

Advisory Board of Directors
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.
Via Zoom Meeting ID: 825 7335 2375
4701 Gibbons Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608



- Call to Order:** 5:36 p.m. by Chair Pati Todd.
- Pledge of Allegiance:** Announced by Chair Pati Todd.
- Roll Call:**
- MORPD Directors Present:** Todd, Alcalay, Bannister, Rothberg, and Evans.
- MORPD Directors Absent:** None.
- MORPD Staff Present:** Barton, Hichborn, Curtola, Friedrich, Woodland, and Hawthorne.
- Public Present:** Julie Gabele and Eric Gabele.
- Chairperson’s Comments:** *Todd states it's been a joy to be chair and be on the Board with integrous people.*
- Board Comments/Discussion:** *All Directors thank Brown Todd for time as chair. Rothberg gives update on emPOWERment Park progress.*

Announcement by Chairperson: Members of the public may address the Board on District topics not listed on this agenda. It is a violation of state law for the Board to discuss or act on non-agenda items. Board members may only briefly ask clarifying questions or refer matters to staff. Speakers are limited to three (3) minutes.

Public Comment: *Julie Gabele states she has been a MORPD resident for 24 years and lives by Valley Oak Park. Gabele wants to address issues that have been plaguing the park for years. Gabele notes issues impeding public access such as a user group using padlocks to lock fields, impediments on the fields for 64 or 68 days limiting use, and an electrical outlet near the ground on the batting cage that has been moved but is still a concern. Gabele states that the Predominant user is Arden Little League and that they cause mostly but not all of the issues happening. Gabele states that there is a relationship between MORPD and the predominant user of the fields and this user is tied to neglect and disrespect. Gabele states that she would like to come back and present to share her observations of the park. Gabele notes the nature area at the park hasn't been given attention too, especially after losing trees due to last year's*

storms. Gabele reads Mission Oaks' mission statement and states that many of the neighbors and park users she speaks to state that they aren't being served.

Rothberg questions who the dominant user is. Gabele, Arden Little League.

Bannister questions how long Arden Little League has been at the park. Curtola notes 60 years. Gabele questions if the park has existed for that long. Curtola states since 1975.

Brown Todd directs issue to Facilities Committee.

Consent:

1. Approval of November 14, 2023, Regular Board Meeting Minutes.
2. Mission Oaks Recreation and Park District Park Patrol Reports for November and December 2023 from Fulton El Camino Police, Sacramento County Sheriff Off Duty Patrol, and Tiger Security.
3. Monthly Budget Reports, October 1-30, Period 4, and November 1-30, Period 5, FY 2023-24.
4. Administrative Division Report.
5. Recreation Division Report.
6. Parks Division Report.
7. Staff Work Plans.

ACTION: After discussion, on a motion by Director Alcalay, seconded by Director Evans, the Advisory Board of Directors voted to approve all consent items. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: Todd, Alcalay, Bannister Rothberg, and Evans.

NOES: 0

ABSENT: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

Information/Reports/Presentation:

8. District Administrators Report.
 - Recreation Report. (verbal)
 - Parks Report. (verbal)

Barton gives a summary of the past Policy and Facilities Committee Meetings.

Curtola states several recreation updates including, a new look for the MORPD website along with including a Google translate option, a Photo Contest where MORPD park patrons can enter to win tickets to a Sacramento Kings game, a new early morning yoga class, the restart of the English Learners Soccer program which now has five schools involved, and MORPD sports partnering with Carmichael Pak Districts sports programs to share gym space.

Rothberg requests staff invite MOTAB to an Advisory Board meeting to meet the group.

Public Comment: Julie Gabele states that the nature area at Valley Oak Park has been neglected. Gabele states that the nature area honors two people, Dorothy Wunschel and Gene Muehleisen, and requests the area be updated. Gabele notes the importance of native plants and trees being input in the nature area. Gabele suggests a larger plan for the nature area that allows accessibility for all.

Hichborn notes updates being made to the District including the HVAC relocation at Gibbons being finalized, the signage plan being 75% done, plans for the MORPD Preschool relocation are moving along, ADA evaluations for parks and website expected to be received in March, new thermostats installed in all district buildings, and the pickleball sound screens having been installed.

Director Todd questions if trees in nature area are native. Hichborn, yes.

Alcalay requests a timeline report for emPOWERment park be brought to a Facilities Meeting for discussion.

Director Todd requests a monthly update from the District Administrator on emPOWERment park.

Staff agrees to requests.

Discussion: None.

Action:

9. Discuss and approve the Advisory Board of Directors proposed 2024 Meeting Schedule.

Barton notes the July meeting is typically canceled and the August meeting is usually moved to the first Tuesday of the month.

ACTION: After discussion, on a motion by Director Rothberg, seconded by Director Bannister, the Advisory Board of Directors voted to approve the Advisory Board of Directors proposed 2024 Meeting Schedule. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: Todd, Alcalay, Bannister, Rothberg, and Evans.

