



Regular Board Meeting

Minutes

May 8, 2014

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors was convened by Chair Mae Cendaña-Torlakson at 6:30 p.m. at the Ambrose Community Center, 3105 Willow Pass Road, Bay Point, CA.

1. Opening Ceremonies:

Roll Call: Board Members Present: Garcia, Mason, Dawson, Cendaña-Torlakson, Hoagland
Staff Present: Long, Rodrigues
Audience Present: Approx. 11

At this point Chair Cendaña-Torlakson read the thought of the month from former First Lady Rosalynn Carter "A leader takes people where they want to go. A great leader takes people where they don't necessarily want to go, but ought to".

2. Pledge of Allegiance:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ambrose Lions Club member Carolynne Born.

3. Approval of Agenda:

Motion:: Approve the Agenda as presented.

Motion: Mason **Second:** Garcia

Action: Roll Call Vote: 5 ayes/Motion Passed

4. Closed Session:

None

5. Consent Calendar:

Motion: Move to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Motion: Mason **Second:** Hoagland

Action: Roll Call Vote: 5 ayes/Motion Passed

Director Cendaña-Torlakson said that at the last meeting she had stated that Dwight Meadows of LAFCO was stepping down from his position. She said that she was mistaken and he continues to be on the LAFCO board.

6. Presentations:

a. Yard of the Month Awards

The four winners of the Yard of the Month awards were Marie Rose, Rukim Desilva, Jorge Moreno and Travis Rose. Marie Rose was the only one present to accept her award.

b. Presentation by Teen Center Supervisor, Rande Ross on Teen Center Activities. Mr. Ross gave a brief overview of the Teen Center programs and stated that they have 25 members per day right now and it doubles during the summer. He stated that the kids in the Teen Center can give more than he could by just talking. He introduced Hezekiah Lloyd who talked about the Teen Center that not only made him feel safe but brought him peer tutoring and mentoring and the Youth Leadership Program that taught him confidence and that even the smallest things like learning how to tie a tie can make a difference. He said what both have meant to him and changed his life. Daniel Barney stated he loved fashion and taking pictures and talked about the CMEXEL program and how it taught him screen printing and marketing his clothes and pictures online. Yasmine Campos talked about the YDLC program and how it helped her decide what she wanted to do with her life and to go after it.

She said that few people get to have a mentor to help them through high school and college and she got to experience things she would never have been able to without this program. Mr. Ross played a video of different Teen Center participants saying what the program has meant to them and showed some of the activities they experience. He said the video was produced by Daniel Barney. Director Mason stated that his wife, Debra Mason, wrote a grant to have the Teen Center at Ambrose and she had an idea of what kind of program it could be. He said he told her not to do it, but she did anyway because she is always about children. He said it was her vision that has made the Teen Center what it is now and she still works with them. Director Dawson said it was a very powerful video. Director Hoagland said it did make more of an impact with hearing directly from the teens. Director Garcia stated that the Teen Center originally started with an idea of several different groups who got a grant and started in an empty restaurant down the street. She said that was before Ambrose took it over and it should have been here. Director Cendaña-Torlakson asked if they have alumni mentoring the current teens and Mr. Ross answered yes and explained that it is powerful for them to learn from the alumni what they have experienced and get an idea that there is life outside of Bay Point. Director Dawson asked how he gets the teens interested and he said that he personally goes out to all the high schools he can and talks to them face to face. He stated that he has teens from all over the east county.

7. General Manager's Report:

The General Manager, Doug Long gave short reports on the following topics:

1. Pool Renovation – had a 2 ½ hour meeting about design concepts and opening is still planned for Memorial Day weekend of 2015. It was the consensus of the Board that Siegfried Engineering will come to a regular board meeting to present designs for the renovation to the whole Board.
2. Website Update – More refreshing colors using the colors of the Parks Make Life Better logo.
3. Global Giving Day – NRG Energy are volunteering to spruce up the sign area in the front of the center including the landscaping which has grown taller than the signs.
4. CDBG Grant – We have received the grant to replace the auditorium flooring. Habitat for Humanity is working with us with a Keller grant to do some rehab on the auditorium, including painting the walls and replacing the doors with all materials included.
5. Picnic in the Park – Bay Point All In One group held the event behind the community center and did a great job. He said they volunteered to replace the toilets in the ball field restrooms which they have done.

