

Regular Board Meeting

Minutes

October 13, 2011

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors was convened by Chair Judy Dawson 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, Dawson, Cendaña-Torlakson, Kopitar
Board Members Absent: Hoagland
Staff Present: Smith, Rodrigues
Audience Present: Approx. 15

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Director Cendaña-Torlakson.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion: Move to approve the agenda as presented

Motion: Garcia **Second:** Cendaña-Torlakson

Action: **Voice Vote:** 4 ayes/1 absent (Hoagland)/Motion Passed

4. Consent Calendar:

Motion: Move to approve the Consent Calendar as presented

Motion: Garcia **Second:** Kopitar

Action: **Roll Call Vote:** 4 ayes/1 absent (Hoagland)/Motion Passed

5. Presentations:

a. Yard of the Month Awards

3 of the 5 winners were present to accept their awards

b. Update on After School CARES Program

Ali Medina of the CARES Program stated she could say with confidence that there was a good transition of the program with a team effort to transfer over payroll and outreach to staff regarding misconceptions. She gave a handout to the board members showing the increase in student enrollment since last year for September and October. Director Dawson asked why there was an increase. Ms. Medina stated that the principals and teachers are very happy with program this year and they were able to keep the same staff with no changes. She thanked Mr. Smith for two grants that moved from Ambrose to the school District; CDBG and Kaiser grants. Ms. Medina mentioned other programs and also noted the Fall Fest on October 29th from 12-3 and they would be getting invitations. She said there would be food demos, a pumpkin patch with pictures, apple bobbing and more. She stated that they have 5 garden educators this year that worked great together to put the program on and Mr. David Walters is the new garden educator at our garden with building skills that she knew the garden could use. Director Cendaña-Torlakson said she had a contact to get seeds and soil donated for the garden.

c. Update on Bay Point Community Garden

Mr. Michael Kerr said he ran the Bay Point Community Garden and listed several grants he had written this year but only received funding from a Keller Grant for \$3,500. He stated that they need more money and the Bay Point Garden Club and Mr. Smith will decide what to do. He said they had received a \$200 donation from the Ambrose Lions Club. Mr. Kerr stated that renters are discouraged because people walk through the garden and their produce gets stolen. He said that his goals are to fence the garden, a storage shed, a gazebo and a covered picnic table. Director Cendaña-Torlakson commended Mr. Kerr and noted that he volunteers all his time and has sometimes used his own resources. She also said that he tends any of the plots when the renters are not able to.

6. General Manager's Report:

Mr. Smith stated that he wanted to let the Board know that we had received \$4,500 from Los Medanos Community Hospital District for a teen exercise class that will begin in November.

7. Public Communications:

Debra Mason stated that she continues to come to the meetings month after month to get the correct information out and is not trying to be negative. She said that an Ambrose employee was at the Bay Point Partnership meeting who presented a letter of support for a state grant that is also posted on the Ambrose website. She stated that they will never be seen because the state grant won't allow letters of support and handed out a page from the state grant application where that is stated. She said she has read grants for the state and knows how it works. Mrs. Mason stated that she had participated in the SparkPoint community conference and it was the general consensus that the public is not happy with this Board and there will be notes on the conference available soon. Mr. Lloyd Mason said he wanted to follow up on the last board meeting. He stated that the Brown Act was violated when they were talking back to him during Public Communications. He said it took six months for the playground to get fixed after he brought it to them. Mr. Mason said the lights on the building were coming on at the wrong time and it was wasting money. Mr. Clarence Wickers introduced himself and stated that he had been looking for a Cert training course closer than Walnut Creek. He said that he would like to start a Cert Program and asked the Board if they could help. Director Kopitar said that her work used to have them and agreed to talk to him. Director Garcia said that she had gone to a Train the Trainer course and she might be able to do one in Spanish. Mr. Wickers said that would be great. Mr. Michael Kerr stated that he had also attended the SparkPoint conference and there was sentiment that this Board and the MAC were not responsive. He said he thought the Board should know and hopes the park district will work with those groups. Director Garcia stated that there will be video and pictures on the website.

8. Legal Counsel Report:

None

9. Board Matters:

a. Consider a request from Contra Costa County Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) to have Ambrose Recreation & Park District co-sponsor a Medicare Planning Outreach event in the Community Center on November 3, 2011 (Smith) Mr. Smith stated that Leah McIntosh of HICAP had made this request. He said the event would be to help senior and disabled members of our community to make informed decisions for health care coverage for 2012. He stated the event would be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Motion: Move to approve the request from Contra Costa County Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program to hold a Medicare planning outreach event at no fee and to co-sponsor the event.

Motion: Cendaña-Torlakson **Second:** Garcia

Action: Voice Vote: 4 ayes/1 absent (Hoagland)/Motion Passed

b. Consider a request from Brighter Beginnings/SparkPoint ECC to Lease Room 13 (class room) at the Ambrose Community Center on an Annual Basis (Smith) Mr. Smith stated that Barbara McCullough of Brighter Beginnings contacted him and said they require a presence in Bay Point and asked about leasing space. He stated that for \$600 per month they would be here Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. In addition they need 2 evenings per week and 2 weekend days per month. Mr. Smith stated that he thought they would be a good partner and a good service for the community. He recommended the Board approve the request and authorize him to draw up a lease agreement. Director Dawson asked if there would be any signage and Mr. Smith said at least over the door, but the room would still be used for meetings. Director Cendaña-Torlakson asked what the group was about. Mr. Volker Kirchharz introduced himself and explained what the group was and that they served low income mothers and families with home visits and center meetings, case management, family support, financial education, help for pregnant teens and prenatal care. Director Dawson asked how many staff they would have and he said there would be three desks but staff would be in and out and probably never there at the same time.

Motion: Move to approve a lease with Brighter Beginnings for Room 13 and authorize the General Manager to draw up an annual lease agreement.

Motion: Kopitar **Second:** Cendaña-Torlakson

Action: Roll Call Vote: 4 ayes/1 absent (Hoagland)/Motion Passed

10. Public Hearing:

None

11. **Closed Session:**

None

12. **Committee Reports and Board Comments:**

Director Cendaña-Torlakson said the Chamber of Commerce mixer was a success with over 100 attendees. She said she also met with Attila Gabor who was a former member of the Bay Point MAC and his wife is an author and painter. She stated that Mrs. Gabor, whose artist name is Inky, will be doing a mural in the mat room of the Community Center. She said she thought it would be great if she could do a book signing at the completion of the mural. Director Cendaña-Torlakson said that we will be co-sponsoring a Halloween event with Brighter Beginnings in the Community Garden, the dining room and the auditorium on October 31st. She said it will be free for the kids. Director Garcia said that SparkPoint will be having a Grand Opening on the same day from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Chair Dawson presented Director Cendaña-Torlakson a bouquet of flowers congratulating her on her accomplishment of one of the top 100 Most Influential Filipinas.

13. **Items for Next Regular Meeting Agenda:**

None

14. **Closing Ceremonies:**

a. Adjournment.

Motion: Move to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Cendaña-Torlakson **Second:** Garcia

Action: Voice Vote: 4 ayes/1 absent (Hoagland)/Motion Passed

Approved by the Board of Directors on _____.

Signature of Board Member