

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, October 16, 2018

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

6. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

b. Board Executive Committee (9/6/2018) (Waespi)

Present

Board: Dennis Waespi, Ayn Wieskamp, Beverly Lane

Staff: Dr. Ana M. Alvarez, Becky Pheng, Erica Fuerst, Brenda Montano, Bob Nisbet, Brian Holt, Jim O'Connor, Dave Zuckermann, Sandra Hamlet, Mary Mattingly, Kim Thai, Julie Bondurant

Public: Karin Betts

Board Executive Committee Chair Dennis Waespi called the meeting to order at 12:45 pm.

I. Authorization to Transfer Board Contingency Funds: Historic Preservation Needs Assessment

Brenda Montano, Administrative Analyst II, Public Affairs, presented this agenda item. She talked about the Park District's historic collections management, and the shortage of space for historical documents, photographs, and artifacts. Ms. Montano stated that a professional evaluation of the preservation of historic records and artifacts is necessary, but staff do not have the experience and expertise to conduct a Park District-wide survey, and/or to provide recommendations for the future of the curation and preservation of the archives and historic objects. The Park District conducted an RFP process to seek a consultant with the experience and expertise to conduct a needs assessment. The Onda Consulting Group, made up of two individuals who have been in the archive field for many years with an extensive background, was selected for this project.

The contract is for \$39,500. A budget request for Phase I, which would include a survey and analysis, was submitted via Public Affairs for the 2018 Budget in the amount of \$24,000. Phase II would include delivery of an existing conditions report and development of recommendations. Staff has requested that the remaining amount of \$15,550 be split between the General Manager and Board Contingency funds in the amount of \$7,750 each.

A discussion on how the consultants would follow-up with the Board and staff on their findings and recommendations, along with public access to the archives, and potential mobile exhibits followed.

Deputy General Manager Dr. Ana M. Alvarez and Director Beverly Lane commented on the excellent job staff is doing preserving the Park District's artifacts, and historical documents and resources.

President Dennis Waespi asked for further clarification on the consultant's job duties and asked why the Onda Consulting Group was selected for this project. He recommended including the Retirees Association to assist in providing artifacts and documents to Archives. Ms. Montano explained that retirees do aid in discovering additional items and that the consultant was selected due to their long-term experience and accurate response to the RFP.

Recommendation: By motion of Director Beverly Lane and seconded by Director Ayn Wieskamp, the Board Executive Committee voted 3-0 to transfer \$7,750 from Board Contingency account 101-1130-000-5821 to the Historic Preservation Needs Assessment project account 527300.

2. Renaming of the Jordan Pond Loop to Carol Severin Loop Trail (Garin Regional Park)

Brian Holt, Chief of Planning and GIS, introduced this agenda item. Sandra Hamlat, Senior Planner, presented this agenda item. Director Beverly Lane expressed concern over why that specific loop trail was chosen. Mr. Holt articulated that this would be addressed during the presentation.

Ms. Hamlat stated that she had reached out to the Garin Park Supervisor and staff to help decide what trail should be named in honor of former Director Carol Severin. After review of several trails, the *Jordan Pond Loop* in Garin/Dry Creek Pioneer Regional Park was chosen due to its placement in the brochure, and Garin Park Supervisor Mark Pearson, who worked closely with Ms. Severin on multiple short-loop trails, strongly recommended this trail be renamed in her honor. Staff proposed to rename the *Jordan Pond Loop* to *Carol Severin Loop Trail* in recognition of Ms. Severin's strong interest and advocacy for short-loop trails. Ms. Hamlat gave a brief overview of Ms. Severin's biography and history with the Park District and commented on the geography and public accessibility surrounding the *Jordan Pond Loop*.

Director Lane asked if Vargas Plateau was considered. Ms. Hamlat replied that the trails in Vargas Plateau are too hilly and were no longer considered. Director Lane expressed concern that removing "Pond" from the name will detour the public from knowing they will reach water. Bob Nisbet, Assistant General Manager of ASD, addressed Director Lane's concerns stating that this item will be placed in front of the Park Advisory Committee before being brought to the full Board, and staff will look at how to treat the pond as a distinctive feature in the park. Director Ayn Wieskamp and President Dennis Waespi felt this trail was an excellent and fitting choice to honor Ms. Severin. Staff noted that they reached out to Ms. Severin's family regarding this project.

Recommendation: By motion of Director Beverly Lane and seconded by Director Ayn Wieskamp, the Board Executive Committee voted 3-0 to approve the renaming of the *Jordan Pond Loop* in Garin/Dry Creek Regional Parks to the *Carol Severin Loop Trail* and to forward a favorable recommendation to the Park Advisory Committee and full Board.

3. Gateway Park Naming Consideration

Brian Holt, Chief of Planning and GIS, introduced this agenda item and Karin Betts, Public Information Officer, Metropolitan Transportation Commission. Kim Thai, Planner, presented this agenda item.

Ms. Thai requested the Board Executive Committee forward a name recommendation or discussion to the full Board. The current naming options are: *East Bay Gateway Regional Shoreline* and *East Bay Key Regional Shoreline*. Ms. Thai gave an overview of the project timeline, which began in 2010. She talked about the nine agencies that collaboratively worked together on the various naming options and discussed the naming process and influential considerations for the suggested names. There was discussion on the pros and cons for both suggested names. Ms. Thai stated that expediting the naming process will allow staff time for signage and brochure updates.

The Board Executive Committee collaboratively felt that the two proposed names were not desirable. Ms. Betts talked about the process for coming up with the list of proposed names. The consultant researched and worked with stakeholders and the public to come up with a list of proposed names for the site and specified that the rich history of the area should be included in the name. Director Lane agreed. Mr. Holt stated that staff wanted to come up with a name that will generate foot traffic; *Key Point Regional Shoreline* was a third option brought forth for consideration. Deputy General Manager Dr. Ana M. Alvarez recommended that this process go back to staff to rebuild a framework and to possibly include stakeholders. President Waespi agreed that this item should be continued for further discussion. Mr. Nisbet reiterated the importance of the Park Advisory Committee's comments on this process. After discussion, the Board Executive Committee suggested that staff forward this item to the Park Advisory Committee for discussion and then back to the Board Executive Committee for consideration. The Board Executive Committee collaboratively was not ready to accept a name.

Recommendation: The Board Executive Committee directed staff to bring this item to the Park Advisory Committee for discussion and then back to the Board Executive Committee for future consideration.

4. Open Forum for Public Comments

None.

5. Board Comments

None.

6. GM Comments

Dr. Alvarez assured the Board that priorities are being worked on. She thanked President Waespi for assisting with the naming recommendation of *Jordan Pond Loop* to *Carol Severin Loop Trail*.

There being no further business, President Dennis Waespi declared the meeting adjourned at 1:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Erica L. Fuerst