



Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

A Regular Meeting of the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Board of Directors was held at the HMT Recreation Complex, Dryland Training Center, 15707 SW Walker Road, Beaverton, on Monday, October 1, 2012. Executive Session 6:00 p.m.; Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Present:

Joseph Blowers	President/Director
Larry Pelatt	Secretary/Director
Bob Scott	Secretary Pro-Tempore/Director
John Griffiths	Director
William Kanable	Director
Doug Menke	General Manager

Agenda Item #1 – Executive Session (A) Land

President, Joe Blowers called Executive Session to order for the following purpose:

- To conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions.

Executive Session is held pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(e), which allows the Board to meet in Executive Session to discuss the aforementioned issue.

President, Joe Blowers, noted that representatives of the news media and designated staff may attend Executive Session. All other members of the audience were asked to leave the room. Representatives of the news media were specifically directed not to disclose information discussed during Executive Session. No final action or final decision may be made in Executive Session. At the end of Executive Session, the Board will return to open session and welcome the audience back into the room.

Agenda Item #2 – Call Regular Meeting to Order

President, Joe Blowers, called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Agenda Item #3 – Action Resulting from Executive Session

Bob Scott moved that the Board of Directors authorize staff to acquire two properties and an easement in the northwest quadrant of the District using bond measure funds designated for acquisition of new linear parks and trail corridors to allow for construction of a segment of the Waterhouse Trail. Larry Pelatt seconded the motion.

Roll call proceeded as follows:

Bill Kanable	Yes
John Griffiths	Yes
Larry Pelatt	Yes
Bob Scott	Yes
Joe Blowers	Yes

The motion was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

Agenda Item #4 – Oregon Recreation & Park Association Awards

Jim McElhinny, Director of Park and Recreation Services, introduced Stephanie Redman, Executive Director for Oregon Recreation & Park Association (ORPA), to make a presentation to the Board of Directors regarding four awards presented to the District during ORPA's 2012 Annual Conference.

Stephanie provided an overview of ORPA's mission and introduced the following award honorees:

- President, Joe Blowers – Natural Resource Section Outstanding Contribution to the Natural Resource Field Award
 - ✓ Stephanie provided an overview of Joe's contributions to the area's natural resource efforts, including his involvement in the Fans of Fanno Creek and East Sylvan Middle School, as well as service on the District's Board of Directors.
 - Joe thanked ORPA for the honor, noting that this award is a welcome surprise.
- Elsie Stuhr Center Expansion Project – ORPA Project Design Award
 - ✓ Stephanie noted that this award is presented annually to the best designed park, athletic field, aquatic facility, urban mall, or recreation building that has been constructed in the past five years.
 - Steve Gulgren, Superintendent of Planning & Development, introduced Tim Wybenga, the consultant architect for the project, and commented that Tim did a great job in working with District staff to reallocate the activity rooms already within the Center, which provided for better utilization of space without adding a lot more square footage.
- Leslie Mundt – Recreation Sports Section Distinguished Service Award
 - ✓ Stephanie recounted Leslie's longtime involvement in ORPA's recreational sports section, as well as her significant volunteerism for the organization and service as past president.
 - Leslie thanked the District for the opportunity to participate in ORPA.
- Sabrina Taylor Schmitt and the Summer Wipe Out Series – Aquatic Section Excellence in Programming Award
 - ✓ Stephanie described the idea that arose from the need to boost open swim attendance, which led to the purchase of a couple of large, inflatable devices that are moved around to the different pools during the summer.
 - Sabrina thanked the Aquatics Advisory Committee for their financial support of the project, noting that it would not have been possible without their support.

Stephanie thanked the Board of Directors and District staff for their partnership with ORPA, noting that this evening's awards are well deserved.

Agenda Item #5 – Audience Time

Mike Meier, 9025 SW Caroline Drive, Portland, is before the Board of Directors this evening regarding the wheelchair ramp to the outdoor tennis courts at the Tennis Center on the HMT Recreation Complex. He noted that as a participant in the annual Northwest Wheelchair Tennis Tournament, he has noticed that the ramp to the court is too narrow for modern sports wheelchairs. He had heard that some improvements were being planned for the area and would like consideration to be given to widening the ramps at that time. He referenced potential United States Tennis Association grant funds for these improvements.

