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**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MAY 9, 2002**

**DIRECTORS**

Robert Hunt - President  
Theodore Metzger - Secretary  
Linda May - Treasurer  
Kris Ferguson - Director

**CHILDREN'S CTR. DIRECTOR**  
Judy Lockridge

**CARETAKER**  
Craig Swart

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Sil-Mod Parks & Recreation District was held on March 9, 2002 at the Silverado Community Center, 27641 Silverado Canyon Road, Silverado, California. The meeting was called to order at 7:09 PM by President Hunt, who also acted as Chairman.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT**

Kris Ferguson, Bob Hunt, Linda May

**DIRECTORS ABSENT**

Ted Metzger

**PUBLIC ATTENDEES**

M. Boeck, F. Williams, J. Myers, C. Swart, C. Schilling, M. Schreiber, L. Peterson, E. and L. Fredette, C. Peterson, B. Peterson, D. Johnson, D. Ertman, C. Stout, G. Stout, B. Stout and P. Bollinger

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Draft Minutes of March 14, 2002**

A motion was made by Director Ferguson to approve the Minutes from the April 18, 2002 board meeting, seconded by Director May, approved by a vote of 3 Yes, 0 No.

**Correspondence**

Approval of fiscal year 2001-02 audit engagement letter presented by Hale & Company in the amount of \$4,500 plus travel and other out-of-pocket costs and including the preparation of the State Controller's Report was motioned by Director Ferguson, seconded by Director May, approved by a vote of 3 Yes, 0 No..

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Gibran Stout – Brought in some sample Parks and Recreation brochures to share with a suggestion that we look into providing some recreational programs. Gibran to get some community input on what types of programs they would like to see. There will be a survey going out in September through the Inter-Canyon League. She also had some ideas on ways to save money. She did some research through Southern California Edison and finds that we are being billed for only one meter at the community center as a medium size commercial building. She suggested splitting the meter between the Caretaker's residence and the community center and billing them separately as residential. Her third suggestion related to a conversation she had with Darla Toker of the dance studio. She suggested leasing the Modjeska Community Center to Darla as a tenant, which would alleviate the District's responsibility for maintenance of the building, utilities, scheduling of the center calendar, etc.

Mike Boeck commented on the valuable input and assistance the board receives from the sub-committees groups.

Brett Peterson offered to paint the deck flooring.

Debbie Johnson noted the importance of xeriscaping rather than watering a huge lawn.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

### **District Bills for Consideration**

A motion was made by Director Ferguson, seconded by Director May to approve Transmittal No. 05-02B in the amount of \$150.00. Vote was 3 Yes, 0 No.

A motion was made by Director Ferguson, seconded by Director May to approved Transmittal No. 05-02 in the amount of \$1,973.27 with the later addition of three impending electric bills that have not yet been received. Vote was 3 Yes, 0 No.

### **Financial Statements**

Not available, continued to next meeting

## **SILVERADO CHILDREN'S CENTER DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Monthly report submitted by Center Director Lockridge. The school age children will have an opportunity to take some field trips during the summer months. She has verified insurance coverage through our carrier, CAPRI.

Playground for the school age children will need to be redone by January 2003 and this will cost about \$50,000. Grant monies are being looked at as a possible source of funding. Director Hunt requested that details of the needs be brought to the next board meeting.

Bingo in May raised \$480.00. The childrens Center is in need of prizes for bingo and advertising should be placed in the Sentry and the Silverado Settler.

A free literacy workshop is being held Friday, May 17.

## **COMMUNITY FACILITIES/SAFETY REPORTS**

### **Silverado Community Center**

Director Hunt reported that the plaque in appreciation of Keith Blessing's volunteer services should be available in June.

Caretaker Craig Swart has spoken to the Boy Scouts regarding the skate boarding issue and reported that they were cooperative.

The caretaker did a rate survey:

La Habra – 0-15 people = \$20, 15-30 = \$40, 30-60 = \$80, etc. usage charge.  
Huntington Beach - \$20/hour if less than 60, parties \$40, hour.  
Cleaning Deposits – cleaning outline to state specifically what users are to do

To repair the fence at Silverado will be a minimum of \$500, the pillars are \$175-250 each.  
Director Hunt stated that he and Director Metzger would assess the need.

#### Modjeska Community Center

Director Hunt has looked into the purchase of new chairs for Modjeska, \$9 chairs, \$50 tables.

Law enforcement was contacted regarding vandalism at the Park, and in order for the OC Sheriff to look into the matter they will need dates and specific incidents. Graffiti was noticed on the shed in Modjeska

A grind bar was discussed and the removal of the broken bench that the kids are using for skateboarding. The installation of a gate at Modjeska (to protect the trash bin) was quoted at \$400-500 for a 6' gate.

#### Safety Report

A motion was made by Director Hunt to receive and file the Safety Report, seconded by Director May, approved by a vote of 3 Yes, 0 No. The safety review procedures will be revisited at the next meeting.

### **OTHER DISTRICT BUSINESS**

#### Silverado Childrens Center Advisory Commission

Director Hunt relinquished the Chair to Director May for this portion of the meeting.

A proposal was made by Director May for an advisory commission made up of community members plus an equal number of parents. The suggested size was five of each, to assist the director of the childrens center with policy and management decisions as well as fund raising, advertising, etc. This group would assist like a board but would not be empowered to make change, their suggestions would be presented to the Parks and Recreation Board.

#### **Public Comment:**

Gibran Stout – Childrens center is the only form of recreation that we have. There are 5 teachers and one director, she feels it is redundant to have another board, since we already have a five-member board of directors. Gibran suggested Judy delegate to parents with specific skills. She doesn't see that committees are very productive.