NOES: 0

ABSENT: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

10. Review and approve the updated Advisory Board Standing Committee Mission Statements.

Public Comment: Julie Gabele states that public records requested the most updated version of the MORPD policy since it is not stated on the District website and notes that the Sacramento County policy file on the website hasn't been updated since 2017. Gabele states that at the MORPD policies take a defensive position and that the policies need to be rewritten to be more standardized and organized. Gabele states she's concerned about policy being separated into each committee because the committees do not have a quorum and are being supported and brought to the Board for approval. Gabele states that the practice of creating and updating policies needs to be reassessed.

Director Todd clarifies that the Committees have two Directors because it would be against the Brown Act to have a quorum for a meeting that is not an Advisory Board Meeting.

Friedrich states that after speaking with other Districts, it was advised that the committee mission statements be updated to include policy.

Director Alcalay agrees with the advised updates, requests old and new be added to the top of the mission statements to differentiate between the two, and suggests moving the added sentence regarding policy to the beginning of each mission statement.

ACTION: After discussion, on a motion by Director Alcalay, seconded by Director Evans, the Advisory Board of Directors voted to approve the updated Advisory Board Standing Committee Mission Statements. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: Todd, Alcalay, Bannister, Rothberg, and Evans.
NOES: 0
ABSENT: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

11. Discuss and approve the Advisory Board Officers and Committee Position Assignments 2024.
*2024 Committee Positions – Finance Committee: Director Rothberg (Chair) and Director Todd
Facilities Committee: Director Evans (Chair) and Director Alcalay
Personnel Committee: Director Bannister (Chair) and Director Evans
Recreation Committee: Director Todd (Chair) and Director Bannister
Sacramento Parks Foundation: Director Rothberg.*

ACTION: After discussion, on a motion by Director Evans, seconded by Director Todd, the Advisory Board of Directors voted to approve the Advisory Board Officers and Committee Position Assignments 2024. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: Todd, Alcalay, Bannister, Rothberg, and Evans.
NOES: 0
ABSENT: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

12. Review and approve establishing a MORPD Games and Miniature Aircraft Policy.

Public Comment: Julie Gabele states that the Sacramento County ordinance on games is sufficient and trustworthy. Gabele notes that any user of the MORPD parks would need to get permission from the District Administrator or their Designee to allow any gameplay since it is not specifically stated. Gabele questions what the consequences would be. Gabele states that park policies that affect the public should be allowed to be socialized more. Gabele states that she wants to see evidence-based decision-making from governing bodies.

Director Rothberg requests park policies be placed on the MORPD website.

ACTION: After discussion, on a motion by Director Evans, seconded by Director Bannister, the Advisory Board of Directors voted to approve establishing a MORPD Games and Miniature Aircraft Policy. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: Todd, Alcalay, Bannister, Rothberg, and Evans.
NOES: 0
ABSENT: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

13. Review and approve establishing a MORPD Motorized Vehicle Policy.

Hichborn states that security for the MORPD parks is having problems with motorized vehicles on walking paths, which puts walkers in danger. Hichborn notes the issue is due to kids/teens not listening to the officers.

Director Rothberg questions how staff is giving notice to riders. Hichborn states that staff have created temporary signage, however the signs are torn down immediately. Barton notes that notice would be through enforcement and word of mouth.

Directors question if a motorized skateboard or a motorized wheelchair would be prohibited as well. Barton states yes, the skateboard would be prohibited but the wheelchair would not.

Director Alcalay questions if the policy should be reworded and clarified due to confusing language. Alcalay suggests staff add a section stating, "For further regulations from Sacramento County, see code", And make the code a hyperlink.

Director Alcalay suggests an alternative to tryout, to have Tiger Security hand out cards/pamphlets that state the top issues at the park and include the policy that prohibits those activities. Barton and Hichborn state they are against the idea. Barton states he's worried about the cards being thrown on the ground and littering the parks but will try the idea.

Directors Todd and Rothberg show support for including signs with icons showing what is prohibited in the parks. Barton states that icons are being discussed as an option with the signage package. Barton notes icons could cause issues since you can't tell between a bike and a motorized bike or since a motorized scooter isn't stated will parkgoers think that they are allowed.

Director Bannister questions if the Tiger Security Officer is talking with parkgoers and explaining what is prohibited. Barton states yes, when the officer sees an issue it's addressed with warnings because security cannot cite people.

Directors state they want staff to reword the policy and include the hyperlink to Sacramento County's policy and bring the policy back. Staff agrees.

ACTION: After discussion, no motion was made, and the action died.

Staff Comments/Reports:

Next Regular Meeting: Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. As of the date of this notice, social distancing measures are in effect due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Parties interested in participating in the public hearing should visit the District's website at <https://www.morpd.com/advisory-board-meetings> for current information on how to provide public comment.

Adjourn: 7:13 p.m.

Shayne Hawthorne

Shayne Hawthorne, Clerk of Board

February 13, 2024
Date