- ✓ President, Joe Blowers, thanked Mike for his testimony and asked that District staff follow up with him regarding his request.

Agenda Item #6 – Board Time

Bob Scott thanked District staff for coordinating the projects tour that took place this past weekend for the Board of Directors and Parks Bond Citizen Oversight Committee members.

Larry Pelatt referenced a comment made by Stephanie during the awards presentations this evening regarding the benefits of the public passing the District's 2008 Bond Measure, noting that he would like to echo those comments and thank all of the residents who voted in favor of the 2008 Bond Measure. The District has made a lot of progress thanks to the support of the District's users and taxpayers.

Bill Kanable notified the Board that he would be recusing himself from the discussions and vote this evening pertaining to the Affiliated Sports Policy.

John Griffiths echoed Larry's comments, noting that he was impressed by the quality of the projects they viewed on the tour and that the District is blessed to have such community support and access to so many amenities and facilities.

President, Joe Blowers, expressed agreement with Larry and John's comments as well, noting that the support of the District's taxpayers is amazing and that the Board could not accomplish what has been done without that support. It is wonderful to be part of an organization that, in general, people love what it does. He also thanked the Board for their willingness to work together on various issues despite different backgrounds and perspectives.

Agenda Item #7 – Consent Agenda

Larry Pelatt moved the Board of Directors approve Consent Agenda items (A) Minutes of September 10, 2012 Board Meeting, (B) Monthly Bills, (C) Monthly Financial Statement, (D) Resolution Appointing Elsie Stuhr Center Advisory Committee Member, (E) Consultant Contract for Somerset West Park, and (F) Resolution Declaring a Portion of District Property as Surplus & Authorizing its Marketing and Negotiation for Sale. Bob Scott seconded the motion.

John Griffiths asked for additional information regarding Consent Agenda Item F, Resolution Declaring a Portion of District Property as Surplus and Authorizing its Marketing and Negotiation for Sale. He observed that the parcel proposed for sale is contiguous to park property and asked what deems this portion as surplus property relative to the rest of the property.

- ✓ Hal Bergsma, Director of Planning, replied that the entire property was initially acquired a few years ago as the future location of a trailhead for the planned Bronson Creek Trail; however, the entire property is not needed for that use. The parcel proposed for sale is fronting on the street on the north end of the site and could be developed with three or four residences contiguous to the existing subdivision. The funds that would be derived from the sale would go back into the bond fund for land acquisition to be used to purchase other land that could be better used by the public. In this case, District staff does not see a need to retain the northern part of the site in order to fulfill its purpose.

John asked about the natural resource value of the property.

- ✓ Hal replied that there is natural resource value at the southern end of the property, which contains some of the riparian corridor for Bronson Creek, but not at the northern end.
- ✓ Doug Menke, General Manager, commented that the District has sold similar parcels in the past when the intended purpose of the purchase was for one specific amenity, such as a trail access point. Due to limited funds for acquisitions, it made sense to protect the desired amenity, but attempt to reimburse the acquisition fund if more property was purchased than truly needed.

John asked if the property under discussion this evening could be considered a potential community garden site. He wants to ensure that the District looks at all of the options prior to disposing of the property.

- ✓ Doug replied that the intended purpose for access to the acquisition funds was specifically for a trailhead and that there are already several parks in the area. The site would be challenged for a community garden due to a lack of access to water.
- ✓ Hal noted that District staff is only seeking authorization this evening to market the property and negotiate a sale. Approval by the Board of Directors will be sought for the actual sale. If the Board feels that the District is not receiving enough compensation in order to justify the sale, at that point the Board may choose to retain the property.

John asked if staff has an idea of what the market rate will be for the property.

- ✓ Hal replied that he is having a pre-application meeting with Washington County staff in the near future to discuss what types of offsite improvements would be needed in order for development to occur on the property.

John clarified that the reason behind his interest in this is that the District is typically in the practice of acquiring land; not disposing of it.

