

**ITEM: CONSENT AGENDA – 1 A**  
**MINUTES**  
**Fulton-El Camino Recreation and Park District**  
**2201 Cottage Way, Sacramento, CA 95825**  
[www.fecrpd.com](http://www.fecrpd.com)

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FULTON-EL CAMINO RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT was held April 18, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Chair Lavalley

**Board Members Present**

Laura Lavalley, Chair  
Jessica Dias, Vice Chair – Via Phone  
Kathleen Stricklin, Secretary  
Teresa Higgins - Director  
Michael Seaman, Director

**Staff Members Present**

Michael Grace, General Manager  
Becky McDaniel, Supt. of Recreation  
Linda Montijo, Supt. of Administration

**Visitors:**

Bill Sherman – ABM  
Zima Creason  
Jaden Delfer – Recreation Supervisor  
Meghan Burnett – Recreation Assistant  
Ryan Harder – Recreation Supervisor  
Leroy Munsch -  
Jim Brown – Chief of Police  
Robert Cervantes  
Patrick Knapp – Swanston Estates Neighborhood Assoc.  
John Isom – Isom Advisers  
Melinda Eppler – Fulton Avenue Association  
Carol Capper

**VISITOR COMMENTS - None**

**1. CONSENT AGENDA**

**BOARD ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA:** Director Seaman made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda minus Item 1a. Director Higgins seconded the motion. Director Seaman requested that the minutes be changed under Directors Comments to read: Assembly Local Government Committee instead of Assembly Appropriations Committee. Director Seaman modified his motion to approve the consent agenda with the above changes made and Chair Lavalley seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0-0 with Chair Lavalley, Vice Chair Dias, Secretary Stricklin, Director Higgins and Director Seaman voting Aye. There were no Nays or Abstentions.

**2. HOLIDAY PARADE**

The Board listened to community members who wished to speak on the issue:

**Zima Creason**

As a citizen she urged the Board to continue with the Fourth of July Parade. She is not against the Holiday of Lights event but feels the Fourth of July is more inclusive than the holiday parade. She stated she would be happy to help fundraise to get the parade done while the planning goes on for next year.

**Carol Capper**

As a District resident has volunteered for the parade the last 8 years. She did not realize it was in jeopardy until this week. She agrees with Zima Creason that it reaches out to all nationalities. In her opinion the crowds have gotten bigger and there has been an increase in the number of participants. The only drawback has been the lapses of time between the participants in the parade. The District needs to advertise on Next Door which would increase the involvement, Fourth of July is only one day and since

it is families are not on vacation. Christmas already has its celebrations. She would like to see it go on.

Melinda Eppler

She introduced herself as Executive Director of the Fulton Avenue Association (FAA). When she started her involvement with the parade her children were just starting school and now they are grown and out on their own. Over the last 16 years there has been a decline in the number of participants. She gave a breakdown of the items that need to be accomplished to organize the parade to give an idea as to what it takes to put the parade on. Having been in the parade every year she noticed that every year there are stretches in the parade where there is no one. Summer time is very difficult time because people travel. As a result of that difficulty the FAA Board made a decision to bow out as a sponsor.

Discussion:

General Manager Grace informed the Board that he received a call from the president of the Arden Chamber of Commerce who informed him that they supported the parade but due to the shortage of time they could not promise any financial backing. They might be interested in sponsoring for next year but that is not a given since he had not presented it to his board.

General Manager Grace spoke to staff and the decision was to get the most bang for their buck and do something at the pool. The lack of participation has been the hardest thing to deal with. There are a lot of small area groups that have their own little parades which takes away from the interest in our parade.

Director Stricklin indicated the elimination of the parade would splinter the community. This is the only activity the people have. She requested a year before the cancelling of the parade to give them time to organize.

Chair Lavallee said there was another option which was to cancel it this year and see if the support was there to bring it back next year. If people believe the park will do it no one will step up.

Director Higgins said the biggest thing she has noticed is the length of empty sidewalk during the parade. She has spoken to her customers and many are unaware of the parade.

Director Seaman opposed the recommendation saying that we are an invisible community. There are 100,000 people in Arden Arcade. He respects the decision by the FAA and is thankful for all their past work. He is opposed to the decision to cancel the parade. He agrees with Zima Creason, that this is America, and this is the time to celebrate and recognize we are one country. He has a problem walking away from an event that respects America.

