



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

A meeting of the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Board of Directors was held electronically on Wednesday, June 8, 2022. Work Session 5:15 pm; Executive Session 6:15 pm; Regular Meeting 7:30 pm.

Present:

Tya Ping	President/Director
Heidi Edwards	Secretary/Director
Barbie Minor	Secretary Pro-Tempore/Director
Felicita Monteblanco	Director
Alfredo Moreno	Director
Doug Menke	General Manager

### **Agenda Item #1 – Work Session: Recreation Services Programming Overview**

A Work Session of the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Board of Directors was called to order by President Tya Ping on Wednesday, June 8, 2022, at 5:15 pm.

General Manager Doug Menke introduced Julie Rocha, interim Sports & Inclusion director, and Sabrina Taylor Schmitt, interim Recreation & Aquatic director, to share an overview of the district's recreation services programming process, including the various phases of planning, evaluating, and monitoring a program's success.

Julie and Sabrina provided a detailed overview the life cycle of a recreation program, via a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was entered into the record, and which included the following information:

- Recreation Division Mission & Overview
- Service Highlights
- Lifecycle of a Program
  - Idea → Services Determinant Questions → Service Assessments → Budget → Class Management → Marketing → Program Monitoring
- Decision Making Matrix
  - Fit
  - Financial capacity
  - Market position
- Programs Monitoring
  - Utilize participant evaluation forms and satisfaction surveys
  - Observe and collect feedback, determine what is missing from the desired experience, and implement changes
  - Monitor, evaluate, and analyze results
  - Modify actions accordingly
  - Repeat process quarterly
- Successes
  - Reopened nine of 12 recreation and aquatic facilities
  - Developed diverse programs and activities
  - Resumed nine-month programs
  - Restarted inclusion services
  - Brought back special events
  - Implemented a Gender Inclusion Training Series and internal workgroup
  - Expanded Employee Wellness Program

- Continued Nature Experiences & Workforce Training (NEWT) internship program
- Created the Diversify internship program
- Rebuilding for the Future
  - Building a strong foundation with programs using the Services Assessment Matrix and focusing on the district's goals
  - Implementing the Sports Affiliate Review process
  - Adding diversity, equity, inclusion, and access to existing programs
  - Expanding the THRIVE afterschool program
  - Reopening aquatic facilities
- Areas of Opportunity
  - Leverage partnerships
  - Return to better
  - Expand hours and programming
  - Increase staffing levels
  - Be creative with space and time limitations

Sabrina and Julie offered to answer any questions the board may have.

Heidi Edwards requested a copy of the class numbers and statistics that were referenced during the presentation.

Felicita Monteblanco asked for additional information regarding how the district identifies underserved populations.

- ✓ Sabrina replied that multiple inputs inform this effort, including Recreation staff's collaborations with the Beaverton School District and our Communications Department, as well as by evaluating participation numbers. She acknowledged that the district lacks sufficient data in this area so some of it is intuitive, such as via the work of the Rec Mobile, leaning into relationships that our community outreach specialists have developed, and forming partnerships with culturally-specific groups. Listening to these groups' needs and collaborating to come up with new ideas is where the district has found the most success.
- ✓ Julie added that the district has worked hard to increase the diversity of its staff and that when our staff members reflect the community we serve, we get more requests and ideas from the community, such as that of the recent Marhaba Arab Celebration at Garden Home Recreation Center. This can lead to valuable partnerships as the district looks to expand services. Lastly, she described the benefit in the district going out to the community versus expecting them to come to us, which helps build trust and further informs the district as to the community's needs.

President Ping inquired whether the district hires bilingual instructors and then promotes the availability of a bilingual instructor for a particular class in order to encourage more diverse participation. She also asked whether consideration has been given to surveying the adult participants of Centro de Bienvenida to see what types of classes they would prefer and what would make them feel most comfortable attending, such as classes taught in Spanish only.

- ✓ Sabrina confirmed that the district collaborates with its bilingual instructors to offer classes in a variety of languages, but that challenges exist when planning these classes six to ten months in advance for the activities guide. Sometimes, the result is more akin to a pop-up event with public outreach conducted, which has been quite successful. Regarding survey work, the district would like to lean into this work more with the customer engagement staff as Centro de Bienvenida continues to expand. She described a few of the district's class offerings that have been available in Spanish only.
- ✓ Julie added that the Rec Mobile director is bilingual and conducts outreach as they are out in the community. Additionally, the district offers language services within our inclusion services program for people who may need an American Sign Language interpreter.