Roll call proceeded as follows:

Bob Scott	Yes
Larry Pelatt	Yes
Bill Kanable	Yes
John Griffiths	Yes
Joe Blowers	Yes

The motion was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

Agenda Item #8 – Unfinished Business

A. Bond Program

Hal Bergsma, Director of Planning, provided a brief overview of the memo included within the Board of Directors information packet regarding bond program efforts, including a recent Parks Bond Citizen Oversight Committee meeting, land acquisitions, a capital projects construction update, and an overview of recent and upcoming neighborhood meetings. Hal offered to answer any questions the Board may have.

- ✓ Hearing none, President, Joe Blowers, requested the staff report for the next agenda item.

B. Affiliated Sports Policy

Scott Brucker, Superintendent of Sports, provided a detailed overview of the memo included within the Board of Directors information packet regarding a new District Compiled Policy (DCP) being proposed for the Board's consideration pertaining to the relationships and responsibilities between the District, its affiliated sports groups, and other user groups. Scott noted that this new policy was first presented to the Board at their June 18, 2012 Regular Board meeting for an initial review, at which time the Board directed staff to conduct additional outreach meetings to the affected user groups. These meetings have been completed and the feedback received is included within the Board of Directors information packet and is generally favorable and focused on the operational details of the policy. Scott stated that Aloha United Soccer Club voiced objection to the proposed policy during Audience Time at the August 18, 2012 Regular Board meeting and via an email that was provided to the Board in advance of this evening's meeting, a copy of which has been entered into the record. Scott described the process beginning in 2010 that led to the development of the policy being proposed this evening and which included creation of a Community Sports Delivery Task Force (CSDTF) who submitted recommendations to assist in forming the policy. Scott commented that should the Board approve the proposed policy this evening, staff is prepared to complete the final documents that will become the

operational portion of the policy and the new guidelines. Once all of the documents have been finalized, staff will begin implementation meetings with the various sports and user groups in January 2013. Due to operational variations and schedules, the implementation schedule will be different for each sport; however, staff is targeting December 2015 for completion, which will include formal letters of agreement. Scott offered to answer any questions the Board may have.

Bob Scott asked for additional information regarding the targeted completion date of December 2015 and how this date was determined.

- ✓ Scott replied that the timeline is perhaps a little longer than necessary, but as an example, spring sports will not be able to begin meeting until the fall due to how busy they are in the spring, and some sports have two seasons. Staff is trying to ensure that the volunteer groups have adequate time to work on it. Although the majority of items already exist, or can be developed relatively easy over time, staff did not want to put pressure on the volunteer groups.

Larry Pelatt asked whether there is any incentive for groups to begin implementation prior to the deadline.

- ✓ Scott replied that, for example, the Little League groups, with the exception of some minor items, have all of the required information already compiled.

Larry asked if such groups are likely to implement prior to the deadline.

- ✓ Scott replied that no groups have expressed a wish to drag the process out longer than necessary and some have expressed the desire to speed up the process.
- ✓ Doug Menke, General Manager, noted that the timelines that have been established are worst-case scenarios. The hope is that each group, although it may vary, will not extend past this deadline.

John Griffiths asked for clarification regarding the process for requesting use of District facilities under the affiliated or partner associated status. He asked whether such facilities include all facilities, such as parks, or just athletic facilities.

- ✓ Scott confirmed that such use requests can also include classrooms. Some of the groups have asked about gaining access to gyms as well in order to conduct practices inside, but in general it is for facilities that they need for their operations.

John noted that there are four categories of users listed: affiliated, partners/associates, renters, and commercial. He noted the requirement that such use is for non-profit purposes. He provided an example of Nike wanting to have an employee barbeque at one of the parks, noting that although the event itself is not for profit, the company is for profit. He asked whether this policy would restrict such use in any way.

- ✓ Scott replied that it would not, noting that, in this case, Nike could rent the space it desires as long as that space is available.

John suggested the sentence within section 7.16(B)(3), "For profit enterprises are not eligible" be changed to "For profit activities are not eligible".

