



**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

REGULAR MEETING

RUSH PARK
3021 Blume Drive
Rossmoor, California

Tuesday, August 9, 2022

A. ORGANIZATION

1. CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m.
2. ROLL CALL: Directors Barke, DeMarco, Nitikman, Searles
President Rips
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Director DeMarco led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. PRESENTATIONS: None

B. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA - None

C. PUBLIC FORUM

Maureen Wauters indicated there are still mistakes being made by the street sweeping company.

Kevin Pearce asked about the status of the new trash collection program.

General Manager Mendoza stated they were supposed to begin August 1, 2022; however, the company is lacking trucks and employees that are required with the new collection program. Mr. Mendoza stated he is in regular communication with the company and this is a countywide issue, not just for Rossmoor. When the company provides a new implementation date, it will be announced.

Due to technical issues, the Public Forum was postponed to later in the meeting.

President Rips announced the Board will consider Item No. H-1 at this time.

Joel Block, resident, wanted to make comment by Zoom; however, because of technical issues he could not be heard.

James Fidler, Mesa Water District Director and LAFCO Commissioner, also had technical difficulties and could not be heard. He will address the Board at the October meeting.

There were no other public comments.

RECESS/RECONVENE

The Board took a short recess at 8:54 p.m. The meeting was reconvened at 9:02 p.m.

D. REPORTS TO THE BOARD

1. QUARTERLY RECREATION REPORT

General Manager Mendoza listed upcoming events including a STEM educational program, a Rossmoor Family Festival, a Health Fair, Youth Center Rascals programs, the next blood drive, and the Farmers Market.

Discussion followed regarding boosting attendance at the Farmers Market.

2. MONTHLY TRAFFIC SAFETY UPDATE

General Manager Mendoza reported the next meeting of the Traffic Safety Committee will be Thursday, August 25, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.; listed items on the agenda and stated he spoke with CHP Officer Musselman who stated he has the ability to enforce laws related to motorized bicycles in District parks off of the District's policy.

Director DeMarco commented on the need to remedy the parking situation along Montecito.

3. STREET SWEEPING UPDATE

General Manager Mendoza spoke about issues with the street sweeping company due to staff illness and unavailable trucks and reported he will be drafting a letter to send to them.

Discussion followed regarding company turnovers and trucks equipped with GPS.

4. GENERAL ELECTION CONDENSED CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER 8, 2022 FOR CANDIDATES FOR ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

General Manager Mendoza discussed the upcoming election; reported there will be two seats on the RCSD Board vacant; added that since President Rips will be an incumbent, he has until Friday, August 12, 2022, to file his papers and other candidates have until August 17, 2022, to file and urged candidates to not wait until the last minute to file.

E. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. MINUTES:

a. Regular Board Meeting of July 12, 2022

2. JUNE 2022 REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REPORT

The Consent Calendar was approved by consensus.

F. PUBLIC HEARING: None

G. RESOLUTIONS: None

ORDINANCES: None

H. REGULAR CALENDAR

1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE TRIAL PICKLEBALL PROGRAM THAT WAS HELD AT ROSSMOOR PARK ON JULY 27-30, 2022 (*note – this item was moved forward in the meeting and heard after C – Public Forum*)

General Manager Mendoza reported on the Trial Pickleball Program held at Rossmoor Park July 27-30, 2022; commended staff for their work on the project as well as Gary Rogers from the Seal Beach Pickleball Center; discussed the evaluation process and recommended scheduling a study session with the Parks and Recreation Facilities Committee to review the recent trial and form a recommendation to present to the RCSD Board for final determination at a future meeting and direct staff appropriately. In addition, he addressed issues to be reviewed including impacts on residents, tennis players, parking and noise. Cost information is also being gathered.

President Rips invited public comments.

Because of technical issues, audio was not consistent.

Joyce Campion (sound intermittent and comments not audible)

Female Speaker (name not audible) – good experience. It was nice to have pickleball available in Rossmoor.

