

LIVERMORE AREA RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT

FACILITIES COMMITTEE

MINUTES

THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 2022

*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: David Furst, Jan Palajac

LARPD Staff Present: Mat Fuzie, Fred Haldeman, Jeffrey Schneider,
Jill Kirk, Linda VanBuskirk, Pamela Healy

Members of the Public Present: David Lunn

1. **Call to Order:** Committee Chair Furst called the meeting to order at *2:00 p.m.

*NOTE: The agenda incorrectly listed a 2:00 p.m. start time for this meeting. For this reason, Chair Furst called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and announced the Committee would allow public comment after the initial Public Comment period, if needed.

2. **Public Comment:** There was no initial public comment, however, member of the public **David Lunn** joined the meeting at 2:30 and commented during the discussion of item 6.

3. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Teleconference During a Proclaimed State of Emergency (Resolution 2749-a):** Resolution No. 2749-a determining to conduct meetings of the LARPD Facilities Committee using teleconferencing pursuant to Government Code 54953 as amended by AB 361 was approved unanimously.

4. **Approval of the Minutes of the Facilities Committee Meeting held on May 12, 2022:**
The minutes of May 12, 2022 were approved unanimously.

5. **Planning for Future Trails and Trail Connectors:**

Chair Furst commented that we should press the City of Livermore (COL) harder to act on trail connectors that we may assist with or take the lead on. Director Palajac mentioned that the LARPD was not notified in advance of the recent Iron Horse Trail ribbon cutting. General Manager (GM) Mat Fuzie responded that Christine Martin, COL Assistant City Manager, is looking into the protocol to see why we were not notified. Business Services Manager (BSM) Jeff Schneider has a monthly meeting scheduled with Bob Vinn (COL), who has committed to providing monthly updates on all trails in general.

Director Furst shared that earlier today, he and others received emails from member of the public David Lunn. The emails included a map showing various trail connectors, and other communication regarding various trails from Andy Ross (COL).

GM Fuzie shared his screen to review the map. Additional Committee discussion ensued regarding the following:

- T6 Lassen Project: This is a developer led project. There may be problems with permits necessary to cross Arroyo.
- T10 Plotkin Lake A Gap: Director Furst asked who the lead is on this trail. This may be a COL trail at Vallecitos/Holmes, past the Cemex portion. Director Furst asked who was coordinating with Cemex. GM Fuzie responded that his last recollection is that he sent a letter to the COL stating the expectation that it would be completed by Cemex. He added, we need to request a regular meeting with Andy Ross (COL).
- T10 Byer Ranch: Appears to be drawn through a vineyard and canal. Staff to clarify with Andy Ross (COL) if T10 is dependent on approval by residents for sewer extension.

GM Fuzie asked the Committee how much staff time they would like spent on this item. Director Furst requested that staff keep up to date on what is happening and let the Facilities Committee and Board know. He asked that staff also press the COL to make it more of a priority. Director Palajac agreed, adding it may not be a priority for the COL if they don't have anyone who really knows trails, permits required, etc. GM Fuzie suggested hiring an entry level park planner dedicated to liaison with the COL on this issue. This person could be assigned to projects (such as maintaining the Parks and Trails database), working out of the Office of the GM. GM Fuzie indicated he would put together something for the Personnel Committee to review.

Director Furst asked GM Fuzie to recap the Patterson Ranch Trail status. GM Fuzie explained that we sent a letter to Zone 7 and came to a general agreement. We will begin with heavily monitored trail use, with trail ambassadors and either guided or coordinated hikes. This is to gather data (what is usage demand) and to see if the controls put in place are working. Zone 7 GM Valerie Pryor accepted our letter with no corrections and agreed to meet in the field to determine locations for fencing and signage. Locations will need to be documented. No meeting date has been set. We are waiting for a response. If none is received by the end of the week, GM Fuzie will call Zone 7 GM Pryor.

Action and Direction:

- Staff were asked to request and schedule regular monthly meetings with COL/Andy Ross to get consistent monthly updates and clarification on trails/connectors.
- GM Fuzie to compose a draft job description for an entry level park planner for the Personnel Committee to review.
- Director Furst asked GM Fuzie to send the Board a copy of the Zone 7 letter.

6. **Horseshoe Pits:** GM Fuzie noted the lack of public involvement on this issue at the last Board meeting. Parks and Facilities Manager (PFM) Fred Haldeman shared that he spoke with Mr. Wagoner today; the concern about noise was from horseshoes hitting the metal posts. PFM Haldeman noted the initial complaint from 2 years ago was about noise from those congregating while using the horseshoe pits, adding, they are not being used as much as during the Pandemic, but noise remains an issue. The proposed demolition plan is to remove the metal posts, fill in with soil, remove the backboard walls. These costs were not included in the proposal because supply costs are minimal and demolition work may be accomplished with approximately 1-2 days of staff work. Additional Committee discussion ensued on the following:

- Would the District be spending \$35k to fix something that was already there when residents moved in? GM Fuzie noted that if the homes had already existed, we wouldn't have installed the horseshoe pits in that location.
- We are being asked to spend \$35k that is not budgeted for, that only affects a small group of people. The rest of the residents of the COL shouldn't be asked to pay for an issue that pre-existed the home purchase of the smaller group.
- Consider whether those directly impacted can help with fundraising to cover the costs.

GM Fuzie shared his screen to review the exact location of the horseshoe pits and playground. The Committee concluded that absent funding, to move forward, we need to take a holistic look at the entire property. The horseshoe pits should be removed and relocated to another site entirely, as Robertson Park is not an ideal location to relocate to. Additionally, the existing playground near the horseshoe pits is in bad shape. Ideally, we should return the site to a natural environment. The current location is in the center of the Riparian Influence, very close to the creek. We will need to hold public meetings to share and discuss this approach to the issue (i.e., returning the property to a natural setting).

Action and Direction: This issue will be reviewed and reconsidered from a holistic perspective:

- Notice entire neighborhood: Staff will get Community input on the removal of both the horseshoe pits and playground, reverting the property back to a natural environment.
- Staff will review other existing locations with horseshoe pits and playgrounds, to determine potential alternate sites for relocating the horseshoe pits and playground, once removed.
- Use this as a location for the Board of Directors - Meeting in Parks this summer.

Member of the public **David Lunn** joined the meeting at 2:30 p.m. Chair Furst acknowledged his attendance and re-opened the Public Comment period.

Public Comment: David Lunn asked, "Is there any progress on the Patterson Ranch Trail? Will guided hikes need to wait until after the meeting with Zone 7?"

Chair Furst summarized the earlier discussion (from Item 5) for Mr. Lunn. GM Fuzie confirmed that guided hikes cannot take place until after the meeting with Zone 7.

7. **Directors' and/or General Manager's Reports or Announcements:**

- Director Furst will be out of the country from 6/8-6/22.
- GM Fuzie announced the Office of the General Manager has an intern, Ashlynn Kirk. She is currently helping put together HR packets and employee files and will be going through the Park facility inventory book, adding useful items such as map indicators, descriptions of neighborhoods and a brief history of the park.
- The Livermore Rodeo is coming up next week. We have tickets to all the events. EA VanBuskirk emailed each Director; tickets will be delivered with the agenda packets.

8. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:08 p.m.