- ✓ Doug expressed agreement.
- ✓ Scott noted that many of the sports groups conduct fundraisers, tournaments or events with vending, or charge a fee to make money through the tournament, and that those are acceptable uses and considered to be valuable to the District as they keep the players local and help minimize the costs for the players to participate.

President, Joe Blowers, requested additional discussion regarding the timeline, asking why it would take so long for some clubs to come into compliance.

- ✓ Scott replied that the timeline is not directed at any one group or sport; it is directed on a global level. He conceded that it is a generous timeline and that no group has indicated that they needed that long, but it was set to avoid putting pressure on the volunteer

groups in the development of the requested documentation. Some of the information being requested could be relatively detailed and rather than force them to put it together, the hope is that the groups will have the time and energy to do so, thereby ensuring a better quality end product.

Joe commented that it sounds like the reason behind the generous timeline is due to the fact that those putting the information together are volunteers.

- ✓ Scott confirmed this and added also because some of the information to be developed could be technical in nature.

Larry asked for confirmation that the information to be developed is the roster information, bylaws for the clubs, etc.

- ✓ Scott replied that the majority of the information to be developed is going to be based on the job descriptions for the board of directors, code of conduct for players and coaches, background check processes, and safety plans. Every group is a little different in terms of how much of this information they already have and their perception of how technical it should be versus what help the District can offer. He believes this information will be the most time-consuming for most groups to produce. Since they are all non-profits, they already have mission statements and bylaws.

President, Joe Blowers, opened the floor for public testimony.

Paul Blackmore, 17813 SW Washington Drive, Aloha, is before the Board of Directors this evening as President of Aloha United Soccer Club (AUSC). Paul stated that Scott's staff report this evening does not give an accurate reflection regarding the attitudes of the sports groups regarding the new policy. He stated that the reason the timeline is so long is because the Westside Timbers soccer club has 50% out-of-District players. He criticized Bill Kanable for recusing himself from voting on a policy that he propagated. He stated that this is a discriminatory policy and that out of the 22 clubs that are affiliated with the District, the only policy pertaining to competitive or recreation is being placed on AUSC. He stated that there was no operational policy to begin with, but that it has been enforced for years; however, there is a contract that allows AUSC use of the fields, which is being denied. The Board has not rectified this, despite nine months of testimony. He described how in reaction to the issues brought forth by AUSC, the District convened an advisory committee on which AUSC or Milltown United Soccer were not asked to participate. He denied that AUSC voluntarily opted out of the agreement for use of the synthetic turf fields and listed numerous boards and committees that Bill Kanable has served or is serving on, including the Westside Timbers, which is the club getting all of the benefits. He asked that if the Board approves the policy this evening, that they state why they are supporting a discriminatory policy and standing behind one club getting preferential treatment over all of the other clubs. He questioned why after 10 years of not having a policy, all of a sudden a policy has been proposed that will force AUSC to choose between having a recreational or competitive club. Prior to this policy, it was merely that the District would recognize the recreational club, but not the competitive club. He asked again for the Board to explain why they are moving forward with this policy.

Lara Bourn, 3880 SW 188th Avenue, Aloha, is before the Board of Directors this evening representing Aloha United Soccer Club (AUSC). Laura stated that her son has played both recreational and youth development soccer with different clubs in the area. She noted that these are challenging economic times and that Westside Timbers charges \$950 per child to play in their U10 competitive program, and up to \$1,450 for higher levels. They also require extensive apparel and uniforms, which can push the total to over \$2,000. However, AUSC only charges half this amount and does not require so much apparel. She does not understand why it hurts the District to have another competitive soccer club. She has been supportive of the

District and realizes that some areas in the country do not have such facilities; however, she also does not think it is fair for the Board to deny their request for a competitive club in Aloha. She believes all of the players in the clubs should be in-District, noting that she has seen Tualatin Hills United Soccer Club and Westside Timbers scout players in the recreational clubs for their competitive clubs. She stated that there needs to be fairness for everyone and that the children should have more choices in terms of what competitive clubs to join.