Director Mason asked if they would present more than one pool design and Mr. Long said they would present two, one being contingent with the funds we have. Director Dawson asked if we would have a conceptual drawing in the Board Room and Mr. Long said we could definitely do that and would probably put it in the lobby.

8. Public Communications:

Debra Mason addressed a comment by Mr. Long at the last meeting on the design firm negotiating with City of Pittsburg. She said she was confused because she had asked at a past meeting if the District would have the final say on the project and was told that the District would definitely have the last word. Mr. Long said he could understand her confusion but the negotiations were only on fine points of the contract and had nothing to do with the design and reiterated that we are controlling the project. Carolynne Born of the Ambrose Lions Club presented the District with a check for \$1,000 which represented 10% of their income from the annual carnival held on our Clearland property. She thanked the community for supporting the carnival and thanked the Board for approving their use of the property every year. She requested next year and understood that the property is for sale and they have been trying to find an alternative but have not been able to. It was agreed she could meet with the General Manager about next year. She also noted the champagne brunch they were having at the Lions Blind Center from 10 am to 2 pm on May 17th.

9. Legal Counsel Report:

None

10. Public Hearing:

a. Discussion of Preliminary General Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015. Mr. Long made a power point presentation and gave an overview of where the District is financially and the budget that was proposed for fiscal year 2014-2015. There were a few comments from the Board and asked if the 3% raise was from the salary schedule. Mr. Long said no and Mrs. Rodrigues said that the schedule had not been updated for years and we needed to start over with a new one.

11. Board Matters:

a. Consider authorizing the General Manager to enter into a contract with D&H Landscaping for landscape maintenance services in the amount of \$35,000. Mr. Long said we had put out an RFP for the contract and had six responses with D&H Landscaping being the lowest. Mr. Long explained that we are legally obligated to the bid process and was not completely sure the process was done with the county parks and further explained why the bid process can be a good thing and we should be doing one year contracts. He said that eventually the county parks and District parks contracts will coincide and won't be separate contracts.

Motion: Move to authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with D& H Landscaping for landscape maintenance services in the amount of \$35,000.

Motion: Garcia **Second:** Mason

Action: Roll Call Vote: 5 ayes/Motion Passed

b. Consider providing written consent to subordinate pass-through payments relating to issuance of refunding bonds by the successor agency for the Redevelopment Agency of the City of Pittsburg. Mr. Long explained that it would be like refinancing a mortgage for a lower rate. He said we would receive the funds back at the end.

Motion: Garcia **Second:** Mason

Action: Roll Call Vote: 5 ayes/Motion Passed

12. Committee Reports and Board Comments and Items for Next Agenda:

Director Mason stated that he had attended the quarterly CSDA meeting and they have voted in a LAFCO representative. He said he was impressed with the General Manger's presentation of the budget and said it should have been done like that before and thanked Mr. Long. He also reminded Mr. Long that his probation was almost over and they would have to do a review soon. Director Garcia reminded everyone of the Spring Derby and Parade on Memorial Day. Director Dawson stated she would be attending the Board training in Moraga and Director Garcia said she would also be there. Director Hoagland said he would be at the training and see everyone at the Spring Derby and Parade. Director Cendaña-Torlakson noted that we had a good Eggstravanganza. She said again she had attended the LAFCO meeting and Dwight Meadows was not stepping down as she had said. She said the CSDA meeting was very good and she learned a lot about the county's financial issues. Director Cendaña-Torlakson asked if the names of the Yard of the Month winners could be included in the meeting minutes because it would make them feel proud.

13. Closing Ceremonies:

a. Adjournment.

Motion: Move to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Hoagland **Second:** Dawson

Action: Roll Call Vote: 5 ayes/Motion Passed

Approved by the Board of Directors on _____

Signature of Board Member