

**BOARD OF COMMUNITY SERVICES MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
CYPRESS ROOM, FINLEY COMMUNITY CENTER  
2060 WEST COLLEGE AVENUE, SANTA ROSA, CA**

**August 28, 2019**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Quandt at 4:09pm.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Present: Board Members Carolina Spence, Carol Quandt, Kathy Hayes, Terri Griffin, Sandra Wandel and Pamela Van Halsema

Absent: None

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Jeremy De La Torre submitted a letter to the Board requesting that Oaklake Green Park be renamed for his deceased friend and community hero, Tim Gillaspie, who gave his life saving others.

Duane De Witt supported Mr. De La Torre's request and brought forth ideas about how trees save cities. Mr. De Witt is in favor of less concrete and more nature in parks.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Board Member Griffin made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 24, 2019 meeting as submitted. Van Halsema seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**5. REPORTS ON ACCOMPLISHED EVENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS**

Parks Deputy Director Jen Santos reported on upcoming events, including the fall softball managers' meeting, City Booters' free field day, the beginning of the adult softball season, Oktoberfest, the senior bingo party at Steele Lane Community Center and the Santa Rosa History Tour on Rosie the Trolley. Accomplished events included the application for state grants for Roseland Community Park and Coffey Park totaling \$7M, the end of the summer softball season and summer sports clinics, sports field permits issued to 12 organizations representing over 4,000 youth and adults playing Fall sports, the close of the Work Experience Program for 300 teens, the close of summer camps for 2,000 youth, and the opening of Neighborhood Services after-school sites.

**5. DIRECTOR UPDATES**

Santos provided an update on Coffey Park. The construction portion is out to bid and closes in a couple of weeks, when a contract will be awarded. We are hopeful that the area surrounding the playground will be completed by year end and the remainder completed in 2020 with a grand opening celebration. The art project is moving forward, targeting installation by summer 2020. The September BOCS meeting may be cancelled so Santos may attend a Community Advisory Board meeting on same day as BOCS. Measure M is being presented at Council on September 10<sup>th</sup> at 4pm, for those board members interested in attending.

## **7. SCHEDULED ITEMS**

### **7.1 MERIT AWARD NOMINATION FOR STAN GOW**

The Board will work together to submit a Merit Award nomination for BOCS Chair, Stan Gow

Recommended Action: Merit Award Nomination

Carole Quandt provided Stan Gow's history with the BOCS, Waterways and other committees through the years and made a motion to nominate him for a Merit Award. Spence seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **7.2 SENIOR PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

Recreation Coordinators Al Pritchard and Mickey Remy will present an overview of Senior Programs, one year after the closure of the Bennett Valley Senior Center.

Recommended Action: Information

Recreation Supervisor Amy Rocklewitz introduced Mickey Remy, Program Coordinator, who reported on the transition of senior programs from the Bennett Valley Senior Center to the Steele Lane Community Center and the Person Senior Wing (Finley Complex) in September 2018. The successful transition was largely due to thorough preparation, creative use of facility space, tours, community outreach, feedback and excellent marketing. Multigenerational use of space has been welcomed by seniors and youth alike. News of the transition to other facilities caused many seniors to be skeptical at first, but the result is a robust increase in class participation and senior memberships.

Public Comment:

Duane De Witt provided posters to Remy for "POW Day" for posting at senior centers. He advocated for satellite senior centers throughout districts in the City.

### **7.3 PARK MAINTENANCE TRANSITION UPDATE**

Steve Kroeck, Deputy Director of Field Services and Clint McKay, Street Maintenance Supervisor, will present an update regarding the transition of park maintenance from Recreation and Parks to Transportation and Public Works.

Recommended Action: Information

Parks/Streets Maintenance Superintendent Clint McKay reviewed the Citywide reorganization and noted that Park Planning is now being managed by the Parks Deputy Director (Jen Santos) while Park Maintenance is managed by the Deputy Director of Field Services (Steve Kroeck). Parks and landscape maintenance perform a multitude of tasks such as planting trees, weed abatement, lake and dam

maintenance, remediation work in Rural Cemetery, graffiti removal, maintenance of athletic fields and much more. Twenty-six park staff maintain 1,036 acres of parkland and hundreds of park amenities and oversee 73 acres of landscaped areas. Volunteers provide up to 5,000 hours of work on park projects. Park maintenance staff are divided into 8 districts and support park programs, special events, youth camps, sports activities and more. An increase of 63% more park staff FTE's would bring our staffing levels up to the national average.

**Public Comment:**

Duane DeWitt favors the addition of more parks staff, more trees in the parks and solicitation of donations for a riding mower for parks.

## **8. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **8.1 Mayor's Lunch for Committee/Board Chairs**

Recommended Action: Information

Vice-Chair Quandt attended but had nothing to report.

### **8.2 Santa Rosa Waterways Advisory Committee**

Recommended Action: Information

Vice-Chair Quandt reported the Committee did not meet.

### **8.3 Merit Awards Committee**

Recommended Action: Information

Board member Spence reported about 25 nominations have been submitted and final selections are coming up soon.

## **9. WRITTEN AND/OR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS**

None

## **10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Measure M funding

PG&E Power shutdowns and how the City is planning for that

Renaming Oaklake Green Park for Tim Gillaspie and renaming Creekside Open Space for Mary Traverso  
Roseland Creek Park update  
Appointing a new Chair by Council member Chris Rogers  
Satellite Senior Center in Roseland – Recreation and Parks programs partnering with the Library  
Understanding of City policies regarding landscape and tree selection for parks

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

Vice Chair Quandt adjourned the meeting at 5:47pm. The next meeting of the Board will be held on Wednesday, September 25, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.