Heather Pamplin, 8540 SW 147th Terrace, Beaverton, is before the Board of Directors this evening as Vice President of Aloha United Soccer Club (AUSC). Heather thanked District staff for being forthcoming in answering her questions. In addition, she thanked Bill Kanable for recusing himself from this evening's discussions as they had requested. She explained that as she has educated herself on this topic, it became clear to her that the District has been enforcing an operational policy onto AUSC that did not exist yet; there is nothing currently written into operational policies that forces AUSC to choose to be either a recreational or competitive club and she does not believe it is in the District's, community's, or children's best interest to force that type of choice as part of the affiliation process. She asked why the District should have any say in what types of programs a club offers its membership. She also does not believe affiliation is in the best interest of the community, as the community will decide which clubs are best by voting as consumers. Affiliation creates special interest groups that are counter to the trust the taxpayers place in the District with their dollars. The District should only have one role with respect to youth sports; to provide facilities on a fair and equitable basis. She referenced the timelines within the proposed policy, noting that there are two: a 2013 deadline for the paperwork and a 2015 deadline for the in-District ratio. She clarified their written testimony, stating that AUSC supports one deadline of December 31, 2013 for everything. She noted that AUSC also disagrees with the proposed ratio requirement of at least 50% in-District participants for teams, noting that they believe teams should have at least 70% in-District players. There are plenty of in-District competitive soccer players and a 50% in-District ratio suggests that the primary function of an organization is to win; not to serve the District's community. Additionally, it is unfair to tell in-District players that there are not enough fields to go around when there would be plenty of fields if the focus was on serving primarily in-District youth. She asks that the District stop insisting that AUSC's competitive program is not affiliated, but that their recreational program is.

Scott Porter, 17864 NW Lone Rock Drive, Portland, is before the Board of Directors this evening as President of Somerset West Soccer Club. Scott stated that he was a member of the CSDF as the recreational soccer representative and participated in the assessment and evaluation of the District's existing procedures for affiliation, recognizing that it was not a Board policy, but procedures being implemented by staff. He supports the need for the Board policy, noting that the District has been operating under a procedural basis for many years and that it is time to adopt a policy at this level in order to guide staff and the development of the operational procedures, several drafts of which have already been in process and shared at previous meetings. In many cases, the procedures were already being utilized and implemented by staff without the oversight of a Board policy governing the development. The new operational procedures may provide some challenges for many of the clubs in terms of coming into compliance, which might involve amendments to bylaws, creation of new policies or altering existing policies. Regarding the question of whether three years is a reasonable timeline, he believes it could be for some of the organizations to be able to get their volunteers together in order to produce quality work. He noted that these procedures are necessary, not only for the clubs' benefit, but also to ensure effective management of the District's facilities, appropriate coordination of the use of those facilities, and important to the District in terms of a risk management perspective. He looks forward to the staff assurances that they will be working with the clubs on the implementation and will provide assistance in coming into compliance.

Eric Ufer, 8450 NW Ash Street, Portland, is before the Board of Directors this evening regarding the proposed Affiliated Sports Policy. He explained that choice and transparency are very important, as is perception, and that soccer changed his world as a child. He described his experience as a coach and board member for Milltown United Soccer Club and the turnaround the club has experienced with the community's support. He is keenly aware of what the community can accomplish by working together, but is also aware of the damage perceptions can cause. He stated that he feels transparency has been lacking through this process and if he would have known in the beginning what he knows now, he would have been more involved. He stated that in the past there has been an attempt to combine Tualatin Hills United Soccer Club and Westside Timbers and he believes that the policy may give them the opportunity to combine and therefore meet the 50% in-District requirement. He stated that already this year the Westside Timbers merged with Sherwood and Tualatin, which is going to affect their out-of-District numbers. As the Vice President of Tualatin Hills Junior Soccer League, he was not made aware of this merger and feels that it should have been disclosed. He has not spent a lot of time on the Affiliated Sports Policy, but unfortunately his perception is that it is suspect. He feels that a little more time spent on this policy may be valuable in order to ensure that what is being proposed today is right for the future. He read an email he received recently from a parent of one of his players that thanked them for making the girls feel like athletes, noting that this is an amazing feeling that they strive to provide for their players.

