



City of Santa Rosa

Finley Center
2060 W. College Avenue
Cypress Room

Board of Community Services Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

4:00 PM

4:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Stan Gow called the meeting to order at 4:13pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: 6 - Chair Stanley Gow, Board Member Carolina Spence, Board Member Carole Quandt, Board Member Diane Test, Board Member Sandra Wandel and Board Member Kathy Hayes

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Duane De Witt commends Rural Cemetery volunteers for their work. De Witt is in favor of a volunteer effort at Roseland Creek Park and would like to see the property protected as a preserve, by severely limiting or completely excluding recreational activity on the site.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 May 23, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes

The May 23, 2018 minutes were approved as submitted.

5. UPCOMING EVENTS AND REPORTS ON ACCOMPLISHED EVENTS

Interim Director Jason Nutt reported on upcoming events, including Live at Juilliard concert series, Senior Membership Breakfast, Hoen Commemoration at the Rural Cemetery, Park-a-Month Volunteer Day at Brendan Park, Senior Ice Cream Social, and the 'Parks Make Life Better' Bash at Howarth Park. Accomplished events include Neighborhood Services day camps at 3 school sites for underserved youth. All 3 sites were at maximum capacity and all received free daily breakfast and lunch provided by the Redwood Empire Food Bank. Teen Gym was full with 50 teens. Twenty thousand (\$20K) in scholarships has been awarded since Spring/Summer registration began.

6. DIRECTOR UPDATES

Interim Director Nutt introduced Caluha Barnes, Director of Office of Community Engagement (OCE), who will become the Interim Director of Recreation and Parks effective July 8th. Barnes shared her background and how some projects from the OCE align well with the Recreation and Parks Department. Despite transitioning out as the Interim Director, Nutt will continue to work with LandPaths to finalize the license agreement for Bayer Park, as well as with the Ag and Open Space District and Jen Santos on the Roseland Creek Community Park project in order to provide continuity.

7. SCHEDULED ITEMS

- 7.1 RURAL CEMETERY UPDATE- Volunteer Coordinator Elaine Gutsch and volunteer Bill Montgomery will present an overview of Recreation & Parks Department volunteer activities and support.

Recommended Action: Information only

Volunteer Coordinator Elaine Gutsch provided an overview of the Rural Cemetery (RC) and provided overview of volunteer duties with the RC Preservation Committee, including burial research, public inquiries, site maintenance, gardening, fundraising history tours, refurbishing or replacing headstones and helping to create special events. Cemetery volunteer Bill Montgomery described the Lamplight and History tours and invited the Board to attend these events or request a private cemetery tour.

- 7.2 AQUATIC FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS OVERVIEW

Aquatics Supervisor Don Hicks will provide an overview of aquatic facilities, programs and services at Ridgway and Finley pools, along with an update on the temp staff hiring process.

Recommended Action: Information only

Recreation Supervisor Don Hicks presented information on Finley and Ridgway aquatics facilities and the programs and other activities that make Santa Rosa a leader in aquatics. The two pools record about 300,000 visits annually, including participation in therapeutic water exercise, swim lessons, Vamos a Nadar, floating pumpkin patch, lifeguard training, pool rentals, and much more. Fourteen thousand (\$14K) in scholarships was provided to under-served populations. Hicks touched on current and future maintenance projects, the impact of minimum wage

requirements on the cost of operations and the significant role and value of temporary seasonal staff to the delivery of services.

7.3 BENNETT VALLEY SENIOR CENTER

Deputy Director Kelley Magnuson will provide an update on the status of senior services at the Bennett Valley Senior Center and outline next steps.

Recommended Action: Information and discussion

Deputy Director Kelley Magnuson updated the Board on the outreach activities with the seniors from Bennett Valley Senior Center around the contemplated consolidation of programs from Bennett Valley to the Steele Lane Community Center and the Finley Person Senior Wing. Out of the several meetings held with seniors who utilized the Bennett Valley Senior Center, as well as instructors, concerns were identified and to the extent possible, staff attempted to address them as they refined the proposal for consolidation. The outreach efforts included to the Community Advisory Board, who also provided feedback that influenced the final staff recommendation. The consolidation proposal will go before Council on August 7th, where the seniors will be invited to speak and provide additional feedback.

7.4 DEPOT PARK PUBLIC ART PROJECT

Arts Coordinator Tara Thompson and Art in Public Places Committee Chair Nina Bonos will present the current status of the public art project planned for Depot Park and seek direction on how to proceed with artist-recommended landscaping suggestions.

Recommended Action: Discussion and possible action

Arts Coordinator Tara Thompson and Art in Public Places Committee Chair Nina Bonos presented the art project planned for Depot Park. The artist, James Dinh, has experience with landscape architecture and environmental design. Staff sought input from the Board regarding the landscaping suggested by the artist as a part of his art proposal. Discussion ensued and the inclusion of conceptual landscape elements from the artist caused a fair amount of concern from the Board. Staff will return to the Board with more specific landscape plans.

Public comment:

Mike Montague: favors the proposed art plan for Depot Park with expanded ideas for trees, the bench design, and other details.

Lynda Angell: and other Railroad Square property owners have been working with Art in Public Places Committee (APPC) to come up with a design that discourages loitering and considers the placement of the bench in relation to the existing Charlie Brown sculpture and buoy.

Quandt made a motion to support the APPC's concept and follow their lead with regard to landscaping. The motion was seconded by Wandel. Motion passed with 5 ayes and one nay.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

no meeting

- 8.2** Santa Rosa Waterways Advisory Committee
Recommended Action: Information

no meeting

9. WRITTEN AND/OR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

none

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

July-Election of Vice Chair
August-County parks sales tax revenue
October-SR Parks Foundation update on fundraising efforts
Board requested email in advance of BOCS topics going to City Council

11. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Gow adjourned the meeting at 6:09pm. The next meeting of the Board will be held on Wednesday, July 25, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.

Board of Community Services

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June 27, 2018

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Any writings or documents provided to a majority of this meeting body prior to this meeting regarding any item on this agenda are available for public review in the Recreation and Parks Administrative Office, 55 Stony Point Road, during normal business hours.