

LIVERMORE AREA RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, April 20, 2022**

**2:30 PM**

*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 Program 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 electronically.*

**Committee Members Present:** Jan Palajac, Maryalice Faltings

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

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

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Palajac called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.
2. **Public Comment:** There was no public comment. Chair Palajac closed the public comment period.
3. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Teleconference During a Proclaimed State of Emergency (Resolution No. 2744-b):**  
Resolution No. 2744-b was approved unanimously.
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the Program Committee on March 16, 2022:**  
The Minutes from March 16, 2022 were approved unanimously.
5. **Community Gardens (List of Alternates):**  
Parks and Facilities Manager (PFM) Fred Haldeman shared his screen to review potential locations under consideration. There are six potential sites; all but one is located south of Highway 580. Locations under consideration are as follows:
  - **Big Trees Park**
  - **Livermore Downs Park**
  - **Max Baer Park**
  - **Mocho Park**
  - **Pleasure Island Park**
  - **Summit Park (North of 580)**

Several locations already have on-street parking, accessible ramps and paths and are level. Committee questions and comments included:

- a) How many people are on the waiting list? (Currently 29). There are 72 existing plots, most are 15x20. Tentative plan for new site is for 22 additional plots, they will be a mix of 15x20, 10x20, including accessible ones.

- b) What is the construction timeline for the new location, if approved? The timeline depends which site selected, and improvements required. If simple improvements, could be 1-2 months. If parking improvement or addition required, timeline would be longer.
- c) What about Springtown Golf Course? This location is not currently under consideration.

**Action:** PFM Haldeman will rank options, and at the next meeting the Committee will make a recommendation to move to the full Board.

#### **6. Bothwell Building Update:**

Director Palajac asked if GM Fuzie has had the opportunity to notify the public that the lease is up. GM Fuzie shared that the lessee has been notified. He suggested the District reimagine the space for future programming or other use. Committee discussed pros and cons of tearing down the building and doing a complete re-build. A vacant building is worst possible outcome. Keeping it in a year-to-year lease allows us to keep it operating without significant investment. If we raise the rent, we will need to provide better amenities.

**Action:** The Committee recommended bringing this discussion to the Full Board for further consideration prior to making any changes.

#### **7. Program Updates (To Include Plans for Dogtoberfest, Children's Fair and Movie Night at RLCC):**

Director Palajac opened the discussion by asking if these programs (or similar) will be resumed. GM Fuzie commented that managers have discussed this topic; we are intending to resume community events. He asked Community Services Manager Jill Kirk to elaborate. She shared the following update:

- There is one more license remaining for movie night. It will be held right before the Little League World Series in early August. The plan is to tie in a baseball movie.
- Over 300 families attended events last Saturday, including Eggstravaganza at Sycamore Grove and Muffins with Bunny at RLCC.
- Dogtoberfest will need to be re-evaluated, as it is a very staff intensive event as currently structured.
- The Children's Fair also needs to be reviewed because it has mainly been a vendor fair.
- Upcoming events include the Rodeo Parade and a Victorian Tea and Apple Fest at Ravenswood Historic Site.
- Interpreters Eric Whiteside and Christine Cardozi have been getting out in the community, doing programs 6-7 days/week.
- We will be doing an Earth Day event with Livermore HS.
- Science Camp has grown from a small group of kids to running programs almost every day.
- Ranger programs are being brought to ESS.
- Nature Camp has expanded.
- Counselor -in-Training (CIT) Camp: We are making an effort to reach middle school age group, BELIEVES program.

The Committee expressed their appreciation to staff for all their efforts. GM Fuzie added, with the new reporting structure, both teamwork and synergy have been amazing. He will be recommending to the Board to keep the new structure in place.

**Action:** This was a discussion only, no Committee action was requested or taken.

**8. Directors' Reports and Announcements:**

GM Fuzie shared that we are starting to receive applications for the Human Resources Officer position. We will be focusing on candidates with exceptional interpersonal skills and policy experience.

**9. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:23 p.m.

/ph