

# MINUTES BOARD OF DIRECTORS ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

#### **REGULAR MEETING**

RUSH PARK 3021 Blume Drive Rossmoor, California

Tuesday, August 13, 2013

#### A. ORGANIZATION

1. CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 P.M.

2. ROLL CALL: Directors Coletta, Casey, Kahlert

**President Maynard** 

## 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

## 4. ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE TO NEW DIRECTOR

President Michael Maynard administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Board Member Tony DeMarco. Director DeMarco took his seat at the dais.

#### 5. PRESENTATIONS:

## a. OC Sheriff Lt. Robert Gunzel Re: Quarterly Crime Statistics

Lt. Robert Gunzel stated that summertime crime had decreased overall from last year. President Maynard had questions relative to the actual number of calls received. Lt. Gunzel stated that it was difficult to say without further research and that collection of said data was labor intensive. He concluded by stating that he could provide the information in his next report. The report was received and filed.

# b. OC Crime Prevention Specialist Anitu Pattanaick Re: Crime Prevention Summer Safety

Officer Pattanaick gave a PowerPoint presentation on summer safety crime prevention tips to the community. President Maynard requested that the information be added to the District website. Officer Pattanaick stated that she would work with District staff to facilitate the addition. The presentation was concluded.

# c. Orange County Register Reporter Asher Klein

Reporter Asher Klein of the Orange County Register introduced himself to the Board with a brief bio. He stated that he was the new reporter assigned to covering news and events in the Rossmoor community and its surrounding cities. He announced the OC Register's two latest publication ventures and their launch dates: Monday, August 19, 2013, The Long Beach Register featuring High School Sports, new local businesses, etc., and Monday, August 23, 2013, The Pier, headed by Mr. Klein himself, along with a team of reporters. He added that they were currently soliciting contributors for the Opinion Section of The Pier. The latter publication would encompass Op/Eds, Faith and Value pieces, Sports and Hockey sections.

The General Manager requested that Rossmoor have its own heading in the Our Town section of the OC Register. Mr. Klein responded that he would discuss the request with his editor and they would take it into consideration.

- **B.** ADDITIONS TO AGENDA-None
- C. PUBLIC FORUM-None
- **D. REPORTS TO THE BOARD-**None
- E. CONSENT CALENDAR

Director Casey requested that Items E-3 and E-4 be pulled from the Consent Calendar for discussion. Motion by Director Coletta, seconded by Director Kahlert to approve Items E1a., E1b., E1c., E2, and E-5 on the Consent Calendar. Motion passed 5-0.

- 1a. REGULAR BOARD MEETING—July 10, 2013
- 1b. SPECIAL BOARD MEETING—July 11, 2013
- 1c. SPECIAL BOARD MEETING—July 22, 2013
- 2. REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REPORT—June 2013
- 3. QUARTERLY STATUS REPORT

Director Casey provided a brief overview of the Ad Hoc Committee meeting which the District had held earlier in the year to address the various parking issues and concerns expressed by those Rossmoor residents who were impacted. He had comments relative to the parking issues involving the Shops at Rossmoor parking lot and inadequate parking availability within the surrounding condos; resulting in a heavy overflow onto Rossmoor's residential streets, blocking driveways, causing congestion, etc. He stated that despite a great deal of effort on the part of the District and General Manager Montana, the situation remained unresolved. It was suggested that a permitting system might help, however the Seal Beach zoning department had denied the request. Chris Montana added that the Orange County Sheriffs Department had also offered to assist with restricted parking implementation and enforcement, but Rossmoor residents were opposed to this option. President Maynard stated that he had plans to meet with Councilmember

Sloan in the near future in an effort to solve the problem. The report was received and filed.

# 4. QUARTERLY TREE REPORT

Director Casey had questions relative to the number of remaining parkways with hardscapes and plans for tree planting enforcement. Chris Montana replied that there were currently three homes left that were not in compliance. Mary Kingman stated that it was the position of the County that if a resident protests the planting of the tree they require the verbal consent of said resident before removing the hardscape.

