

LIVERMORE AREA RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT

FACILITIES COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Wednesday, November 20, 2019
3:00 PM

ROBERT LIVERMORE COMMUNITY CENTER
4444 EAST AVENUE, LIVERMORE CA 94550-5053
WEST WING CONFERENCE ROOM

Committee Members Present: Philip Pierpont, Beth Wilson

Staff Present: Mathew Fuzie, Bruce Aizawa, Fred Haldeman, Allie Ikeda, Dana Jones, Jill Kirk, Patrick Lucky, Jeff Schneider, Patricia Lord, Vicki Wiedenfeld, Michelle Newbould, Sandra Kaya, Linda VanBuskirk

Members of the Public Present: None

1. Call to Order: The meeting of the Facilities Committee was called to order at 3:02 p.m.

2. Public Comment: There was no public comment.

3. City Staff Update on Prioritization of Trail Maintenance Projects:

AGM Patricia Lord reported that at a recent meeting City staff requested a letter of support from LARPD for Trail T6. The Planning Commission will hold a hearing on a potential development, still in preliminary stages. Currently, City staff is negotiating rights-of-way acquisition with private property owners and negotiating Development Agreement terms for trail construction as part of an adjacent development application. Nothing has been finalized at this point.

- The Committee suggested a draft letter of support be presented to the full Board for approval.
- The City will provide further information so that LARPD can present a letter of support to the full board for approval to bring it to a future City Council meeting.

LARPD and City staff will be meeting in January to prioritize the \$600K grant-funded trail maintenance projects.

- Member Wilson stated there is a large amount of tree debris between Bluebell and Heather in the Springtown Area. Bruce Aizawa will inform the City about the debris issue. They are responsible for that area.

4. Driving on Park Lands:

GM Fuzie stated that staff vehicles are sometimes driven on park lands while performing maintenance and/or trash pickup. The District currently does not have a comprehensive philosophy on the responsibilities and risks inherent to driving on park lands.

- The Committee agreed that core staff should meet and create talking points/guidelines on what is and is not acceptable, then work them out through various committees.
- Once guidelines have been created at staff level, they should be brought to the full board for discussion/approval.

5. Trash/Garbage:

GM Fuzie reported that this subject is related to Item 4, “Driving on Park Lands.” The group discussed the policy implemented by many parks at the local and state level of posting a sign to remind patrons of “Pack In, Pack Out”. This is a very effective practice; when people go out on the trails or visit parks, they take their litter with them. GM Fuzie asked for recommendations from the Committee. Staff commented that garbage cans are needed at the sports fields with concession sales and community parks for group picnic areas.

- The Committee suggested that staff discuss the matter and create standards or a policy customized for the handling of garbage.

6. Lighting of Parks (Motion Sensors)

GM Fuzie reported that neighbors of Bruno Canziani Park recently requested the addition of lighting in the parking lot area to address loitering in the park after dark. Motion-sensor lights were installed to downlight the picnic area only, mounted on the shade structures. Since the motion-sensor lights were installed, the problems with loitering after dark have diminished. The group discussed new lighting technology such as solar lights, along with the possible need to update Ordinance 8.

- The Committee suggested staff review current policies, evaluate, and revise if necessary. This can remain at staff level.

7. CIP Updates – Current Projects:

The Committee received a status update from Administrative Assistant Michelle Newbould on the CIP Project Updates included in the agenda packet.

8. Backup Electricity at the RLCC:

GM Fuzie reported that Facilities Maintenance Supervisor Fred Haldeman has been researching battery storage analysis for the future solar array at the RLCC. Since batteries can be quite expensive, staff would like to receive some direction regarding what our ultimate goal is during a power loss.

Committee members discussed and inquired about the following: Since the RLCC is used as an emergency shelter, the downstairs area at least should maintain power; the distinction between a PG&E planned blackout vs. a brown out situation; what has the longest period of no power been in the past, and does having a large generator make sense?

- Mr. Haldeman can further research the cost of generators. If it is determined that LARPD may need more than what the solar array can provide, then what is our potential to expand?
- The Committee requested a staff report at some point. The full Board would be interested to hear what our options are.

9. Process of Counting Visitors to Parks:

The Committee and staff discussed the current process of counting visitors to LARPD parks, especially at Sycamore Grove, and potential options for more accurate information on park attendance. Suggestions included: researching new technologies, such as, the use of cell phone apps as an interpretive function. These apps may be deployed to allow an interpretive component or report hazards or maintenance needs. With the proper infrastructure in place, this may be an opportunity to extrapolate the information for better allocation of resources.

No action was taken by the Committee.

10. Revisions to the Memorial and Commemorative Policy (FAC-86-1007)

AGM Patricia Lord reported that this topic was brought to the Facilities Committee in August 2019, and then to the full Board on October 10, 2019. She reported the commemorative bench program is currently on a hiatus, in order to determine future direction. Meanwhile, the District is still accepting requests for commemorative trees. There are currently five remaining on the wait list, and those individuals will still be given the opportunity to purchase a memorial bench in Sycamore Grove Park if interested. Ms. Kaya distributed a map of “Current/Pending Bench Sites” for review and discussion.

Committee members discussed the following:

- How do we determine if the District can accommodate more commemorative benches in Sycamore Grove Park? Most bench requests are for Sycamore Grove Park; although commemorative benches can be placed in any of our parks.
- Should the District consider fee increases?
- Should LARPD consider a time-limit and renewal system for benches? The District currently has benches in perpetuity; other agencies offer commemorative bench programs with time limits and opportunities for renewal, such as, ten-year increments.
- What is the cost to install, maintain, and replace benches?
- Can we use some of the current benches without plaques?

- Provide further data on direct and indirect costs in order to make a determination on fees. Could a subscription be offered (in order to fund the maintenance?) One suggestion was to provide a lifetime membership to the LARPD Foundation.

The Committee requested this item continue on the Facility Committee until enough information is gathered in order to provide direction.

11. Matters Initiated: None.

12. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.