Chuck Schilling – Parent at the childrens Center, as a college professor believes a group of ten is difficult. There is a committee already in place that meets once a month to deal with items needing attention. Those interested could give their input at those meetings.

Mike Boeck – Pointed out that the committees do get things done, just look at the Trails, Irvine Co. relationship and the Nature Conservancy. Mike believes the Advisory Commission to be a helpful gesture to assist in managing the childrens Center. He stated that it appeared to him that active efforts were being made to discourage parents from participating in any such committee, so consider lowering the amount to five, or even two, so that those that want to be involved can be.

Judy Myers – An educator for many years, believes that from ages 1-5 is crucial in the making of a child. She has attended the meetings and notes that the childrens Center has

had difficulty financially since inception and believes it is partly due to the location, families cannot afford to attend (should meet the needs of the community) and the school is not filled to capacity. She feels the Commission would be helpful in marketing and would give the community an opportunity to zero in on the needs/solutions. The public should have a say and the district must answer the needs of the whole community.

Peter Bollinger – Agreed with Gibran’s suggestions and comments. There is already a committee mechanism in place to amend items needing attention. Any additional resources would be appreciated.

Laurie Fredette – Requested more information and more time to consider this proposal.

Debbie Johnson – Commented that public boards that are non-profit have a natural function and this needs to include some long-term planning. This requires someone with strategic and analytical skills.

Chay Peterson – Teacher at the school. Requested that a decision to implement the advisory commission be prolonged. In childcare there are specific courses that are mandatory when dealing with children and any decisions regarding children or the program need to be made by qualified early childhood professionals, not community residents.

Dick Ertman – Feels that a commission with 10 is too many. There should be a core of 2-3 that interact with the center, express those needs and coordinate with both the center and board.

#### Board and Staff Comments

Director Lockridge – Childrens center director has always been open to ideas and suggestions from all community members and would appreciate any input at future committee meetings.

Director Hunt – Feels that subcommittees can assist with a business and marketing plan to make way for some long-term planning. Emphasized that the focus of such a group would be on business issues, not teaching matters or anything directly related to the children.

Director Ferguson – As a board member and parent with a child in the center, feels that the location seems to be the biggest problem. The childrens center is a warm wholesome place for our community’s children to go to while their parents work. Does not have a problem with the Parks and Recreation District supplementing the childrens center within reason. Not ready to vote on this.

Director May – Stated that since this made a quorum impossible, the matter would be tabled. The district definitely has some concerns about the childrens center’s costs, and the following was requested from Director Lockridge, noting that previous requests for a budget had not resulted in one being submitted:

- 1) Annual budget (to be reviewed at the June 13 meeting)
- 2) Proposal for marketing
- 3) Long-term plan
- 4) Schedule of revenue and expenses (anticipated cash flow)
- 5) An estimate of how much money the childrens center will need from the district (per month, quarterly, annually)

Director Hunt – Asked that the childrens center report be made available 2-3 days prior to the board meeting as part of the director’s working packets.

#### Silverado Canyon (Holtz) Ranch Development

Director May relinquished the Chair to Director Hunt for the remainder of the meeting.

Mike Boeck provided some notes with SMPRD objectives in regard to the Silverado Canyon Ranch, they have been attached accordingly

A discussion took place regarding the developer in-lieu fees for acquisition of new area. Would it be possible to move the old house across the street to the 46 acres? The developer is amenable to working with our district rather than HB&P if the county will accept this approach.

Mike Boeck reported that Dana Judd is being forceful on the trail issue.

Debbie Johnson commented that the developer would be looking at "passive recreation" on the 46 acres to be dedicated. This area will be seen from their homes. If the developer is able to give land to the community, the community should support the developer. If not as a board then as individuals.

Director May stated that we should approve the plans and that when we go to the county we set a precedent. We must ensure that the plan fits within the Sil/Mod Plan. RE: the 46 acres, continue to use for natural purposes, nature sign, rock fence, etc.

Concerns on the 46 acres would be maintenance costs, landslides and the additional cost of liability insurance. A museum or fossil display was also discussed. Endowment money was discussed as well as interest and on-going maintenance.

A motion was made by Director May to adopt an accurate reflection of the current stage of the Holtz Ranch. If the parcel is offered to the SMPRD, there still are trails to be built, the disposition of the "house" needs to be determined and further negotiations will need to be finalized. This motion was seconded by Director Ferguson and approved 3 Yes, 0 No.

Director Hunt made a motion to create a resolution certifying that the SMPRD will work toward and support the Silverado Ranch Project contingent on its full compliance with the Sil/Mod Plan and being in the best interest of the community, as demonstrated in large part by inputs from the community. Seconded by Director May and approved 3 Yes, 0 No.

#### Open Director's Position

Director Sam Wyngaarden submitted his letter of resignation on March 14, 2002. Director Hunt has spoken to the Registrar's Office and was told that creating an additional slot on the election ballot may have some costs associated. Director Hunt made a motion to appoint a replacement for the position. Director May seconded the motion, which was approved 3 Yes, 0 No. It was decided to advertise in the Silverado Settler and to post notices.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### Trails

Dana Judd, not present at meeting.

#### Landscaping

Fran Williams working with landscapers on projects as needed. She will speak to them about the watering schedule.

#### Liaison, Planning

Mike Boeck reported on the Irvine Ranch land reserve. Docents should complete training in two weeks, first aid, lead hikes. Planning is ongoing. Contacts with both relationships are going well.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

Director Hunt made a motion to hold a brief closed session to discuss personnel issues, seconded by Director May, approved 3 Yes, 0 No.

The closed session ended at 9:05, no actions were taken.

**MEETING ADJOURNED**

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:07PM by unanimous vote.