Minutes of the SMRPD Board Meeting, 11-14-02

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM. All directors were present. Children’s Center Program Director Lockridge was present. Administrative Consultant Paskus Amador was present. Caretaker Swart was not present.

Corrections to the agenda: “Draft Minutes of July 30, 2002” was changed to “Draft Minutes of October 10, 2002 and October 30, 2002”.

Corrections to the minutes: Director Boeck offered only the minutes of the 10-30-02 meeting. Director Hunt suggested that the board reschedule corrections to the minutes to later in the meeting, when copies of the draft minutes of the 10-10-02 meeting would be available.

Treasurer’s report: Bills received were discussed. Director Hunt made a motion to authorize payment of transmittal #11-02A. Unanimously passed. Director May made a motion to authorize payment of transmittal #11-02B. Unanimously passed. Director May made a motion to authorize payment of transmittal #11-02C. Unanimously passed.

Director Hunt mentioned the previous agreement of the board to reimburse Mike Boeck $150 for his expenses while attending the Land Trust Alliance legal seminar and the need for the board to vote on this. Director Boeck said that SMRPD bookkeeper Karen Rinehart had called him and that she had the necessary info from previous board minutes to go ahead with the payment, thus no vote would be necessary.

There was a discussion of the board’s restricted funds and what they could be used for.

There was a discussion of various bond act funds (Props. 12, 40, and 50). Director Boeck provided contact info for the Office of Grants and Local Services’ Project Manager for Orange County. Administrative Consultant Paskus Amador offered to help with the grants process.

Children’s Center report: A presentation was made by Susan Watcher, Account Executive for OC Family magazine. Ms. Watcher discussed the magazine and its advertising rates.

There was a discussion of the January 1, 2003 deadline to bring playgrounds up to code. The Children’s Center has permission for the children to use the playground at the Silverado Elementary School next door. Director Johnson asked for a writeup summarizing what improvements or modifications are necessary for the community center and Children’s Center playgrounds.

Program Director Lockridge requested that an SMRPD Board meeting agenda be either posted at the Children’s Center or e-mailed to her.
Director Boeck mentioned that he is in the process of changing how the minutes are recorded and that he plans to provide the completed minutes within seven days of the meeting date.

Director Levy was concerned about the 1-1-03 deadline for the playground equipment improvements. Director Johnson asked Program Director Lockridge to provide information at the next board meeting concerning exactly what equipment at the Children’s Center playground was out of compliance.

Director Hunt asked the Finance Committee (Directors Johnson and May) to meet with Program Director Lockridge and it was decided that the three would meet after the board meeting to discuss the Children’s Center budget.

Director Boeck asked about the budget entry that showed accrued vacation time for Program Director Lockridge of 292 days, which would amount to over $49,000 in pay. There was some confusion as to how much vacation pay was owed, as this amount seemed excessive. Program Director Lockridge later said she believed the 292 was the amount of hours, not days, of her accrued vacation pay.

Director Levy commended Program Director Lockridge for the success of her recent fundraiser. It was noted that the Children’s Center would have been approximately $2000 in the red for the month of October without the money from the fundraiser.

Children’s Center enrollment has increased recently by 5 children, which puts the total number at about 40.

Administrative Consultant’s report: Administrative Consultant (AC) Paskus and Director May measured the Silverado Community Center playground to determine how the new playground apparatus would best fit with a minimum of lawn removal. Judy Myers and Fran Williams discussed polling the community about the playground changes at the upcoming December 7 Crafts Fair. Ms. Williams mentioned that the lawn sprinkler system could be affected by the redesign.

Director Levy was concerned that the Modjeska Park playground would be out of code on 1-1-03.

There was a discussion about the bid process for the California Integrated Waste Management playground equipment grant. Director Hunt proposed that the Finance Committee make a recommendation to the board, then the board would vote on which bid to accept. Director Hunt then proposed that Director Boeck of the Facilities, Maintenance, and Safety Committee and Ms. Williams of the Landscaping Committee review the bids and make a recommendation. The board agreed. AC Paskus mentioned that Jesse Adams, Grant Manager of California Integrated Waste Management, gave us until May of 2003 to utilize our grant funds.

Director Levy mentioned again his concern that our playgrounds should be up to code by 1-1-03 and he wanted the board to have a game plan to upgrade those facilities. Director Johnson wants to see the sand at the playgrounds replaced with Vita-Turf (?) or some other rubberized substance. Director Hunt suggested that an addition of clean sand could suffice in a pinch and that this would also be affordable. Ginny McVickar offered to supply the board with info about a satisfactory sand substitute material used by the county in playgrounds. Director Levy mentioned that the number one function of the board would seem to be making sure the recreational facilities are in working order and in compliance with safety regulations. He repeated that all three SMRPD facilities (playgrounds) would be out of compliance on 1-1-03.
Director Johnson said that all three playgrounds need to be inspected on a weekly basis for safety issues. AC Paskus was asked to prepare a paper addressing safety issues at the Modjeska Park.

Director Hunt proposed that the playground compliance issue be included in the agenda for further discussion at the November 25 meeting.

