



**Northern Wasco County Parks and Recreation District
Board Meeting Minutes
January 18th 2023
NWCPRD, 602 W. 2nd Street, The Dalles, OR 97058**

Brewster Whitmire called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Brewster Whitmire, Annette Byers, Ellen Woods, Rachel Carter, Tracy Dugick (Via zoom)

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Scott Baker, Kailynn Elliott

STAFF EXCUSED: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: District Council, Andrew Myers.

GUEST PRESENT: None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Annette Byers moved to approve the agenda. Ellen Woods seconds the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Annette Byers moved to approve the minutes from November 16th meeting. Ellen Woods seconds the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: Peter and Karen Peruzzo PO BOX 1515 The Dalles, OR made a \$200 donation towards the Rose Garden at Sorosis.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

We are 50% of the way thru the fiscal year. With almost \$1.8 Million in the general fund, we have \$577,000 more than we had this time last year. Current year tax revenue: \$1,074,281. \$233,000 more than this time last year. Transient room tax is \$30,000 more than this time last year. Admin: Wages are currently around 36% expended and that is because we anticipated hiring an assistant director earlier this year. Expenses are all under 50% expended other than the one time payment lines. We obtained the payoff for the long term debt service and will be able to retire that debt now. Parks: Expenses are on track. The District has spent \$118,000 on water so far. This time last year we had spent \$146,000. A significant savings there. SDC collection continues to be strong and are looking to surpass \$100,000 collection by the end of the year.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT:

Staff has been working on a supplemental budget for Aquatics that will be ready for our February meeting. The District had to close Firehouse off-leash area due to saturation and it was received by the community much better this year.

COMMITTEE REPORT: D21 Bond Committee – The committee met twice since the last NWPRD Board meeting. The goal is still \$120 - \$140 Million. The estimated cost to repair the deficiencies is \$53 Million. \$129 Million in total to increase the programming and repair up to par. It looks as if this bond will appear on the ballot in November.

URBAN RENEWAL REPORT: Cancelled.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Ad Hoc Committee Foundation – Annette Byers makes a motion to pass Resolution No. 2023-01. Ellen Woods seconds. The motion passed unanimously. Ellen Woods makes a motion to elect Annette Byers as the Ad Hoc Committee Chair. Rachel Carter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Draft 2022-23 Budget Timeline and Officers – Informational for Board Members to check dates with their schedules.
- b. SDC Rate Adjustment - \$6,268 is the current SDC rate for developers of a Single-Family Home. Staff recommends that the District increase our SDCs 4.9% according to our adopted methodology, effective July 1, 2023. Ellen Woods makes a motion that the District increase our SDC's the 4.9% according to our adopted methodology, effective July 1, 2023. Annette Byers seconds the motion.
- c. Volunteer Recognition – Staff recommends naming the Sorosis softball field “Hert Field” after Mr. Butch Hert and his family. Staff will reach out to Softball to confirm they approve of the addition and then contact the sign company to make a sign for the new scoreboard.

With Catherine Whalen’s passing, The District would like to recognize her 16 years of service to Parks and Recreation by memorializing her. The Board discussed her love of gardening and the potential of a small garden at Sorosis in her name. The Board has decided to expand that conversation more about how to recognize Board members who go above and beyond and to reach out to Catherine’s family on an individual basis to move forward with her recognition.

- d. Letter of Support requests –
 - a. Neita Cecil with Tobacco Prevention and Education Program Coordinator with North Central Public Health District has requested that the District write a letter of support urging The Dalles City Council to pass an ordinance making Lewis and Clark Festival Park tobacco-free. Annette Byers makes a motion to direct staff to write a letter to the Mayor of The City of The Dalles in support of making Lewis and Clark park a tobacco-free facility. Ellen Woods seconds the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
 - b. Renee Tkach, Project Manager with the Friends of the Columbia Gorge Land Trust, has requested a letter of support for a trail connecting the Mt. Ulka Trail to the Discovery Center and The Riverfront Trail. Annette Byers makes a motion to staff to write a letter of support for this project. Rachel Carter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- e. Appointment of Board Representative to attend Urban Renewal Meetings- Rachel Carter makes a motion to substitute Tracy Dugick with Ellen Woods on the Urban Renewal Board. Annette Byers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Executive Session in accordance with ORS 192.660(2)(e) – To conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions.

Return to regular session.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

February 15th, 2023

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REMARKS:

ADJOURNMENT:

Brewster Whitmire adjourned at 7:28pm.

Attested to:

Board Chair

Board Secretary

FOLLOW UP ITEMS:

- Supplemental Budget (est. February)
- Reach out to Softball (Hert Field dedication)
- Catherine Whalen: Reach out to family about recognition
- Recognizing other past board members: Ideas for recognitions
- Letters of Support: NCPHD & Mt. Ulka