

LIVERMORE AREA RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT

FACILITIES COMMITTEE

DRAFT MINUTES

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 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: Jan Palajac, David Furst (alternate for MaryAlice Faltings)

Staff Present: Mat Fuzie, Linda VanBuskirk, Fred Haldeman, Vicki Wiedenfeld, Jill Kirk, Alexandra Ikeda, Julie Dreher, Patrick Lucky, Robert Sanchez, Jeffrey Schneider, Pamela Healy

Members of the Public Present: There were no members of the public present.

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 2:31 by Director Palajac.
2. **Public Comment:** There was no public comment.
3. **Approval of the Minutes of the Facilities Committee Meeting held on October 7, 2021:** The minutes were approved unanimously.
4. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Teleconference During a Proclaimed State of Emergency (Resolution 2726-a):** General Manager Mat Fuzie explained that to continue with meetings in a remote manner, a resolution is required to be passed, every 30 days. Since Committee meetings do not have a consent agenda, Committee Members would be asked to vote each time.
Action: Both Director Palajac and Director Furst voted “yes” to approve **Resolution 2726-a**.
5. **Update on the Status of Robertson Park Synthetic Fields:** GM Fuzie opened the discussion by sharing that the synthetic fields at Robertson Park and Cayetano Park need replacement. He noted that we cannot use AB1600 funds for this, our options are to finance or fund on our own. Parks and Facilities Manager Fred Haldeman indicated that there are a total of three synthetic fields, each has between 1-2 years of useful life remaining and a total life expectancy of 5-10 years. We have extended that through ongoing maintenance, however, that was only a short-term solution. Director Palajac asked what the replacement costs would be. Parks and Facilities Manager Haldeman indicated that costs are estimated to be about 1 million dollars per field, not including contingencies. He went on to discuss two issues with the current fields, to include

compaction and breakage of fibers. Testing has been conducted to determine current density. All three fields failed testing in multiple areas. A company was hired to alleviate compaction, all were re-tested, all passed. However, this is not a permanent solution. The committee then discussed options for financing the replacement, including borrowing, revisiting the use of reserves, using anticipated COVID relief funding, bridge loans, advances on anticipated funding and a line of credit. Business Services Manager Jeff Schneider explained there is currently 5.8 million dollars in reserves, with additional funds anticipated from Covid funding. The timing of the replacement and current state of each field was discussed in detail. Recreation Supervisor Vicki Weidenfeld mentioned that Robertson Park has the most pressing need for replacement; there have been complaints from the community for about a year. Compaction of the field was temporarily mitigated; however, fiber breakdown continues to be a significant issue and is very noticeable. To lessen disruption to the community, committee members agreed that planning each replacement in advance is the best option and should include a detailed review of projected costs, further discussion on the use of reserves and other payment alternatives and selecting the best time of year to begin replacement. There was additional conversation on the pros and cons of replacing the fields one at a time vs. all at once. Each field is expected to take about a month to replace. It was also noted that the Bay Area Panthers semi-pro indoor football league uses Robertson Park as their home facility for practice.

Action: The committee recommended that staff continue further research on more specific cost estimates, payment alternatives and project timelines. Staff were asked to bring the results to the next Finance Committee meeting prior to bringing recommendations to the full Board.

6. **Multi Use Court Rentals:** GM Fuzie shared that the pilot program for multi-use court rental was rolled out at May Nissen. There has been talk about corporate donations/sponsorship for pickleball. The pickleball community wants to have a say in how such funds are dispersed. It has been explained that we have a fiduciary responsibility to oversee how any funding is used. Recreation Supervisor Weidenfeld shared that the pickleball community also provided statistics on the number of players for the period of September 8- October 19, 2021: Livermore Downs had 1250 players, May Nissen had 62. May Nissen had a lower number because there were no nets provided. The pickleball community wants nets to be made available by the District. Each net costs approximately 1500 dollars. GM Fuzie commented that we are still in the phase of observing use patterns, and we are not ready to move forward with any additional multiuse courts. He added that we still need to advertise the court changes to the general public. The discussion concluded with the recommendation that staff continue to observe, monitor, do our own counts and continue as is.

7. **Community Gardens Update:** Parks and Facilities Manager Haldeman gave an update on the existing Community Garden at the Robert Livermore Community Center off Loyola Avenue: we have 70 plots, all are rented. There are 33 people on the wait list. The first person on the list has been on it since April 2020. Due to high demand, we are working on a conceptual design for a smaller version. He anticipates there will be 38-40k for hard costs (not including labor). The committee asked what it would take to make it ADA accessible. This would require accessible on-street parking, site improvements, signage etc. Doing so would also increase the cost of the project by an unknown amount. Other options were discussed, such as adding accessibility at the existing location and implementing the next one at a location with an existing accessible parking lot. Further research will be done on specific requirements for ADA accessible parking lots for new facilities. Director Furst commented that he is in favor of more than one community garden and locating them north of Highway 580. Director Palajac agreed. Staff also noted that Cayetano Park is not a viable location, for a variety of reasons. Several other potential locations were discussed, and staff were asked to continue to explore options.

8. **Update on City of Livermore Master Lease Agreement:** GM Fuzie remarked that the first meeting with the City of Livermore staff and City Attorney took place. He indicated that there is general agreement about what should be LARPD and what should be City. Any agreement should be evergreen, with a wind down clause and check in periods. Individual agreements such as Ravenswood will be a separate agreement that will reference back to the Master Agreement, making it a solid overriding agreement with multiple attachments. This item will return to the ad-hoc Committee while the agreement is in process. Current goals are to bring something to the ad-hoc committee in November and then to the Board and the Livermore City Council by February 2022.

9. **Update on Facilities Matrix:** The matrix is complete and available to review as a useful reference. Director Palajac asked if there is a short version for Directors. Business Services Manager Schneider responded in the affirmative. The Committee requested that a hardcopy be provided with next Board packet.
Action: A hardcopy of the shortened version of the matrix will be provided with the next Board agenda packet.

10. **Directors' Reports or Announcements:** Director Palajac asked for a status update on the Bothwell lighting issue. She asked if motion lights can be added to the building. Manager Haldeman reported that he went out the next day and found that existing lights were low wattage. As a result, we will upgrade to brighter LED lights, also adding them to the NW corner of G street. These lights are on a timer and will come on as soon as it is dark. GM Fuzie has responded to the community member with an update.

Director Palajac then commented that the faucet inside the Ernie Rodrigues park restroom was left on full blast. She asked if a retrofit could be done to change the plumbing for water conservation. Manager Haldeman responded that there are many solutions, all involve simply replacing the faucet. A solution will be implemented.

GM Fuzie shared that yesterday the school district posted sign-ups for vaccines for children ages 5–11. The list filled up with 1500 sign ups with another 320 on the wait list. He also noted that vaccination clinics will be held here at RLCC on 11/10 and 11/11, adding that we will be one of the first pre-planned clinics for this.

Director Palajac shared that she participated as a judge for the Livermore Downtown Association children's Halloween costume event last Saturday, adding that it was very well attended.

11. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

/ph