Tya inquired whether bilingual applicants are given preference during the hiring process.

- ✓ Julie replied that the district offers a bilingual pay incentive for bilingual staff when the skill is valuable in their position.

Alfredo Moreno complimented district leadership on instilling a philosophy of empowering frontline staff to listen to the community and share ideas that they think would work well even if it's never been tried before. He also agreed with the importance of building trust in the community through programs such as the Rec Mobile coupled with consistent outreach.

### **Agenda Item #2 – Executive Session (A) Land (B) Legal (C) Personnel**

President Tya Ping called executive session to order for the following purposes:

- To consider the employment of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, and
- To conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry out labor negotiations; and
- To conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions.

Executive Session is held under authority of ORS 192.660(2)(a)(d) and (e).

President Ping noted that the news media and designated staff may attend executive session. Representatives of the news media were directed not to disclose information discussed during executive session. No final action or final decision may be made in executive session.

### **Agenda Item #3 – Call Regular Meeting to Order**

A Regular Meeting of the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Board of Directors was called to order by President Tya Ping on Wednesday, June 8, 2022, at 7:30 pm.

### **Agenda Item #4 – Action Resulting from Executive Session**

**Barbie Minor moved that the board of directors authorize the acquisition of land in the southwest quadrant of the district for the price discussed in executive session, subject to the standard due diligence review and approval by the general manager. Felicita**

**Monteblanco seconded the motion. Roll call proceeded as follows:**

<b>Heidi Edwards</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Alfredo Moreno</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Felicita Monteblanco</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Barbie Minor</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Tya Ping</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**The motion was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

### **Agenda Item #5 – Proclamation: LGBTQ Pride Month**

The board members read into the record a proclamation declaring the month of June as LGBTQ Pride Month.

### **Agenda Item #6 – Audience Time**

Carolina Martins, 6320 SW Lombard Avenue, Beaverton, is before the THPRD Board of Directors this evening regarding dog parks. She stated that her neighborhood has a significant number of BIPOC individuals, and that she and a lot of her neighbors have dogs, but that there are no dog parks within walking distance. Considering the weather conditions in Oregon, she typically must drive to the nearest dog park, which increases her living expenses. She commented that most dog parks are built in predominantly white and wealthy neighborhoods. She described how important dog parks are for residents, noting that the parks help build healthy and safe communities and should be accessible for all. Additionally, dog parks provide a safe place for dogs to play, exercise and socialize. She understands that the City of Beaverton's development

codes create additional challenges to building dog parks and that the district's Parks & Facilities Advisory Committee has asked the city for assistance in addressing these codes. She added that the district needs to ensure that BIPOC voices are included in the process of building any new dog park to meet the needs of those who need them the most. She requested that the board prioritize construction of a dog park within walking distance of her neighborhood.

President Ping opened the floor to district staff feedback on this topic.

- ✓ Aisha Panas, Park Services director, acknowledged that this is an ongoing concern that the district hears from those who live within the city of Beaverton, as well as a concern for the district, which desires to be able to provide these amenities for its community. The city's current code does not allow the district to do this type of work, but the demand for dog parks continues to increase, especially as density increases. The district understands these concerns of the community and is working as diligently as possible to elevate this issue to a point where the city can support making changes to the code that would help enable the district to provide these amenities within city limits.

Felicita Montebalanco asked whether it is easier and quicker for the district to construct dog parks in unincorporated Washington County.

- ✓ Aisha confirmed this, noting that as a result, the district's current focus has been to construct new dog parks in those areas, while also working toward resolving our ability to provide dog parks within city limits.
- ✓ Holly Thompson, Communications director, expressed appreciation for Carolina's testimony, noting that they have been communicating via email on this topic and that she has encouraged her to consider applying for one of our advisory committees during open recruitment this fall. She noted that community feedback received during development of the Vision Action Plan also called for more dog parks, and that there is hope the city may change its code. Having community voices continue to articulate the importance of dog parks makes a difference. The district also hears and agrees with her comments that future dog parks be available and accessible to those who need them the most.