Lara Bourn asked to address the Board of Directors again, noting that a lot of the children that live in the Aloha area are not as fortunate as those in other areas. She stated that these children need a sport to keep them out of trouble and need a program that their parents can afford. Unfortunately, school budget cuts have reduced many of the options that used to be available to children for after school activities. AUSC provides a service to get the children into an activity that focuses their energy onto something positive rather than impacting the community in a negative way. She asks that the Board consider this, noting that in order to direct these children onto the right path for the future they need to be offered options rather than being told that they are not important enough.

President, Joe Blowers, opened the floor for Board discussion.

Joe asked at what age a child is unable to participate in the recreational soccer program.

- ✓ Scott replied that Tualatin Hills Junior Soccer League does their best to provide such a service for participants through the end of high school. Scott noted that around age 14 it becomes more difficult to find an adequate number of participants due to children becoming interested in a variety of activities; however, he is unaware of any recreational club that excludes children based on age, although they may attempt to combine clubs to ensure that the service remains available.
- ✓ Larry recounted his own experience with his children's soccer participation, noting that one of his children had a combined junior and senior soccer team. He noted that around the high school age, the children begin to limit the variety of sports they play to concentrate on just one sport, or begin working at a job instead.

Joe asked how the ratio of at least 50% in-District players was determined for the competitive clubs' individual team rosters.

- ✓ Scott replied that a few different factors were explored, including a review of the current in-District versus out-of-District ratios for the competitive clubs (Babe Ruth Baseball, some softball groups, and two classic soccer organizations). As the participants get older, into the high school age range, it was not desirable to the CSDF for an entire team to consist of only out-of-District participants. Another key recognition was that this is an operational issue and if the ratio is not working or if facilities become more scarce,

the task force would need to reassess this issue. In the end, they chose a percentage they felt was an appropriate starting point, in that the ultimate desire is to see a greater ratio of in-District participants than 50%.

Joe asked who would be responsible for reviewing the ratio should it need to be changed.

- ✓ Scott replied that either the CSDTF could be reconvened or other working groups could be used, such as the fields committees for soccer and baseball/softball, the Sports Advisory Committee or Unified Fields Steering Committee. A mixture of these groups could be used or each could be approached individually.
- ✓ Larry commented that, especially for the competitive clubs, as their participants get older, some clubs have problems finding enough in-District participants to form a team. The end result can be that a particular age group for a particular year is struggling to get enough in-District players.
- ✓ Scott noted that it is not only the number of participants that can become challenging, but the level of those participants as well. For example, if there are not enough "A" level players to form a legitimate "A" team. Sometimes "A" level and "B" level players can be combined to form a team in order to make the ratio, but there are many factors that go into this consideration. He described how baseball is especially complicated when it comes to this issue.

Bob asked whether each of the affiliated sports groups has a competitive club in addition to their recreational clubs.

- ✓ Scott replied that they do not.

Bob asked for confirmation that the District's competitive level programming exists only for baseball and soccer.

- ✓ Scott confirmed this, noting that lacrosse has asked for a competitive program, but the District has denied this request due to lack of facility space. There are a few softball groups that participate at a competitive level, but they require very limited resources from the District. In addition, there is a small competitive section for Aloha Youth Cheer.

Bob reiterated that one of the reasons for starting this process and convening a task force in 2010 was to protect the District's resources since the fields and facilities are limited and the main priority is to make sure that the recreational programs are adequately serviced.

- ✓ Scott confirmed this.

Larry commented that the driving force behind this process is affiliation, but keeping the recreational programs that serves the vast majority of the sports groups in-tact.

- ✓ Scott confirmed that the desire is to keep the recreational program in-tact, as well as address a number of groups that desire to participate with the District. He agreed that it is about protecting the District's recreational assets and not growing out-of-District, but also putting a process in place that someone can utilize when there is a request to gain affiliated status, such as an adult league.

Larry asked for confirmation that if an adult league wants to form and wishes to use District facilities, they could rent space, assuming it is available. However, if it has already been committed to the District's recreational programming or affiliated groups, it is not available.

