

Regular Board Meeting

Minutes

May 9, 2013

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors was convened by Chair Steve Hoagland 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, Hoagland, Cendaña-Torlakson, Mason
Board Members Absent: Dawson
Staff Present: Rodrigues
Audience Present: Approx. 20

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Director Mason.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion: Move to approve the agenda as presented.

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

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

4. Consent Calendar:

Director Mason asked that Items a and c be removed for discussion

Motion: Move to approve the Consent Calendar with the removal of items a and c for discussion.

Motion: Mason **Second:** Garcia

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

Director Mason stated that the minutes were only actions minutes and the Chair needs Board approval before that can be changed and stated that he wanted all his comments included in the written minutes. On the Financial Report, Director Mason asked if the General Fund only had \$101,192.13 left in the budget for the rest of the year and Mrs. Rodrigues answered yes. He also asked if the Neighborhood Parks were \$15,000+ overspent and Mrs. Rodrigues answered yes. He said he we should be very concerned about that.

Motion: Move to approve items a and c of the Consent Calendar.

Motion: Mason **Second:** Garcia

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

5. Presentations:

a. Yard of the Month Awards

1 of the 5 winners for this month were present to accept their awards

6. General Manager's Report:

Chair Hoagland stated that Monday he had received a letter of resignation from General Manager Tarry Smith and his last day would be May 22nd.

7. Public Communications:

There were comments by several community members on a letter presented to Director Cendaña-Torlakson at the previous meeting regarding removing Chair Hoagland as Chair; last month's meeting and Director Dawson's condescending remarks during the pool discussion; the history of the pool project; comments on how fun the weekend cleanup with Habitat for Humanity was at the Community Center and another being held on May 18th at Ambrose Park; the good maintenance done at Lynbrook Park and doggie bag stations for that park; and sorrow to see General Manager leaving. Duke Dunham, President of the

Ambrose Lions club presented the District with a \$900 check for use of the Clearland property for their annual carnival.

8. **Legal Counsel Report:**

None

9. **Public Hearing:**

None

10. **Board Matters:**

a. **Consider request from Women of Concern Professionals & Strategic Conscious Networking for waiver of fees for their event at Ambrose Community Center on May 16, 2013.**

Motion: Move to approve a reduced rate to Women of Concern Professionals & Strategic Conscious Networking for their event on May 16, 2013.

Motion: Mason **Second:** Died for lack of a second

There were comments on how much the reduced rate was and if they are charging for booths. After a few comments:

Motion: Move to approve a reduced rate to Women of Concern Professionals & Strategic Conscious Networking for their event on May 16, 2013 if they are not charging for booths.

Motion: Cendaña-Torlakson **Second:** Mason

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

b. **Consider request from Unity in the Community for waiver of fees for their event at Ambrose Community Center on June 22, 2013.** Elaine Prendergast who is on the committee for the event gave a report on the event and the District being included in the ads.

Motion: Move to approve the request for waiver of fees to Unity in the Community for their event on June 22, 2013.

Motion: Mason **Second:** Garcia

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

c. **Discussion of the creation and functions of committees of the Ambrose Recreation and Park District.** There was a comment from Erkki Kochkekla that he was encouraged by the fact that the committees were being discussed. Director Mason stated the differences between a standing committee and an ad hoc committee and said the pool committee should be an ad hoc committee and the budget committee should be a standing committee. He said the Chair has the authority to appoint and each committee should be reappointed at the beginning of every year and they should not be the same members. He also said the committees should report at every meeting. There were comments and discussion from the Board Members mostly agreeing with Director Mason and stating that the Board has not had excessive committees or any meetings behind closed doors.

Motion: Move to authorize the use of both ad hoc and standing committees by the Board and to declare the committees purpose and operating parameters as each committee is formed.

Motion: Cendaña-Tolakson **Second:** Garcia

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

Motion: Move to create Ad Hoc Committees and appoint different members to Standing Committees at the first Board meeting of every year.