## **Agenda Item #7 – Board Time**

### **A. Committee Liaisons Updates**

Barbie Minor provided the following updates and comments during board time:

- ✓ Attended the recent Memorial Day event at Beaverton Veterans Memorial Park and thanked the American Legion Beaverton Post #124 and district staff for their efforts in putting on this wonderful event.
- ✓ The most recent Programs & Events Advisory Committee meeting included a preview of all the upcoming events for summer and fall, from concerts in the park to Big Truck Day.
- ✓ Expressed appreciation for the Black and Green Fellowship program provided in partnership with the Beaverton Black Parent Union, and what it means for the community and connecting people together.
- ✓ This month marks her one-year anniversary as a board member. It has been an honor and her appreciation has grown even more for all the ways THPRD serves its community.

Alfredo Moreno provided the following updates and comments during board time:

- ✓ The most recent Parks & Facilities Advisory Committee meeting included work around championing inclusive play equipment. He is impressed by the dedication and passion of these committee members.
- ✓ Referenced the mass shooting that happened in Uvalde, Texas, and thanked General Manager Doug Menke for sharing with the board the district's training of staff for these types of unthinkable situations.

Felicita Monteblanco provided the following updates and comments during board time:

- ✓ Along with director Moreno, she toured The Mary Ann affordable housing development constructed by REACH, to which THPRD contributed through System Development Charge waivers. REACH encourages the district to continue building this relationship, including exploring opportunities in terms of the community spaces located on site.
- ✓ Expressed congratulations for the passage of Beaverton School District's bond measure.
- ✓ The most recent Nature & Trails Advisory Committee meeting included discussion regarding the Cooper Mountain Community Plan, the district's Natural Resources Function Plan, and climate change.

Heidi Edwards provided the following updates and comments during board time:

- ✓ The Washington County Preschool for All pre-referral committee continues to meet. Discussion topics include revenue mechanisms, program size and scope, and looking to other counties who have preschool programming in order to gain insight.
- ✓ Attended the most recent pension committee meeting, during which discussion took place regarding the negative impacts of the downturn in the stock market and the increase in inflation.
- ✓ Expressed appreciation for the district's gender inclusion work being done.

President Ping provided the following update and comments during board time:

- ✓ Along with director Moreno, she attended a tour of Cooper Mountain Nature Park with Metro staff and council members, as well as THPRD staff. The tour highlighted the partnership between our two agencies and future opportunities in the preservation of this important natural area.

#### **Agenda Item #8 – Consent Agenda**

**Alfredo Moreno moved that the board of directors approve consent agenda items (A) Minutes of May 11, 2022 Regular Board Meeting, (B) Monthly Bills, (C) Monthly Financial Statement, and (D) Resolution Authorizing Issuance of Interfund Loan for FY 2022/23.**

**Barbie Minor seconded the motion. Roll call proceeded as follows:**

<b>Felicita Monteblanco</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Heidi Edwards</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Barbie Minor</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Alfredo Moreno</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Tya Ping</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**The motion was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

#### **Agenda Item #9 – Unfinished Business**

##### **A. General Manager's Report**

The following presentations were provided as listed within the General Manager's Report included in the board of directors' information packet:

- Gender Inclusion Update
  - Julie Rocha, interim Sports & Inclusion director, and Reid Vanderburgh, consultant and writer, provided an update on the district's work in the area of Gender Inclusion, via a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was entered into the record.
- Cooper Mountain Nature Park Tour
  - Aisha Panas, Park Services director, provided comments and photos regarding a recent tour of the Cooper Mountain Nature Park attended by Metro and THPRD staff and elected officials, via a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was entered into the record.

Doug and the presenters offered to answer any questions the board may have.

### Gender Inclusion Update

Felicita Monteblanco expressed support for these efforts, noting that this type of work takes time and if it isn't done thoughtfully, it can cause damage. She asked how the district is ensuring that inclusive language is being used by our affiliated groups.

- ✓ Julie replied that the district is forming an internal committee of part-time and full-time staff to evaluate this very issue. The committee will be looking at areas such as signage for single-stall restrooms, reexamining our activities guide, and evaluating programs, including sports leagues. The policy is close to being finalized and will help guide staff, but the public education component will be important, as well.

Felicita commented that gendered language can be pervasive and is usually unnecessary, and that she looks forward to seeing advances in this area. She emphasized the need to make the district's values clear to any outside parties using district property, such as facility rentals.

Heidi Edwards suggested a few simple changes that could make the district more welcoming and demonstrate awareness, such as by the board members sharing their pronouns, and including pronouns on employee nametags. She described the importance of understanding that younger people in our facilities and programs may have greater awareness of their gender identity and how district staff as allies can help educate our community. She likes the suggestion of adding a page on our website about why the district is doing this work and what it means.