- ✓ Scott confirmed this.

John commented that it sounds as if the demand from the recreational programming is so great that it tends to monopolize most of the capacity.

- ✓ Scott replied that this is the case for two times during the year; in the spring and summer/early fall.

John asked for confirmation that there is capacity available during those other times of the year, as well as during some times throughout the day that are not very desirable.

- ✓ Scott confirmed this.

John asked for the background regarding the two competitive soccer clubs affiliated with the District and why this has been chosen as the optimal arrangement, or whether some other arrangement would be optimal in regard to the number of competitive clubs.

- ✓ Scott replied that it is optimal when taking into consideration the District's current assets and resources. As he mentioned earlier, the District has requests from lacrosse to form a competitive club and other adult leagues that wish to grow. Although their growth is not huge at the moment, they are making such a request that the District cannot accommodate at this point.

John asked what the difference is between competitive and recreational clubs.

- ✓ Scott replied that, per the definition contained within the policy, a recreational program consists of only in-District participants and everyone is welcome to participate. There are no tryouts or cutoffs. Whereas, competitive level play includes participants from outside District boundaries in order to make the team more viable to play in the league. Players are selected and some may be turned away, although some clubs have development leagues for those participants as well. The adult leagues generally do not select players and are mainly interested in comprising a team to play once a week.
- ✓ Scott continued regarding John's question regarding the optimal number of competitive clubs, noting that due to the capacity of the District's facilities, a determination was made that this needs to be limited. However, as the District's capacity grows, such as through the 2008 Bond Measure improvements, this opens up more interesting options in terms of participation and expanding programs. Right now, the District's message has been no expansion for spring and fall programs, but the hope is that as more inventory comes on-line, there will be the capacity to increase. At this point, the strategy is to trim down the out-of-District participation, try to include more in-District participants, and have the ability to grow and change with the sports as they change. The District's sports have not changed over the past 10 years due to facility constraint; not because they do not want to, need to, or that it would not be beneficial for them to do so.

John described that the current situation of two competitive clubs as meshing with the capacity constraints of the District.

- ✓ Scott agreed, noting that another factor is that once the District begins adding competitive clubs, at what point does it begin denying such requests.

Joe asked for an overview regarding why the District has affiliated sports groups.

- ✓ Doug Menke, General Manager, replied that the affiliation process is akin to a program delivery method. Any public agency has options and in the case of the predominance of the District's sports area, the affiliation process was chosen. He stressed the need to view these relationships as partnerships, in that it is a working agreement with reasonable expectations by the District of the groups it has chosen to affiliate with and there is reasonable expectations back from those groups of the District. Affiliation also provides an efficient cost-delivery system. There is no question that if the District were to manage all of the sports leagues, it would cost the taxpayers more money. The methodology is good, but does not come without challenge. The District is relying upon a huge number of volunteers to deliver this program and, by nature, a volunteer base has turnover. The basis of communication and challenging decisions that were made many years ago lose their content and material as you move forward and this is not without challenge. However, he still believes that the affiliation/partnership method is a great method for a public agency to utilize in delivering its programs.

John theorized that the core question that has come up this evening is what the District's role and value is in the sports supply chain. He has heard it before tonight that perhaps the District should just be delivering the facilities and that the consumer market will make the choices. However, that is not what he believes the Board is elected to do or is the charge of the District.

The District may provide an affiliate model to facilitate delivery, but the District is ultimately responsible for the end product. The District needs to ensure that there is opportunity for everyone in the District participate, whether it is soccer or any other sport. Many employees could be hired in order to manage all of the teams and do everything necessary down to the last detail, or the District could work through the affiliates and volunteers. The District is responsible for delivery of the final product and is using affiliates and volunteers in order to do that. He believes that this is what the Affiliated Sports Policy is focused on; trying to make sure that the assets of the District get delivered to the widest possible base of people within the District.

- ✓ Larry expressed agreement, noting that the District has a fiduciary responsibility to the taxpayers not to hire those employees when the service delivery could be accomplished with an affiliated volunteer base. The District has been very efficient in this and he does not want to see it moved to an employee-provided service.

