



Livermore Area
Recreation and Park District
An independent special district

REGULAR MEETING of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DRAFT MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2024

5:00 P.M.

Robert Livermore Community Center
4444 East Avenue, Livermore, California
Sycamore Room

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Directors James Boswell, Maryalice Faltings,
Vice Chair Jan Palajac, Chair David Furst

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Philip Pierpont

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Mathew Fuzie, Linda VanBuskirk, Patrick Lucky

GENERAL COUNSEL: Andrew Shen, Esq. with Renne Public Law Group

OTHERS PRESENT: None

1. CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chair Furst called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. All Directors were present, except Director Philip Pierpont. Chair Furst led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Chair Furst opened the public comment period. There were no speakers, and the public comment period was closed.

3. CONSENT ITEMS:

- 3.1 Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on February 28, 2024;
- 3.2 General Manager's Monthly Update to the Board on Issues and Projects – March 2024.

MOTION:

Moved by Director Faltings, seconded by Director Palajac, approved the Consent Agenda by the following voice vote:

AYES: *Directors Boswell, Faltings, Palajac, and Chair Furst (4)*
NOES: *None (0)*
ABSTENTIONS: *None (0)*
ABSENT: *Director Pierpont (1)*

General Manager (GM) Fuzie asked the Board if the General Manager's Monthly Update to the Board on Issues and Projects is still useful to the Board. Board consensus was yes, it is.

4. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

4.1 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING FIRST AMENDMENT TO RESTATED AND AMENDED AGREEMENT BETWEEN LARPD AND THE GENERAL MANAGER, MATHEW L. FUZIE

Chair Furst pulled this item from the agenda stating that it was not ready to be brought forward. A revised, updated version will be brought back to the Board at an upcoming meeting.

Action:

No Board action was taken at this time.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS (No Action Required)

5.1 REVIEW OF DISTRICT'S ORDINANCES, ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES, AND DISTRICT NOTICES

GM Fuzie described this project of conducting a comprehensive legal review of the all the District's policies, ordinances, and district notices, anticipating a positive result. He expressed gratitude to General Counsel (GC) Andrew Shen for spearheading this initiative.

GC Shen provided an overview of the District's existing series of overlapping policies and rules, consisting of ordinances, administrative policies, and District Notices. He initiated a review of these documents to ensure consistency and compliance with current legal requirements, considering that some were enacted many years ago.

The primary goals include:

- Ensuring compliance with current legal requirements.
- Simplifying ordinances, administrative policies, and District Notices for improved internal and public understanding.
- Addressing inconsistencies in policy application and clarifying responsibility assignment.

GC Shen proposed initiating the project with a focus on updating Ordinance No. 8, which regulates park rules and regulations, with the Board's approval. The District relies on the Livermore Police Department to enforce this ordinance, and they may appreciate simplification in terms of making sure the public follows those rules.

Board questions/comments:

- Director Faltings emphasized the importance of transparency and public comprehension.
- Director Palajac expressed enthusiasm for the initiative.
- Director Boswell highlighted the necessity of clarity regarding policy responsibilities and levels.
- Chair Furst inquired about the timeline for the project and anticipated reports on Ordinance No. 8.

- In response to a question from Chair Furst, GC Shen confirmed the distribution of a legal memo outlining the project's scope to all Board members.

GC Shen and GM Fuzie discussed potential timelines, aiming for an initial draft of Ordinance No. 8 by the next Board meeting. GM Fuzie suggested aligning the ordinance with California State Parks' structure for clarity and simplicity, although concerns were raised regarding legal distinctions between violations. Further communication and collaboration between GC Shen and GM Fuzie were planned before GM Fuzie's vacation.

Action and Next Steps:

No Board action was taken at this time; however, the Board tentatively set a goal to complete the project by the end of the calendar year, understanding that it will be a gradual process.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Chair Furst announced that Director Pierpont was not in attendance to report on the March 4, 2024 Program Committee meeting. Director Boswell reported on his attendance at the meeting. Its agenda was included in the Board agenda packet. He reported that the main topic discussed was the potential of adding a District policy on the use of artificial intelligence (AI). The Program Committee concluded that the technology is still considered new, judging by the extent to which we currently utilize AI. While the District does use AI for data collection in marketing materials, it is not used in any abusive manner. As a result, it was decided during the meeting that the Committee is not yet ready to recommend implementing a policy specifically addressing AI. GM Fuzie concurred with this conclusion. .
- b) Director Palajac reported on her attendance, along with Director Furst, at the March 11, 2024 Personnel Committee meeting. Its agenda was included in the Board agenda packet. She reported that the bulk of the meeting was spent discussing compensation philosophies. The committee recommended that the discussion be presented to the full Board in the Budget Workshop. Other topics included the potential for drafting a District policy on the use of AI. The committee reached no definitive conclusion on the matter but recommended that the item be presented to the full Board for further discussion. Chair Furst mentioned that Director Palajac found a sample AI policy from the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors, which will be shared with the entire Board for review during an upcoming meeting. Additionally, Chair Furst noted that the European Union has recently implemented an AI policy. There is a growing recognition among various organizations of the need to formulate AI policies due to its increasing utilization by staff.
- c) Chair Furst reported on his attendance at the March 6, 2024 Chamber of Commerce Business Alliance meeting. Staying with the same theme, the guest speaker was Dwayne Thaele, Owner of Livermore Cybersecurity. His topic centered on cybersecurity and AI.
- d) Director Palajac reported on her attendance at the March 4, 2024 LARPD Foundation meeting. The main topic of discussion was the Wine Down in the Grove event planning. The event/dinner will take place on **Friday, June 21, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at the Ravenswood Historic Site**. See [Foundation - Livermore Area Recreation and Park District \(larpd.org\)](http://Foundation - Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (larpd.org))

