

City of Santa Rosa
BOARD OF COMMUNITY SERVICES (BOCS)
August 24, 2011 – Minutes

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lawson at 4:04 p.m. at the Finley Community Center in Santa Rosa, California.

2. Roll Call

Present: Ramsey, Bagala, Martell, Lawson, Richardson

Absent: Cañas, Curiel-Larios, Surlow

3. Public Comments

David Pierce, of the Santa Rosa Youth Soccer League (SRYSL), noted the recent crosswalk accident resulting in the death of a 4-year old boy on West Ninth Street. He requested the City evaluate traffic flow and suggested ways to improve pedestrian safety.

Rick Moshier, Public Works Director, expressed grave concern over this tragedy and noted he and his staff will be working with the City Manager and City Council to discuss all possible options to make this crosswalk area safer.

Richardson invited all to participate in a public meeting on Friday, Sept. 2 at 6:30pm at Lincoln School to share thoughts and ideas with City staff concerning pedestrian safety.

4. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the July 27, 2011 meeting were not approved due to the lack of a quorum of Board members who attended that meeting. Minutes from that meeting will be included with the materials sent to Board members for their September meeting.

5. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved without objection after a motion was made by Ramsey and seconded by Martell.

At this point in the meeting Richardson introduced Adriane Mertens, the new department Marketing and Outreach Coordinator. Mertens gave a brief personal background and was welcomed by the Board.

6. Scheduled Items

6.1 Galvin Park Tennis Courts

This item will be reviewed by the golf course committee and then brought back to the Board for review at a future meeting.

6.2 Maintenance Status of A Place to Play

Lisa Grant, Parks Superintendent, shared a PowerPoint presentation showing the various maintenance needs at the park. Unauthorized use of fields, lack of equipment, as well as budget and staff reductions have all had a detrimental effect on maintenance at this facility. Staff is hopeful an alliance with the Utility department as well as partnerships with stakeholders will help with future maintenance needs.

Board concerns included: partnering possibilities, length of time fields would need to be out of service for seed germination, whether shade trees could be removed without changing the Master Plan of the park, whether sod experts, such as those at the Bennett Valley Golf Course (BVGC), had been consulted, filter system mitigation, fund raising opportunities, and possibly using older BVGC equipment to assist with maintenance. The Board also questioned whether the existing fields are

sustainable or if there is a need to start over in order to have a healthier facility. Richardson noted that staff will be meeting with the Board of Public Utilities on Thursday, September 15th at 1:30 p.m. to present a proposal concerning a private partnership for this location in exchange for property maintenance. It is hoped the SRYSL will attend and express their maintenance concerns.

Public Comments

Kim Brown, President of SRYSL, noted the league has partnered with the department for maintenance at A Place to Play, donated \$50,000 and is committed to working with the City to keep this facility maintained. Brown is willing to work with staff to discuss needed funding and options for improving field conditions, including moving soccer games to other locations in order for maintenance to be done.

Board comments included the need for goals and priority setting, Board involvement, and development and leveraging of other sports at other facilities. The Board is committed to finding a stable, sustainable funding source and it is hoped that the department will continue to be considered an essential element in the community and that residents will support it accordingly. Future updates concerning maintenance of this facility will be brought back to the Board.

6.3 Board Goals

Staff reviewed the updated Board goals and a motion to adopt them was made by Bagala, seconded by Martell and unanimously approved. Richardson noted that the revised Board goals will be shared with members of the City Council.

6.4 Project Updates

Hovden reported construction continues on Airfield and Harvest Parks and is hopeful both parks will be completed by the end of the calendar year. He also noted that Phase I of the Senior Wing addition at the Finley Community Center could be completed by October. The bid opening for Phase II could take place in October, be awarded in November, with project construction beginning in winter or spring. It is hoped the auditorium and most of the first floor of this addition will be available for use next summer. The plans for the fountain and restrooms at Prince Gateway Park are currently being reviewed by the health department. Staff is hopeful these facilities could be operational in spring or summer of next year.

6.4 Chairperson's and Board Members' Reports

Art in Public Places Committee: Richardson reported on the West 9th Street under crossing mural, which could become an ArtStart Project, as well as on the potential loss of the 1% for art funding.

Santa Rosa Waterways Advisory Committee: Lawson reported the committee will meet tomorrow.

A Place to Play Task Force: No meeting has been held.

Merit Awards Committee: Martell reported on a lack of nominations and that final selections will be made at the Sept 12th committee meeting.

Senior Center: Ramsey will meet with Carolina Spence tomorrow and voiced concerns about the operation of the Bennett Valley Senior Center once the senior wing at Finley is in use. Staff is hopeful the older facility will remain open.

Mayor's Luncheon: No report was given.

Playground Equipment Meeting: Hovden reported that KaBoom!, a play equipment manufacturer, is interested in installing a play structure at A Place to Play. Staff will work with company representatives.

BVGC: No meeting has been held.

7. Upcoming Events

Dedication of Joe Belluzzo Field, Sat, August 27, 11am, A Place To Play: Curiel-Larios will represent the Board.

Santa Rosa Marathon/Fundraiser for Aquatics – Sun Aug 28, 9am- Juilliard Park: Martell will represent the Board.

Lamplight Tours, September 16 & 17 –This event is sold out.

Annual Volunteer Recognition Event, Thurs, Sept. 22, 7pm, Finley Center: All Board members were requested to attend.

Merit Awards Event, Mon, November 7th, 7pm, Council Chambers

7.1 Other Reports

None.

8. Future Items

8.1 Annual field trip: September

8.2 Council Study Session- October or November

9. Written Communications

None.

10. Adjournment

The Board meeting was adjourned at 5:47 p.m. in honor of Christopher ‘Buddy’ Rowe, who was recently killed while using the crosswalk on West 9th Street. .

The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Wednesday, September 28th, 2011 at 4 p.m. at the Finley Community Center, 2060 West College Avenue in Santa Rosa, California.

Craig Lawson, Chairperson

Mary Lou Nicholls, Administrative Secretary