John noted that in addition to the financial benefits, volunteers can also reach deeper into their respective communities and are able to accomplish things in a more efficient way than the District can at times.

Bob commented that he, too, sees this issue from a perspective of limited resources that the District needs to protect. The recreational side, which is the District's first tier of priority, takes up the bulk of the time, requiring the District to facilitate a means to distribute what is left. He expressed agreement with the previous comments that the volunteers provide a valuable service to the District much cheaper than employees could. However, the District does not have enough capacity in that next tier in order to facilitate the additional capacity being requested. There needs to be some way to regulate such requests and he believes this policy does that.

Joe reiterated that the District's emphasis needs to be on recreational soccer and he believes philosophically as a Board, and perhaps as a District, the District's purpose is to give everyone an opportunity to get out and enjoy themselves, have fun, be active and learn a skill. If the District has the facilities for going beyond that, such as for competitive leagues, that is fine, but it should not be the primary purpose of the District. In his opinion, the Affiliated Sports Policy keeps this purpose at the forefront.

Joe continued that in defense of Bill Kanable, the Board has thoroughly explored the issue of a conflict of interest and it has been clear from the District's legal counsel that there is absolutely no actual conflict of interest with Bill and that he has had no material benefit as a soccer coach or soccer board member that he has gained by being a member of this Board. Joe commented that, in fact, most of the actions that were taken, such as the use contracts for Synthetic Turf Field #1, were signed long before Bill was elected to the Board. He thinks there have been a lot of unfair comments about Bill and he wants to say that while there have been on occasion some unfortunate overlaps, there has been no conflict of interest and he thinks Bill has conducted himself with a lot of honor and integrity through this process. He also appreciates his withdrawal from the process tonight in order to stay away from any appearance of conflict of interest, although he does not believe it exists anyway.

John noted that a lot has been said about the contracts for the synthetic turf fields and that he is the only person currently on the Board who was also on the Board when they were signed. Ten years ago, when the idea of synthetic turf came before the Board, he was skeptical and would rather have spent that much funding on land acquisition. It took some time, but when he saw the marked difference in utilization over a natural grass field, he became a convert. At that time, since it was a new amenity, the District did not have a lot of funding for it. A passing of the hat occurred and there were certain leagues who opted in and some that opted not to participate. Football opted in, as did lacrosse and some of the soccer clubs. Those who opted in received the ability to reserve allocations for the field; those who did not opt in would still be able to use

the field, but would have to wait in line, which was fair. Now that those contracts are coming to an end, the District will have to reevaluate how they are handled. However, the original contract was never an attempt to prioritize or favor one group over another. It was simply a matter of getting the asset paid for and giving those who helped pay for it a reward for their contributions. The obvious way to do this was to grant them higher priority in the use of the fields that they helped fund.

President, Joe Blowers, stated that he would entertain a motion.

Bob Scott moved the Board of Directors adopt the Affiliated Sports Policy as presented and direct staff to begin implementation of the policy. Larry Pelatt seconded the motion.

Roll call proceeded as follows:

Bob Scott	Yes
Larry Pelatt	Yes
Joe Blowers	Yes
John Griffiths	Yes
Bill Kanable	Abstain

The motion PASSED by MAJORITY vote.

C. General Manager's Report

Doug Menke, General Manager, provided a detailed overview of the General Manager's Report included within the Board of Directors information packet, which included the following topics:

- GreenPlay/Comprehensive Plan Update
- The Intertwine Fall Summit
- Board of Directors Meeting Schedule
- Business Energy Tax (BET) Credits
 - Keith Hobson, Director of Business & Facilities, provided a brief update regarding the District's sale of its BET credits received via the District's Energy Savings Performance Contract project, noting that all have been sold but about \$5,000 which leaves the District with \$190,000 to set aside as leverage for future energy savings improvement projects.

Doug offered to answer any questions the Board may have regarding the General Manager's Report.

- ✓ Hearing none, President, Joe Blowers, adjourned the meeting.

Agenda Item #9 - Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Joe Blowers, President

Larry Pelatt, Secretary

Recording Secretary,
Jessica Collins