Motion: Cendaña-Torlakson **Second:** Mason

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

At this point, the Chair appointed Director Cendaña-Torlakson and Director Garcia to the Standing Budget Committee. Director Mason said that he knows he can't make any comments but will be attending the budget committee meeting. The Chair also appointed Director Mason and Director Cendaña-Torlakson to the Ad Hoc Personnel Committee and himself and Director Garcia to the Ambrose Park Master Plan Standing Committee,

d. **Consider direction on the attendance of consultants at the Master Plan Community Meeting to be held on May 23, 2013.** Public comments were made that the Alliance of California for Community Empowerment had held meetings and they wanted the pool renovated; it was good that we are holding public meetings and not that the consultant should not be at the meeting but just not run the meeting. Director Mason stated that the Board originally approved four public meetings and didn't think RJM was needed at the first meeting since it was just informational. He said they approved mailers to all residents not just the schools and the next three meetings, two Saturdays, should be set up at the June meeting and since the General Manager would not be here we should consider an outside facilitator. There were also Board

comments on the Master Plan Committee setting an agenda for the meeting, waiting on a report from the Contra Costa Building Trades with an update on costs from 2009, consultants should be there with their knowledge of the Master Plan, being positive and listening to what the public wants.

Motion: Move to approve the use of consultants and their attendance at the May 23rd meeting.

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

Action: 3 ayes/1 no (Mason)/1 absent (Dawson)/Motion Passed

e. Consider approval of the Purchase and Sale Agreement for the Ambrose Recreation and Park District owned "Clearland Property" with the Newman Development Group LLC and authorize the General Manager/Board Chair to sign all documents. Peggy Hartz, realtor for the sale of this property for the District gave a short bio on herself and said she was looking for a developer of retail properties. There were public comments on the Chamber of Commerce supporting the sale, not hearing of specific plans of what was going in, why sell in a downturned economy, same amount needed for the splash park and disappointment that it won't be used for recreation. Mr. Jeffery Akel of the Newman Development Group explained what they had planned for the property. There were Board comments on excitement for what can be done, property being for sale for years, empty land could have better use and the sale will help the District. Director Mason stated he was very familiar with this from his being on the Redevelopment Board in the past. He said he sent Mr. Smith an e-mail in early March regarding Enterprise Zones and told him they need to be notified. Director Mason said he had talked to the head of the Enterprise Zone and he had not received any notification. There was a heated discussion between Director Mason and Mark Cornelius, attorney for the District regarding attorney/client privilege and Mr. Smith sending the proper notifications.

Motion: Move to approve the purchase and sale agreement of the Clearland Property with the Newman Development Group LLC and authorize the General Manager/Board Chair to sign all documents.

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

Action: 3 ayes/1 no (Mason)/1 absent (Dawson)/Motion Passed

f. Consider approval of Resolution #12/13-04 Intention to Order Improvements and Set Public Hearing for the Ambrose Parks Assessment District. Mrs. Rodrigues explained the purpose of the Resolution and there were no comments or questions.

Motion: Move to approve Resolution #12/13-04 Intention to Order Improvements and Set Public Hearing for the Ambrose Parks Assessment District.

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

Action: 3 ayes/1 absent (Dawson)/Motion Passed

11. Closed Session:

None

12. Public Communications:

None

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

Comments by the Board were made regarding accomplishments of the resigning General Manager Tarry Smith, how much he will be missed, excitement to start a new chapter with another experienced General Manager and a thank you to Trina Hudson for her good cooking for the cleanup. Director Mason stated that he had the same concerns as Ms. Ravizza in her public comments about the Chair and there was disturbing information brought to his attention and it should be on the next agenda to discuss the behavior of the Chair which he did not seek but was brought to him at a conference he attended.

14. Closing Ceremonies:

a. Adjournment.

Motion: Move to adjourn the meeting.

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

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

Approved by the Board of Directors on _____

Signature of Board Member