Vice Chair Dias stated that both sides have valid points, but that planning an event in 2 months would affect the quality of the parade.

Director Higgins made a motion that we hold one Holiday Parade and have the Fourth of July event at the pool this year. Chair Lavallee seconded the motion. Motion passed with a 3-2-0-0 vote with Chair Lavallee, Vice Chair Dias and Director Higgins voting Aye. Director Seaman and Secretary Stricklin voted Nay. There were not abstentions or absences.

**3. 2019 MASTER PLAN**

Director Seaman moved to approve the Master Plan with the changes presented on Page 54-55 of the staff report. Director Stricklin seconded the motion. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0-0-0 with Chair Lavallee, Vice Chair Dias, Secretary Stricklin, Director Higgins and Director Seaman voting Aye. There were no Nays, Abstention or Absences.

Leroy Munsch spoke to the Board and presented his thoughts on what the District needed to be looking at. His number one priority would be a facility at Bohemian. He feel the property purchase need to be paid from a General Obligation Bond. Cottage Park needs to be upgraded. The eyesore at Howe Park is the maintenance yard. It needs to be relocated to an empty lot on Elvyra which has been empty a long time. The district needs to upgrade many of its vehicles and also introduce artificial turf to reduce maintenance. He feels the District needs to expand its tax base with an expansion with Arden Manor and Arcade Creek.

General Manager Grace stated that a lot of Leroy Munsch's ideas are included in the Master Plan.

#### **4. GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, A FINANCING OPTION TO ACTUALIZE THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE 2019 MASTER PLAN**

John Isom spoke on General Obligation Bonds (GOB). It is a way to pay for needed improvements in the park. He is with the leading financial adviser in the state. GOB's are prized by investor's because of their security. They are very commonly used by municipalities since there is hardly any risk. The only risk for the district would be the \$13,000 they would have to pay for the survey to be done. All the other costs would be dependent on the victory of the bond measure.

#### **5. BABCOCK PARK**

Patrick Knapp spoke and informed the Board of the fact that Babcock Park was done away with in afternoon by the school district due to safety concerns, now Swanston Estates does not have a park and they would like to get it back. The Board recommended that the District officially approach Twin Rivers Unified School District to find an agreeable solution to open the park to the public on a regular basis.

#### **6. CSDA LEGISLATIVE DAYS**

Vice Chair Dias and Director Seaman will be able to attend.

#### **7. UMPQUA BANK, LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENT**

Director Seaman proposed the adoption of Resolution 2018/19-19, a resolution to authorize the submission of an application to Umpqua Bank for financing capital lease purchases. Director Stricklin Seconded. Resolution adopted by a vote of 5-0-0-0 with Chair Lavallee, Vice Chair Dias, Secretary Stricklin, Director Higgins and Director Seaman voting Aye. There were no Nays, Abstention or Absences.

#### **8. ANNUAL PARK DISTRICT TOUR**

The annual Park District Tour was set for May 30, 2019 from 4:00pm – 8:00 pm.

#### **9. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

General Manager Grace reported receiving a letter from CARPD congratulating the District on winning the Award of Distinction for the Conzelmann Community Center Improvements. The improvements at Cottage Park will start in September now that we have all the required documentation in hand. ABM wants to do an open house when all the new items are install and bring in some visitors. GM Grace suggested the Facilities Committee needed to meet.

#### **10. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The Finance Committee will be meeting on Tuesday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April.

#### **11. DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS**

- Director Higgins – She agrees with the Babcock issue. She was concerned that the memo that went out for the meeting to save the parade had derogatory remarks about staff in it. We have differences but the public doesn't need to see that we are questioning staff's energy. We are a governmental entity and should not comment on staff matters.
- Vice Chair Dias – Reported she had submitted her application for the CSDA Board position.
- Chair Lavallee – Stated that the partner in the Bohemian project needs to be a long-term partner.
- Director Seaman – Attended LAFCO meeting where Rio Linda was stripped of some land from their district. The take away for our district is the situation at Babcock. We need to show serious investment in the community.
- Secretary Stricklin reported the new librarian at Arden Arcade has an adult reading program.

**12. INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

a. Legislative Report

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Linda Montijo Superintendent of Administration

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Laura Lavalley, Chair  
Board of Directors

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kathleen Stricklin, Secretary  
Board of Directors