheduled for completion in January 2023. We also had a kickoff meeting with staff conducting the deferred maintenance assessment as part of Measure M initial priority projects approved by Council. We hope to have results by January 2022. Nomination applications for Merit Awards are found on the City website: srcity.org/meritawards and nominations are due July 10, 2021. Selections will be announced 9/20/21 at a virtual ceremony. Q & A by the Board ensued.

7. SCHEDULED ITEMS

7.1 VICE CHAIR NOMINATION AND ELECTION

Board to nominate, discuss and vote to elect a member of the Board of Community Services to serve as Vice Chair.

Recommended Action: Election of Vice Chair

Board Member Van Halsema nominated Board Member Terri Griffin. Board Member Spence Nominated Board Member, Sandra Wandel, but Wandel declined. Chair Quandt called for a roll-call vote and Board Member Terri Griffin was unanimously elected to Vice Chair.

Public Comment: None

7.2 NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES UPDATE

Recreation Coordinator Juan Flores will provide a Neighborhood Services update which will include a recap of the School of Rec program.

Recommended Action: Information

Recreation Coordinator Juan Flores provided the background of Neighborhood Services, funded by the City's General Fund, Measure O and 'Change for Kids', and offered a glimpse of planned year-round activities including After-School programs, year-round camps, Family Fun Time events like Splash Bash, Halloween Bash, Basketball Tournament, Sweetheart Dance & Springfest. In addition, futsal leagues, Jr. Giants baseball/softball and basketball coincided with cheer programs. The 2019 Kincadee fire changed staff roles from programming recreational activities for the underserved to managing an emergency evacuation shelter for the entire community. It caused closure of multiple Fall programs at a moment's notice. When the COVID pandemic hit, activities were cancelled once again and Recreation staff began making hundreds of phone calls checking in with the Neighborhood Services participant families. We trained staff to tutor children with distance learning and logged over 320 hours of virtual tutoring. Staff were forced to downsize summer activities and spread out to 8 locations to accommodate distance mandates. Daily health screenings, disinfecting and taking frequent hand-washing breaks were consistently provided. Staff implemented alternative ways to stay safe while trying to meet the needs of school-age youth when 'School of Rec' was created. The Recreation team assisted approximately 100 students with homework and classwork, provided arts & crafts and found creative ways to provide outdoor activities. All registrations were referral-based to serve youth with the greatest need. The Glass Fire in 2020 forced another shut down, but this time only for a week. Hybrid school schedules had been created and staff had to adjust staff schedules to accommodate the changes. Recreation programs have filled the needs of the community while meeting CDC guidelines and created happy memories for many children. The resiliency in the Recreation team is second to none, and seeing the smiling faces on youth has made it all worthwhile. Q & A followed.

Public Comment: None

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

8.1 Mayor's Lunch for Committee/Board Chairs

Recommended Action: Information

Chair Quandt reported a virtual Mayor's Lunch on March 10. The Prince Memorial Greenway has been extensively cleaned up. Mayor Rogers is hopeful that some PG&E funds can go into improving and bringing parks back to their pre-Covid beauty.

8.2 Santa Rosa Waterways Advisory Committee

Recommended Action: Information

Chair Quandt stated no meeting was held, but one is scheduled.

9. WRITTEN AND/OR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

Email received from Alissa Feldman was submitted to the Board members and uploaded to the agenda for public access

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Quandt is hoping the BOCS can engage more with the community and would like to see this on a future agenda.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Quandt adjourned the meeting at 5:06pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on April 28, 2021, at 4:00pm.