Maureen Wauters – spoke in favor of pickleball; felt it did not impact the neighborhood, and with noise mitigation, it would be extremely plausible to add at Rossmoor Park.

Steve Havstad (intermittent sound) – thanked the Board for the trial; thought it would provide good information to consider pickleball.

Susan Kaplan – did not feel the pickleball trial was adequate to gauge effect on neighborhood. She noted parking was impacted and also stated there were two pickleball players playing after the trial, early in the morning. The location was questioned – would like to have Rush Park considered so that tennis is not taken away from Rossmoor Park. She felt the trial was inadequate to determine the effect of the disturbance; spoke about the trial occurring while she was at work or during Youth Center sessions; reported hearing two pickleball players today at 7:00 a.m.; suggested implementing the program at Rush Park and encouraged doing it right.

Sue Clark (intermittent sound) - reported hearing pickleball players early in the morning; felt that before implementing pickleball, it should be ensured that the rules of the park are being followed and urged that pickleball is implemented in a way that does not disturb the community.

Ralph Vartabedian - felt pickleball can be implemented in a way that serves users of the park and does not damage the community; shared results of his own sound measurements and noted the need for an expert to figure out what noise levels are tolerable for the community and do not damage the neighborhood.

Quinn Unfried - commented favorably on the trial and felt pickleball is more convenient and easier than tennis.

Jimmy Ton - acknowledged there is an interest in pickleball and that it is a fun sport; noted no one will play between the hours of noon and 3:00 p.m. because of the heat and expressed concerns regarding noise and traffic impacts.

Susan Havstad - reported she participated in the pickleball trial; stated one day, grunting from one of the tennis players drowned out noises from pickleball and discussed availability of parking.

Director Barke commented favorably on public comments and the trial; noted there is more work to be done and spoke about meeting the needs and desires of Rossmoor residents.

Director Nitikman noted that if it is worth doing, it is worth doing right; felt the committee has its work cut out; spoke about needing to investigate environmental impacts, particularly noise and traffic; commented on the need for a mitigated negative declaration and discussed the need for expert information on how to build pickleball courts and mitigate noise.

Director Searles thanked Jimmy Ton, Frank Mannis, Sue Clark, Susan Kaplan, Rob Keith and Ahmed Alrete for their emails; agreed with the need for the committee to take its time and do it right and expressed appreciation for the feedback.

Director DeMarco spoke about his participation in the trial; noted there is a huge demand in the community for pickleball; stated he was unsure about paying for an environmental study; reported the experience as enjoyable for him and he would like to play pickleball at Rossmoor; addressed noise resulting from basketball play and other uses; suggested another trial to continue gathering data while determining costs of building a pickleball at Rush Park and indicated he did not notice a parking problem at all.

Director Nitikman felt the courts are too close to homes and are not properly insulated.

Dr. Hon commented on waking up to heavy noise on Saturdays; opposed adding more noise and traffic to the area and recommended implementing pickleball at Rush Park.

Sue Clark - requested the Board address the issue as Board Members and not individuals; urged that the Board make good decisions for the community; noted Rossmoor Park has evolved and changed over the years; asked that the Board no allow pickleball on tennis courts; spoke about being professional in considering the subject and suggested surveying the community.

Kevin Pearce referenced the responsibility of the committee and suggested researching sound mitigation efforts in other areas.

Steve Havstad - expressed disappointment that no other Board Members participated in the trial or attended to observe and suggested another trial may be beneficial.

Christy Leone noted residents are just asking for equal access to a District facility; noted most players pay to play and bring their own equipment; indicated residents have adjusted to the freeway noise and will adjust to the three-bin trash service noise and recommended surveying the community.

Ralph Vartabedian spoke about parking impacts and noise concerns and reiterated the Board can implement pickleball, responsibly.

Bo Berglund (Tennis Pro) - stated he enjoys playing pickleball; reported there is a lot of contention surrounding the topic; hoped the Board makes the best decision for the community and addressed his hours teaching tennis.