**Other business**: Jim Sill spoke about the problems that have resulted in the closing of California State University’s Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary in Modjeska Canyon. Mr. Sill proposed that his existing group, Friends and Neighbors of the Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary, become an autonomous subcommittee of the SMRPD Board. Several directors had a problem with the word “autonomous”, meaning self-governing. The board decided to replace “autonomous” with “ad hoc” to describe the subcommittee. Director Levy stated that an ad hoc subcommittee is very specific in its focus and also serves a temporary function. Director May made a motion to create an ad hoc Friends and Neighbors of the Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary (FNTWS) Committee, with Director May as the board representative on the committee. The motion passed with Directors May, Hunt, and Johnson in favor and Directors Levy and Boeck abstaining.

Director Boeck spoke to attorney Doug Carstens and reported that he was preparing the information for Mr. Carstens to work with. The attorney will be drafting a letter to send to the County of Orange expressing this district’s position concerning present and future park land acquisition and management issues.

AC Paskus informed the board that she was having health problems that made it difficult to perform some of her duties but that she was still capable of accomplishing her most important tasks. Director Johnson mentioned that she would like to see Phil McWilliams (who was present at the meeting) get involved with AC Paskus in handling district business as Mr. McWilliams would be replacing AC Paskus when she is indisposed.

Director Boeck stated that the files were in much improved shape and asked AC Paskus to discontinue the filing for the time being, as she was having trouble performing this function. Director Johnson made a motion to renew the AC’s contract for another month. Unanimously passed.

A discussion was held regarding holding two monthly SMRPD Board meetings instead of one, as there was so much business to conduct that monthly meetings were becoming 4 hour long marathons. Director Boeck made a motion to hold SMRPD Board meetings on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. Unanimously passed.

Director Hunt made a motion to lower the pay for directors from the current $75 per meeting to $50 per meeting. The motion passed with Directors Hunt, Johnson, and Levy in favor and Director Boeck not in favor. Director May was temporarily absent from the meeting. Director Johnson mentioned that she has not been paid since becoming a board director; it has been four months or more since she was appointed. Directors Levy and Boeck have not been paid either.

**Committee reports**

**Facilities, Maintenance, and Safety**

**Landscaping** - Ms. Williams reported that Ginny McVicker is interested in the xeriscaping project or any other landscaping projects our district has planned. Director Johnson asked Ms. Williams to prepare a budget showing plants, prices, volunteers available, hours needed, etc.
Recreation - Director Johnson will be forming focus groups of children living in the canyons next January to find out how we can help meet their needs.

Trails - Director Johnson mentioned that Dana Judd has been appointed by Supervisor Spitzer to the Orange County Trails Advisory Committee.

Legal Compliance - Director Boeck reported that the Brown Act requires an agenda to be posted 24 hours before any Special Meeting, not 48 hours as previously thought. Next meeting’s topic: ad hoc committees, subcommittees, etc.

Corrections to the minutes: Director Hunt made a motion to accept the draft minutes of the October 10 meeting and the October 30 Special Meeting. The motion passed with Directors Hunt, Johnson, and Levy in favor. Director Boeck abstained. Director May was temporarily absent from the meeting.

There was a discussion about 501(c)(3) nonprofit status. Program Director Lockridge stated that the Children’s Center does not qualify for grants as a public agency or as a nonprofit organization.

Director Johnson made a motion to extend the meeting beyond the regular 9:30 adjournment time. Unanimously passed.

Director Hunt made a motion to accept the Safety and Maintenance Reports for both community centers. Unanimously passed.

The board decided that their next meeting would be held at 7 PM on Monday, November 25 due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 PM.

These minutes were approved at the 11-25-02 SMRPD Board meeting.

Mike Boeck, Board Secretary

SMRPD Board Motions, 11-14-02 Meeting

111402-1 Director Hunt moved to approve transmittal #11-02A. Unanimously approved.
111402-2 Director May moved to approve transmittal #11-02B. Unanimously approved.
111402-3 Director May moved to approve transmittal #11-02C. Unanimously approved.
111402-4 Director Hunt moved to create an ad hoc Friends and Neighbors of the Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary Committee with Director May as a member. Directors Hunt, May, and Johnson approved. Directors Levy and Boeck abstained. Motion passed.
111402-5 Director Boeck moved that the SMRPD Board meet twice a month, on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. Unanimously approved.
111402-6 Director Hunt moved to reduce directors’ pay from $75 per meeting to $50 per meeting. Directors Hunt, Levy, and Johnson approved. Director Boeck disapproved. Director May was temporarily absent. Motion passed.
111402-7 Director Hunt moved to accept the minutes of the October 10 meeting and the minutes of the October 30 special meeting. Directors Hunt, Levy, and Johnson approved. Director Boeck abstained. Director May was temporarily absent. Motion passed.
111402-8 Director Hunt moved to accept the Safety and Maintenance Reports of both facilities. Unanimously approved.
111402-9 Director Johnson moved to extend the meeting past the normal 9:30 PM ending time. Unanimously approved.