President Maynard had questions relative to sapling care and how often she recommended a deep soaking. Mary Kingman stated that it was different for every tree, but generally they should be watered a couple of times per month. She suggested everyone observe and get to know their tree. The report was received and filed.

## 5. ANNUAL RECREATION REPORT

Motion by Director Coletta, seconded by Director Kahlert to approve Items E-3 and E-4 on the Consent Calendar. The Consent Calendar was approved as submitted. Motion passed 5-0.

#### F. PUBLIC HEARING-None

#### G. RESOLUTIONS-None

# H. REGULAR CALENDAR:

# 1. CITIZEN REQUEST: APPEAL OF ILLEGAL TREE-REMOVAL FINE

Recommendation to Listen to residents' appeal and provide direction to General Manager and Legal Counsel regarding penalties to resident for illegal removal of an established parkway tree in violation of District Policy 3080.

RCSD Tree Program Assistant Mary Kingman reported on the matter for the District.

Resident's Julie and Steve Wickser appealed to the Board and presented their arguments for why they felt the tree removal fine should be waived.

Brief discussion ensued. RCSD Tree Program Assistant Mary Kingman had recently reported that two replacement trees had been planted by the resident and are up to District standards. Additional details are contained in the staff report. It was the consensus of the Board to waive the \$180.00 amount the Wickser's incurred to plant the two new replacement saplings.

Motion by Director Coletta, seconded by Director Casey to receive the Orange County Sheriffs Department's Crime Report, the letter from the Arborist (*Attachment 2*), the photographs and adopt the conclusion that a crime was committed, waive the replacement cost of the two new saplings in

the amount of \$180.00 and uphold the remaining District fine in the amount of \$6,080.00 for the fair market value of the illegal removal of a mature tree. Motion passed 5-0.

# 2. SPECIAL EVENT REQUEST FOR USE OF RUSH PARK FOR THE ANNUAL SCHOOL GHOUL 5K RUN/WALK EVENT

Recommendation to direct the General Manager on how to proceed with event request for use of Rush Park prior to 8:00 am for the Annual School Ghoul 5k Run/Walk event scheduled for Sunday, October 20, 2013.

School Ghoul Event Manager Laurie Beverage provided the Board with a brief overview of the event. Discussion ensued relative to the scope of the event and Orange County permitting procedures.

Motion by Director Coletta, seconded by Director Kahlert to approve the application for an event request for use of Rush Park prior to 8:00 am for the Annual School Ghoul 5k Run/Walk event scheduled for Sunday, October 20, 2013. Motion passed 5-0.

#### I. GENERAL MANAGER ITEMS

The General Manager stated that lately there had been an increase in signage violations with people nailing their signs into parkway trees. She commented that this was not allowed and caused considerable damage to District trees, compromising their protective tree bark, making them vulnerable to disease and even death.

The General Manager reported that the District did have a committee meeting with Southern California Gas Company regarding the Southern California Gas Poles. So far, she believes the committee was successful in getting one of the poles moved out of the area of Rossmoor but the process is still ongoing.

The General Manager announced a reminder about the 20 hour full freeway closure for the bridge demolition of the southbound I-405 and eastbound 22 freeway beginning August 18, 2013 through August 20, 2013. She stated that the next OCTA Meeting was Thursday, August 15, 2013 at 9:00 a.m., 600 S. Main Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor in Orange, CA.

Finally she reminded the community about the District's final Movie in the Park of the summer on Friday, August 16, 2013 featuring The Lorax.

#### J. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

Director Coletta stated that he was pleased at the attendance at last night's Rush Park Rally to protest the proposed I-405 toll lanes. He encouraged all legal residents of Rossmoor to sign the petition if they opposed the expansion of the I-405 freeway. He stated that it was important to sign the petition as the proliferation of signatures in opposition to the toll lanes would be noticed and considered by the OCTA decision makers. Rossmoor has over 10,500 residents and those signatures make a statement. Neighboring communities are directly affected by the loss of their

property and Rossmoor is indirectly impacted by air, noise and light pollution. It was important to unify and continue to sound the opposition even after the comment deadline and also attend the OCTA hearing in person. He concluded by announcing that the link to the petition was available on the RCSD website. He requested that the OCTA Hearing dates be added to the District's website as well.