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/MATTERS INITIATED/ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE DIRECTORS

- a) Director Palajac raised the need for discussing e-bikes and electric motorcycles and their appropriate use in parks and on trails.
 - She suggested involving the Intergovernmental Committee as a potential solution involving collaboration with the school district, the City, and LARPD. Mentioning a recent meeting with Kristi Wang from the school board, Director Palajac noted the absence of educational materials for students regarding e-bike and electric motorcycle usage, proposing it as a starting point for awareness. Another avenue for discussion could be the Livermore Area Youth Advisory Council (LAYAC), which may offer innovative ideas. Despite the shared desire to provide recreational opportunities for youth, there is uncertainty about suitable locations. Chair Furst proposed referring the matter to the Facilities Committee pending Director Boswell's approval. However, Director Boswell considered it a moot issue, emphasizing the challenges posed by the California Vehicle Code's inadequate differentiation between various bicycle types. Thus, local law enforcement faces difficulties in enforcement due to the lack of clear delineation.
- b) Chair Furst informed the Board about the ongoing stakeholder meetings concerning the Alameda-Tesla Classification and General Plan Project organized by the California State Parks system. These meetings include sessions for local agencies, recreation agencies, and environmental groups. Chair Furst will represent LARPD at a virtual meeting held for local agency stakeholders and recreation and access stakeholders on March 14, 2024, and he will represent the Friends of Open Space and Vineyards during an upcoming meeting held for neighbors and natural, cultural, and historical resources stakeholders on March 16, 2024. GM Fuzie asked who is conducting those meetings? Chair Furst mentioned Alexandra Stehl, Deputy Director of Strategic Planning and Recreation Services Division, among others. Chair Furst offered to share the meeting agendas with EA VanBuskirk for distribution if anyone is interested in those. For more information see [Participate - Alameda-Tesla Plan \(alamedateslaplan.com\)](#)

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/MATTERS INITIATED/ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE GENERAL MANAGER

GM Fuzie made the following announcements:

- a) Congratulations are in order for Recreation Supervisor (RS) Patrick Lucky, who recently completed the first year of a two-year program offered by the National Recreation and Park Association. "The NRPA Directors School is an exclusive two-year professional development opportunity that prepares new and potential park and recreation directors to be effective leaders. Students who complete the program will leave with the knowledge and confidence to navigate emerging challenges, improve operations, and maximize positive impact on their communities." In response to a question from Director Boswell, RS Lucky shared that one of the classes he attended included a 2.5-hour open discussion on AI, which he found valuable. He felt truly fortunate to be able to participate in the program, saying it was a wonderful opportunity and a huge learning experience.
- b) The 4th of July celebration is shaping up with the City of Livermore. The City is planning a celebration at the Livermore Airport, and LARPD is considering organizing a public event there as well. One idea is a morning fun run, which we are tentatively calling "The

Runway Run.” Chair Furst noted that the City has decided not to host an evening fireworks display this year.

- c) LARPD has offered the Executive Assistant position to Rene Dalusong. She will start on April 1, 2024. Rene is currently an Administrative Specialist at the City Manager’s Office.
- d) California Water met with Staff earlier this week to propose a new well at Sunset Park, within their property line. They are going to go to the City with it as well, but wanted to know if LARPD had any concerns.
- e) Ten communication boards for parks have been ordered, each costing \$3,000, and they are expected to arrive soon. We are planning a ribbon-cutting ceremony (or ceremonies) in partnership with Rotary and the LARPD Foundation. The Library Foundation has also expressed interest in sponsoring one or two boards. The first board will be installed at May Nissen Park, potentially serving as a major event. Chair Furst suggested having a collective ceremony initially, then individual events as the boards are installed in other parks, prioritizing the presence of each organization’s board members or trustees. GM Fuzie agreed, emphasizing the importance of giving each agency their moment to shine without needing to coordinate all three groups for every ceremony.

9. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

APPROVED,

David Furst
Chair, Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Mathew L. Fuzie
General Manager and
Ex-officio Clerk to the Board of Directors

/Lvb