General Manager Mendoza discussed etiquette, private lessons, revenue, rental fees; noted use cannot be quantified as many people walk on without making reservations and noted all variables will be reviewed and studied.

Motion by President Rips, seconded by Director Nitikman to approve the General Manager's recommendation to forward this item to the Parks and Facilities Committee for further research. Motion passed 5-0.

Director DeMarco spoke about scheduling another trial to continue gathering information.

Director Nitikman discussed the possibility directing the General Manager to set up a temporary facility for the pickleball trial.

Directors Barke and Nitikman's sound is intermittent again.

Discussion followed regarding setting limited hours for playing pickleball, tennis court dormant hours, letting the Parks and Facilities Committee work with the General Manager and bring back recommendations.

Director Searles agreed with Director DeMarco about establishing regular pickleball play; discussed reviewing available supplies/equipment to mitigate noise; felt people who want to play pickleball should have days in which they can play and talked about the need to follow established rules.

The Board returned to Item No. C, Public Forum.

2. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE ADDITION OF STREET SWEEPING SIGNAGE AND PARKING ENFORCEMENT

General Manager Mendoza discussed the County's resolution relative to street sweeping on opposite sides of the street on different days; discussed enforcement and noted that enforcement cannot take place unless signage is installed.

Discussion followed regarding resource and budget limitations, lack of consistent/effective enforcement, installation of over 400 signs, the County's jurisdiction of District streets, the possibility of contracting out with other agencies for enforcement, avoiding sign blight, implementing the program in phases and whether the District is required to implement street sweeping enforcement.

Legal Counsel Tarquin Preziosi discussed a case of lack of enforcement in Westwood Village and a resulting lawsuit against the City of Los Angeles for not enforcing the vehicle code relative to an ADA issue. He added there is not legal duty to enforce most laws but that does not mean there will be no civil consequences.

Director DeMarco reported he will fight sign blight until there is effective enforcement.

Director Nitikman noted that currently, the District has an effective street sweeping program, without enforcement.

The Board directed Legal Counsel Preziosi to contact County Counsel to get their opinion as to whether the District is mandated to install signs and if there is any risk to the District if it chooses not to install signs and what is that risk.

I. GENERAL MANAGER ITEMS

General Manager Mendoza provided an update on implementation of the new accounting software; reported staff is being trained on the bank scanning system and discussed staffing and recruitment.

President Rips suggested scheduling a Budget Committee meeting prior to the next regular Board meeting to review the reporting output of the new software.

In response to Director Searles' question, General Manager Mendoza provided an update on the status of grants for which the District has applied and stated he has received no response from County Supervisor Do's office regarding funding for Rossmoor events.

Discussion followed regarding the canopy project and use of grant funds.

J. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

Director DeMarco commented on the Food Festival and thanked everyone for the discussion on pickleball.

Director Searles spoke about having contract renewals in advance of approval and apologized to Legal Counsel Preziosi that his contract was not reviewed prior to the meeting.

Legal Counsel Preziosi reported the contract was not up for renewal, but rather a request for a change in the pay rate.

Director Searles spoke about needing to follow the Board's process and congratulated Kerry Da Vannon and the Happy Hour Fit Club.

K. GENERAL COUNSEL ITEMS

Legal Counsel Tarquin Preziosi announced there would be no Closed Session.

L. ADJOURNMENT

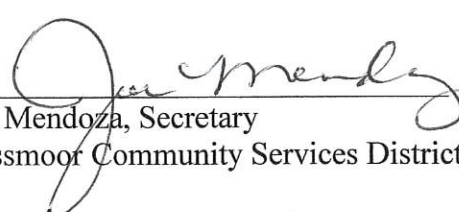
Motion by President Rips, seconded by Director Barke, to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:06 p.m. Motion passed 5-0.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT



Jeffrey Rips, President



Joe Mendoza, Secretary
Rossmoor Community Services District

APPROVED: September 13, 2022