



# **Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

## **Programs & Events Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Date: January 18, 2022**

**Time: 6:30 pm**

**Location: Virtual Meeting Held On-line <https://thprd.zoomgov.com/j/1613705314>**

### **In Attendance**

**Committee Members:** Erin Carroll, Victor Li, Rehana Malik, Lisa Mutchler, Karina Ramirez, and Andrea Schafer

**Staff:** Holly Thompson, Sabrina Taylor Schmitt

**Board Liaison:** Barbie Minor

**Absent Committee Members:** Riya Saripalli, Kush Khamesra, and Miguel Tendero

### **I. Call Meeting to Order.**

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 pm. Members were welcomed, and staff introduced. Members participated in an ice-breaker activity to welcome the five new members. Committee members and staff shared about themselves, their experience with THPRD, and why they volunteered for this committee.

### **II. Public Comment.** No public comments were received.

### **III. New Business**

- **Child Care/ After School Care Update with Sabrina Taylor Schmitt, Interim Recreation & Aquatic Director.** Sabrina introduced herself and work history at THPRD. She provided an overview to childcare. She discussed the consolidation and consistent approach to childcare the district has been working toward through THRIVE. Right now – childcare is a really big discussion topic. Primary focus is on out-of-school time (THRIVE) and preschool. Working with the city and county on out-of-school time expansion for the next two years (through AARPA funding) but looking to the future to build a sustainable program with stable long-term funding. Another challenge right now is a staffing shortage. Pre-Covid: Cedar Hills and Conestoga were our largest programs (120 kids per program) now they are down to 60. This is due to staffing shortages as well as a decrease in demand. Pre-Covid: we had two smaller programs at Garden Home and at the Athletic Center and also took over Chehalem Elementary from Beaverton PAL. Looking to AARPA funding to help with after school care to build a sustainable scholarship program. Most programs are at 50% capacity right now. Need to fill up our existing programs before going out to new/additional sites. Also looking at potential expansion sites with BSD. Transportation can be an issue that we can creatively address with BSD. The committee discussed the benefits of having kids in afterschool care onsite at rec centers and the more engaging activities possibilities for the students. Sabrina also provided an overview on 9-month preschool programs offered by the district. Most of the programs are full. Committee members discussed the benefits of THPRD programs as a jumpstart to help kids be prepared for school. Committee members asked about drop-in care and when it may come back to the district – Sabrina explained that until staffing stabilizes, and we have our programs fully staffed – it will take some time.
- **Equity and Inclusion Updates with Holly Thompson, Communications Director.** Holly provided an update on staff's work to update the district's Financial Aid Policy as well as a new Language Access Policy under development to be completed this fiscal year. The Financial Aid Policy change will go into effect in early February and the biggest change to the policy is an increase in the financial aid award from \$200 per individual per year to \$300. The Committee

expressed their support for the policy changes. Holly shared the Language Access Policy development work is underway. The policy will articulate what documents must be translated into what languages to support meaningful access for English Language Learners.

- **Summer Event Planning.** Holly provided a very brief preview to staff's thinking for preparing for summer events and suggested that the Committee invite Karin Madsen to come to a future meeting to review summer plans. The Committee acknowledged the district's unique approach to events last summer and shared their appreciation for smaller neighborhood focused events.
  
- **Topic Brainstorm for 2022: Open Discussion for Committee on 2022 Topics**  
The Committee had a discussion about topics they would like to learn more about or discuss this coming year. Ideas included:
  - **Outreach to Seniors:** what are we doing now to help connect and support seniors during the pandemic? How are things going at the Stuhr Center?
  - **Teens:** How can we get more teens involved in volunteering at THPRD and help raise awareness of the ability to earn service learning hours at THPRD?
  - **Working Parents:** Is there something THPRD can do to support networking and peer support among working parents?
  - **Inclusion Services:** What is THPRD doing to help people with special needs and what more can we do?
  - **Hyper-Local Events:** Committee members very much appreciated THPRD's hyper local approach to summer events last summer. Can we do more? Can hyper-local events be used as a diversity and inclusion tool to welcome people to THPRD spaces?
  - **Teen Activities:** How can we create more social activities and events geared toward teens? Lots of our summer events were for younger children – can we do more to create teen events?
  - **Activating Spaces & Co-Production:** Let's continue to push the needle toward more co-production and activation of THPRD spaces with diverse cultural groups

**VI. NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting of the Programs & Events Advisory Committee will be held on **February 15 at 6:30 pm** on Zoom. Committee members will be electing their officers for 2022 at the February meeting. The meeting link is: <https://thprd.zoomgov.com/j/1606734434>.

Meeting invites have been sent out to committee members. New members of the Advisory Committee are invited to a **New Member Orientation on Wednesday, January 19 at 6 pm**. The meeting link is: <https://thprd.zoomgov.com/j/1614701227>.

The meeting ended at 8:22 pm.

Minutes taken by:  
Holly Thompson, staff