

LIVERMORE AREA RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT

FACILITIES COMMITTEE

MINUTES

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2021
2:30 P.M.**

NOTICE: Coronavirus COVID-19

In accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act (Cal. Gov. Code 54950 – 54963), as amended by Assembly Bill 361 (2021), the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Facilities Committee Members and staff participated in this meeting via Zoom teleconference. In the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing, members of the public also participated in the meeting electronically.

Committee Members Present: Chair Faltings; Director Furst, for Vice Chair Palajac (vacation).

Staff Present: Mat Fuzie, Linda VanBuskirk, Fred Haldeman, Vicki Wiedenfeld, Jill Kirk, Alexandra Ikeda, Julie Dreher, Jeffrey Schneider, Lynn Loucks, Natalie Kaaiawahia, Michelle Newbould, Pamela Healy

Members of the Public Present: Ben Graham

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 2:31 by Director Faltings.
2. **Public Comment:** Member of the Public Ben Graham asked the Committee for an update on the Robertson Park turf replacement and the status of Futsal. Director Faltings thanked him for attending the meeting and for his questions. General Manager Fuzie informed him these items would be placed on a near term agenda for the Facilities Committee as agenda items for feedback.
There were no additional members of the public present, and the Public Comment period was closed by Director Faltings.
3. **Approval of the Minutes of the Facilities Committee Meeting held on September 2, 2021:** Director Furst asked that staff correct grammatical language in Item 6, paragraph 3 of the minutes. Director Faltings requested that the term "Member" no longer be used when referring to Directors. Director Furst agreed. Executive Assistant Linda VanBuskirk shared that current Board Policy Number 4050 - Members of the Board of Directors states under "Job Description" that the Job Title is officially listed as "Member, Board of Directors", so a policy update may be considered by the full Board.

General Manager (GM) Fuzie stated that add this item would be added to the December Board Agenda for further discussion and policy review.

Action: The Minutes were approved, with the suggested corrections made for Item 6, paragraph 3.

4. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Teleconference During a Proclaimed State of Emergency:

GM Fuzie explained that to continue with meetings in a remote manner, a resolution is required to be passed, every 30 days. The sample resolution included in this meeting packet was prepared by District legal counsel. GM Fuzie further explained this could be done as a consent item for future meetings.

Action: Both Director Faltings and Director Furst voted “yes” to approve the resolution for the Facilities Committee meetings. A resolution number will be assigned, and this will be placed as a consent item for future agendas.

5. **Fire Management Plan:** Director Faltings and Director Furst were provided with a reference copy of the draft plan. GM Fuzie explained that because it was a working draft, it was not ready to share publicly. GM Fuzie explained that staff drafted the plan to explain goals, three components (prepare, mitigate, and respond) and how each are accomplished. Director Furst stated the document was clear and straightforward, however, he also noted it had numerous grammatical and spelling errors. Director Faltings asked to have an editable version of the draft document sent to herself and Director Furst for further review and editing. GM Fuzie indicated he would do so. Director Furst asked why there are 3 different widths of fuel breaks discussed in the plan. GM Fuzie explained these conditions are specific to each area. There was further conversation regarding additional suggested edits to the plan. A redlined copy of the working draft of the plan, including suggested edits, will be attached to these minutes.

Action: GM Fuzie will send an editable version to both Directors for their input.

6. **Grazing:** GM Fuzie began the discussion by stating that the work has already been done to create a good policy. This was followed by discussion about past concerns over placing cattle in the parks without sectioning them off because of the potential for interaction between humans and cattle. GM Fuzie explained that implementing the policy would also mean closing off certain areas for grazing so we would need to be thoughtful about how it is done. He also mentioned there would be an expense involved. Director Faltings suggested that staff talk to the Crohare family for the historical perspective on this issue. GM Fuzie acknowledged this, commenting that he has had several ongoing conversations with the family. He asked if the Committee approved implementing the policy, except for sectioning off areas for cattle. Director Faltings stated she approved the policy as written. Director Furst stated he approved it without sectioning. GM Fuzie suggested that we move forward with the policy and verify any restrictions on permits. GM Fuzie also mentioned that Ranger Dawn Soles has retired.

7. **Horseshoe Pits:** GM Fuzie discussed one ongoing complaint that the horseshoe pits at Robertson Park are noisy and disruptive. The complainant made a request that we relocate them. He explained that the first part of CEQA is to determine the extent of the problem and determine if there is any controversy. He noted that staff posted an intent to relocate them. He indicated that the comments received after posting included two requests to relocate them (one from the Mayor and one from the complainant). All other comments received suggested we should leave them as is. He added that more controversy would be created by moving them than by leaving as is. Director Furst agreed we should leave as is. Director Faltings shared that she has been told by several people that it would be a waste of resources to relocate them. She suggested it may be more of an enforcement issue by the City. Parks and Facilities Manager Fred Haldeman explained that meetings were held with the complainant to discuss the issue. The complaint was specific to noise (clanging sounds from the horseshoes), loud music while in use (sometimes after hours), as well as general loud noise throughout the day. At the end of the discussion, it was agreed to leave the horseshoe pits in their present location.

Action: No further action to be taken by staff at this time.

8. **Update on Community Garden Expansion:** Parks and Facilities Manager Fred Haldeman reviewed the current plot designs he has put together, adding that the biggest challenge has been trying to find a good location. There was subsequent discussion of several sites being considered north of Highway 580, including the pros and cons of each. GM Fuzie added that in our current location, we have two people that have more than one plot. He indicated that we would like to phase that practice out. Director Furst asked if the Springtown golf course/open space was being considered as a possible location option. GM Fuzie responded that it would be a good discussion for the meeting regarding the Master Lease Agreement with the City.

Action: Staff to continue research to find viable sites to bring back to Facilities Committee for further discussion.

9. **Directors' Reports or Announcements:** There were no announcements.

10. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:27 p.m.

/ph