President Ping asked if the district's Gender Inclusion policy will extend to its affiliated groups.

- ✓ Julie replied that DEIA requirements are imbedded within the affiliation process and come from the appropriate governing bodies, such as Oregon Youth Soccer Association. Although currently there is no requirement that groups follow a specific policy, this section will be updated every three years and can be revisited.

Tya inquired whether a trans participant would be allowed to play on the team for which they identify.

- ✓ Julie confirmed that, for soccer, participants are allowed to play on the teams for which they identify. Such requests were part of the impetus for this work of the district, and like us, many of these organizations are also just starting their journey in gender inclusion.

Tya emphasized that the district should proactively engage its affiliates to ensure that they understand this value, including those renting district facilities.

### **B. Cooper Mountain Community Plan**

Gery Keck, Design & Development manager, introduced Cassera Phipps, City of Beaverton's senior planner, who provided a detailed overview of the status of the development of the Cooper Mountain Community Plan (CMCP), via a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was entered into the record. In 2018, the Metro Council voted to expand the urban growth boundary to include the 1,232-acre Cooper Mountain Urban Reserve Area. The CMCP will establish a long-term vision for the area's growth and development to support welcoming, walkable neighborhoods that honor the unique landscape and ensure a legacy of natural resource protection and connection. The project began in March of 2020 and has identified three alternative development scenarios. The goal of these development scenarios is to identify a preferred alternative to be adopted as a community plan and incorporated into the City of Beaverton's development code. Gery and Cassera offered to answer any questions the board may have.

President Ping opened the floor for public testimony.

Wendy Kroger, 12030 SW Settler Way, Beaverton, is before the board of directors this evening representing a coalition of community members called the Cooper Mountain Nature Park Group. A packet of information was submitted into the record, including written testimony and documents expanding upon the benefits of prioritizing the protection of natural resources in the CMCP. Wendy referenced Metro's 1995 open space, parks and streams bond measure that provided

funding for acquisition of land in the South Cooper Mountain target area. Acquisition goals at that time included acquiring between 400-700 acres to protect and enhance Cooper Mountain's unique biological diversity, of which 231 acres have been acquired to-date. Goals of the bond measure also included protection of the Tualatin River's water quality, scenic vistas, and linkages to trails, greenways, parks and community facilities. She noted the number of visitors to the park was over 94,000 last year alone, which is roughly the population of the entire city of Beaverton. The Cooper Mountain Nature Park Group asks that the THPRD Board of Directors formally states its support to the city for the expansion of the Cooper Mountain Nature Park within the CMCP, such that an expanded park will incorporate natural areas within the CMCP boundaries currently outside the park, particularly riparian zones, wildlife habitat and corridors, and areas with a mature tree canopy. They also ask that the board states its support for the establishment of sufficient development setbacks, area-wide walking trail connectivity, corridors linking the park with Winkelman Park and the Jenkins Estate, and a restriction against new roads bisecting natural areas. Lastly, they ask that the board uses its connections with Metro to encourage Metro to expedite its movement forward in securing the lands in question from willing sellers before the opportunity is lost. While THPRD likely has some funds to contribute to the effort, it is Metro's 2019 natural areas bond measure that possesses the bulk of the acquisition funds necessary. This makes the city and THPRD dependent on Metro for meaningful acquisition progress.

Felicita Monteblanco commented that she appreciates hearing the city's commitment to climate resilience. She asked Cassera to expand upon the relationship between tree canopy and climate resilience, noting that last year's extreme heat resulted in the loss of life within our community. As we build anything in the future, how are we thinking of keeping neighborhoods cool?

- ✓ Cassera described the approaches being explored in not only preserving and setting aside natural areas, but in integrating greenspaces and nature into the built environment. She noted that the city does not currently have a tree canopy goal and that instituting such would require development of an entirely new section of code.

Felicita referenced research out of Portland State University exploring last year's extreme temperature's disproportionate impact on neighborhoods that had less tree canopy.

President Ping thanked Cassera for the informative presentation this evening, and for bringing groups together in a collaborative approach in creating a community where both its residents and the natural world around it can thrive.

### **Agenda Item #10 – Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

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Tya Ping, President

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Heidi Edwards, Secretary

Recording Secretary,  
Jessica Collins