

LIVERMORE AREA RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Thursday, May 20, 2021
2:00 PM

NOTICE: Coronavirus COVID-19

In accordance with Governor Newsom's Executive Orders, members of the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Program Committee and staff participated in this meeting via Zoom teleconference. In the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing, members of the public also participated in this meeting electronically.

Committee Members Present: Jan Palajac, David Furst

LARPD Staff Present: Mathew Fuzie, Allie Ikeda, Jeffrey Schneider, Jill Kirk, David Weisgerber, Joseph Benjamin, Julie Dreher, Linda VanBuskirk, Vicki Wiedenfeld

Others Present: None

1. Call to Order: Committee Chair Palajac called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. Public Comment: There were no comments from the public.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Program Committee on April 15, 2021:
The minutes of April 15, 2021 were approved as submitted by unanimous vote.

4. E-Bikes:
Community Services Manager Jill Kirk updated the Committee on efforts to formalize a District policy on E-bikes. This was an item at the April Program Committee meeting. She was unable to locate E-bike regulations from the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District as well as Pleasant Hill but led the group on a discussion of the E-bike policies of other park districts including East Bay Regional Park District, Marin County Open Space, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, and the current state and federal laws in California State Parks.

Ms. Kirk will include the chart of E-bike classes from the State of California in the formal staff report to the full Board, should the Committee recommend moving forward. She explained that LARPD's currently policy in Ordinance No. 8 is that motorized bikes (E-bikes) are prohibited in any District facility or parkland on any surface other than a paved trail, and that E-bike operation is strictly prohibited in Sycamore Grove Park regardless of the trail surface.

Staff recommendation per discussions with the Rangers is that Classes 1 and 2 E-bikes should be allowed within the speed limit of no higher than 15 m.p.h. subject to conditions; however, they would like to limit which trails E-bikes may ride on. Ms. Kirk recommends allowing Class 1 and 2 E-bikes on any trails that regular bicycles are allowed on, including at Sycamore Grove Park.

- Member Furst suggested a call to HARD and Pleasant Hill Park District to confirm what, if any, policies they have on E-bikes.
- Chair Palajac added that we must educate the public on these rules.

The Committee directed staff to discuss this item with the Facilities Committee, then bring it to the full Board for further discussion.

5. Review of Master Fee Schedule for FY 21-23:

GM Fuzie stated that LARPD's goal is to have a list of the fees charged to the public and to bring the list before the Board on an annual basis with a 3-year view of what the Master Fee Schedule should be. This will project how fees have adjusted based on the Cost of Living, and the needs of both the public and the District. The public would then be able to weigh in on the charges. Administrative Services Manager Jeffrey Schneider added that this process would be similar to what we provide to the Board via the Personnel Committee in the form of the Salary Table and recommendations for the benefit program and the annual budget conversation. In response to a question from Member Furst, GM Fuzie said that this will be developed and presented to committees for the Board's approval during next fiscal year's budget priorities.

- GM Fuzie to research if there is legislation pertaining to special districts that requires agencies to show what their fees are based upon. Special districts may be excluded from this. (Chair Palajac heard about this at the CSDA Legislative Days conference.)

No Committee action was taken.

6. Board Policy No. 4060 – Committees of the Board of Directors – Review of Program Committee Entries:

GM Fuzie presented a redlined version of Board Policy Number 4060 "Committees of the Board of Directors" and asked the Committee to provide any detailed comments regarding the Program Committee.

Member Furst asked if we should consider changing the name to "subcommittees" rather than "committees".

- GM Fuzie will discuss this with District Counsel Rod Attebery to determine the appropriate term.

Member Furst asked if paragraph 4(b) should state ". . . shall rest with the Chair of the Board." rather than the ". . . General Manager."

- The Committee and staff agreed that paragraph 4(b) should be DELETED in its entirety.
- Item 7(f) will be rewritten at a higher level pursuant to direction from the Program Committee at its February 2021 meeting.

No Committee action was taken.

7. COVID-19 Program Updates:

GM Fuzie reported that LARPD is now preparing its programs as the state prepares to fully reopen its economy on June 15th. Each division manager provided an update on their programs:

Community Services Manager Jill Kirk reported on Camp Shelly reservations, ESS, Senior Services, and Open Space programming. Ms. Kirk will be speaking with Laura Mercier at Tri-Valley Conservancy regarding coordinating a partnership to bring in children to Sycamore Grove Park.

Recreation Department Manager Alexandra Ikeda reported on summer camps, modified rec swim, Movie-in-the-Park in June, July, and August. These programs are listed on the LARPD website.

Recreation Supervisor Joseph Benjamin gave an update to the Committee on facility rentals.

Community Outreach Supervisor David Weisgerber gave an update to the Committee on moving Senior fitness classes indoors beginning in June. Seniors have enjoyed outdoor programs held at the Ravenswood Historic Site.

Recreation Supervisor Vicki Wiedenfeld reported on sport rentals and youth leagues. LARPD has hired a new Youth and Sports Coordinator, Tommy Cook. He will oversee camp and youth sports.

ASM Schneider reported on the newly executed agreement with O'Dell Engineering for design and engineering of the pump track at Sunken Gardens.

GM Fuzie reported that with the new hires that LARPD will be bringing onboard in Open Space, programming will be ramping up at the Ravenswood Historic Site. A PEF has been initiated to clean up and stabilization of the winery ruins. He also reported on the success of COVID-19 vaccination pods held at the RLCC for 12 to 16-year-olds in conjunction with the school district. Chair Palajac shared that the folks at Livermore Downtown, Inc. were very appreciative for these vaccination pods and the convenience they have offered to their children and employees.

No committee action was taken.

8. Directors' Reports and Announcements:

Chair Palajac reported that she received an update on the Patterson Ranch Trail at the Facilities Committee. David Weisgerber added that the Rangers will be doing the bulk of the work on the trail with their equipment and volunteers will be coordinated to assist with the areas that the equipment cannot reach. The target date for this work is this coming fall.

9. Adjournment: Committee Chair Palajac adjourned the meeting at 2:43 p.m.