Director Casey stated that he was pleased with the attendance at the District's summer events. He thanked staff for getting the word out regarding last night's Rush Park Rally opposing the I-405 toll lanes and getting the District's comments on the record with OCTA under such a tight deadline.

Director Casey welcomed Director Tony DeMarco aboard and stated that he was confident that Director DeMarco would be a very productive member of the Board of Directors.

Director Kahlert welcomed Director DeMarco to the Board. He echoed Director Coletta's comments about the importance of Rossmoor resident's signing the petition and expressing their voice in opposition to the toll lane discussion. Director Kahlert thanked the Orange County Sheriff's Department for their Summer Safety Presentation and for providing the Vacation Check link service on the District website. Finally he congratulated LAGSL 12U Team for capturing both the State and National Championships held in Peoria, Arizona, August 1<sup>st</sup> through August 4, 2013. He stated that it was yet another National Championship for Rossmoor Park.

Director DeMarco thanked the Board for the warm welcome. He thanked former Director Jeffrey Rips for the many years of dedicated service to the Board. He reminded Rossmoor residents that school begins on August 28, 2013 and to be sure to observe the speed limit of 25 miles per hour and be mindful of the many children crossing the street.

President Maynard welcomed Director DeMarco aboard, thanked Director DeMarco for embracing his civic duty and thanked the entire DeMarco family for supporting him, thereby helping the community.

President Maynard announced the revised committee assignments as follows:

Audit Committee
Budget Committee
CIP Committee
Investment Committee
ISDOC Representative
Mayor's Consortium Representative
RCSD/RHA Liaison
Rossmoor Advisory Committee (RAC)
Shops at Rossmoor Committee (SAR)
Trees/Parkways Committee
WCC/OCTA Representative
Utility Ad Hoc Committee
Parks & Facilities Committee

Michael Maynard-C, Tony DeMarco
Bill Kahlert-C, Ron Casey
Michael Maynard-C, Alfred Coletta
Tony DeMarco-C, Bill Kahlert
Ron Casey
Michael Maynard, Bill Kahlert (alternate)
Michael Maynard
Alfred Coletta-C, Michael Maynard
Ron Casey-C, Michael Maynard
Ron Casey-C, Tony DeMarco
Ron Casey
Alfred Coletta-C, Ron Casey
Michael Maynard-C, Bill Kahlert

He stated that each committee was now assigned a designated chairperson in order to facilitate leadership opportunities.

President Maynard concluded with a PowerPoint presentation refuting two recent articles/opinion pieces appearing in the local newspapers (Sun and News Enterprise) relating to the management and condition of Rossmoor's Parks.

## K. CLOSED SESSION

# ANNOUNCEMENT IN OPEN SESSION OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION AS FOLLOWS:

# 1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - INITIATION OF LITIGATION

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(3)

Number of potential cases: 1

Consideration of unauthorized parkway tree removal at 2901 Copa De Oro Drive,

Rossmoor, CA 90720

#### 2. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6 District Representative: Michael Maynard Unrepresented Employee: General Manager

AT THIS TIME PRESIDENT MAYNARD OPENED THE FLOOR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE CLOSED SESSION ITEMS. SEEING NONE PRESIDENT MAYNARD CLOSED THE FLOOR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

THE BOARD RECESSED INTO CLOSED SESSION AT 9:40 P.M.

THE BOARD RECONVENED INTO OPEN SESSION AT 10:35 P.M.

## **CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT BY GENERAL COUNSEL:**

General Counsel reported that the Board had adjourned to Closed Session at approximately 9:40 p.m. to discuss two items pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(3) and Section 54957.6. There were two items on the closed session agenda. Both items were discussed. No reportable action was taken.

## L. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Director Casey, seconded by Director Kahlert to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:36 p.m. Motion passed 5-0.

#### **SUBMITTED BY:**

Chris Montana General Manager