

**Northern Wasco County Parks and Recreation District**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

**June 21th 2023**

**NWCPRD, 602 W. 2nd Street, The Dalles, OR 97058**

Brewster Whitmire called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Brewster Whitmire, Annette Byers, Rachel Carter, Tracy Dugick (Via Zoom).

**BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Ellen Woods.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Scott Baker, Kailynn Elliott, Todd Wheeler.

**STAFF EXCUSED:** None.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** District Council, Andrew Myers.

**GUEST PRESENT:** Stevie Elledge.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Annette Byers makes a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Rachel Carter seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Tracy Dugick makes a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Annette Byers seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

**ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE:** None.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Current year tax revenue has surpassed our budgeted amount of $1,041,000 by $91,048. Transient Room tax has surpassed our budgeted amount by $10k with another $32k coming in June. Admin Expenses, Workman’s Compensation Insurance bill for the next year has come down significantly. Part of that is SDAO has moved their workers compensation to SAIF, and we also had fewer than average claims, so our modifier has gone done from 1.95 to 0.88. Parks Expenses, the district has spent $30k less on water than last year. In Capital Outlay, the $45k was our downpayment for the Mountain Bike Skills development Park behind the pool. It’s coming together great! In Recreation, we’ve spent some money on the Softball Tournament during the Cherry Festival, we’re advertising an archery camp, our partnership with the library for Storytime in the park as well and will be every Wednesday for 7 weeks. In SDC revenue, the district collected $103k from one project alone, bringing the total collection to $116k this month. The General Obligations Bond payment for June has been made.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT:**

New grills made by CGCC for Sorosis have been installed. The John Deere Gator was stolen, and then recovered a few days later with all the tools still in it. The Parks have experienced an uptick in vandalism and theft in the past weeks. The district has also had to trespass more people due to illicit drugs and alcohol use in the parks.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None**.**

**COMMITTEE REPORT:** Ad Hoc fundraising – The committee has started their fundraiser campaign as of June 1st and has raised $90k so far, with another $100k pledged. The flyers are being distributed, and a billboard has been donated. The fundraiser was also mentioned in a CCCNews article.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Sorosis Park Rehabilitation – The trees that didn’t make it over winter were replaced today, and the final checklist items are getting narrowed down. Scott anticipates wrapping up Phase One at the end of this week.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Alcohol Use Request – Rachel Carter has requested permission to bring alcohol to the pool area for the employee picnic private event. The consumption will be monitored, no glass will be allowed, and bracelets will be issued to ensure participants will not consume and then swim. Tracy Dugick makes a motion to approve alcohol consumption at Rachel Carter’s private pool event. Annette Byers seconded the motion. The motion carries.
2. Board Vacancy Appointment – in anticipation of a board member’s resignation, staff recommends an application process which has been known to be a standard for other organizations in appointing a new board member. Staff has drafted an example to present to the board this evening. The board likes the idea of an application process. Will open the application process from the 1st through the 10th.
3. Urban Renewal Representative – Scott volunteered to be the interim representative until a new representative is appointed. Rachel Carter expressed interest and will attend the next Urban Renewal meeting to observe.
4. SDC Committed Funds – Received notice to Proceed for the skate park expansion/pumptrack. Project scheduled to begin July 2023. Grant pending for the Treetop playground replacement with a 60% match from OPRD for our $700k that we will know the determination of in August. Millcreek Greenway project is underway, grant has been approved. $10k has also been committed to the pickleball court engineering project as well, but that project is currently on hold. In total, $460,522 has been committed, the current SDC balance is $574,893, which means we have a remaining $114,371.

**URBAN RENEWAL UPDATE:** Scott attended the Urban Renewal Agency meeting and answered questions about the Mill Creek Greenway and signed an IGA to have $300k of Urban Renewal monies given to the Parks District to assist a grant match for the Mill Creek Greenway provided by ODOT.

**NEXT MEETING DATE:**

July 19th, 2023

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS REMARKS:**

None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Brewster Whitmire adjourned at 7:18 pm.

**FOLLOW UP ITEMS:**

* Share Safety Meeting topics in Director’s Report

Attested to:

Board Chair Board Secretary