

Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board of Directors Meeting

M I N U T E S

Wednesday, February 2, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District
4201 Guardian Street, Simi Valley, CA 93063 • (805) 584-4400

A video recording of tonight's meeting is available on
the District Website at www.rsrpd.org

1. **CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - Chair O'Brien called the Zoom Meeting to Order at 6:30pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by member of the public George Cole.
2. **ROLLCALL** – Those in attendance included: Directors: Abele, Dennert, Freeman, Vice Chair Gray, and Chair O'Brien. Oak Park Committee Members: Dani Brusius, Dan Cooper and Sherri Wentworth. Guest: Susan Barnes with SCI Consulting Group. Staff: Laura Ballantoni, Nikki Collier, Paul Friedeborn, Sandee Covone, Danielle June, Richard Lemmo, Zach Miller, Wayne Nakaoka, Kelly Negrete, Dan Paranick, Theresa Pennington, Brian Reed, and Alex Strumfal. District Counsel: Brian Hamblet. Members of the Public who made comments will be listed under the appropriate Item below.
3. **AGENDA REVIEW** – There were no requested changes to the agenda. District Manager, Dan Paranick noted that a supplemental packet of information concerning agenda item 9g was emailed to the Board and made available to the public this afternoon. The District received three additional emails after the supplemental packet was sent out which will be read into the record when that item is discussed on the agenda.
4. **PUBLIC STATEMENTS (ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA)** – George Cole is a member of a local disc golf club who shared information about the growth of disc golf since the pandemic began and noted that Sycamore Park is the most popular disc golf course in Simi Valley. He feels the course is incomplete compared with other local courses (i.e. Thousand Oaks) and offered his assistance including the location of new pin placements to meet the 18 hole disc golf course standard. Paranick asked him to send a list of ideas so he can review it with staff to see what we can do. Director Dennert offered to volunteer to assist in the effort. Director of Recreation Zach Miller has been in contact with them. Disc golf enthusiast Johnathan spoke as well.
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a. Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board of Directors Meeting – January 19, 2022 – Motion: Director Freeman moved to approve the minutes as presented. Vice Chair Gray seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.
6. **CONSENT AGENDA** (Matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine and shall be acted upon without discussion by one motion approving the Consent Agenda. If discussion is desired the item may be removed from the Consent Agenda upon a Director's request.)
 - a. Approval of 1/15/22 Accounts Payable Check Register & 1/14/22 Payroll Check Register

- b. Approval of Notice of Completion and Final Acceptance for the Simi Hills Golf Course J's Club Shack and Storage Building Project
- c. Adoption of Resolution No. 2025 Regarding Holding Public Meetings During the Continued COVID-19 Pandemic State of Emergency Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361

Motion: Director Freeman moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Chair O'Brien seconded the Motion. The motion carried with the following Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Directors Abele, Dennert, Freeman, Gray and O'Brien

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent:

7. PRESENTATIONS, SCHEDULED ITEMS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. Presentation of the Full-Time Employee of the Month for January 2022 to Paul Friedeborn, Senior Park Maintenance Supervisor, Grounds. Theresa Pennington, Director of Administration, gave the report noting that Paul will receive a plaque and a paid day off. Paul has been employed with the District for 24 years and this is his fifth award. Paul thanked everyone and said he owes it to his crews and community volunteers. Paranick stated Paul is a get-it-done guy and an outstanding employee and thanked him for his service to the District and wished him congratulations.

Director Abele wished Paul congratulations and stated that he is outstanding and the award is well-deserved, noting that Paul is among the tournament of champions with five employee of the month awards.

Chair O'Brien wished him congratulations and said it is a well-deserved award.

Director Freeman said he is such an asset to the District and he is very much appreciated.

Director Dennert likes his autographed copy of the activity guide, thanked Paul for being a good citizen, and for his service our community, thank you for his service in the military, and for volunteering to coordinate blood drives, holiday gifts for kids, the annual chili cookoff, and more. He commended him for doing it all, quietly and with a big smile no matter how hard the work is.

- b. Status of the Districts Response to the COVID-19 Coronavirus Pandemic – Verbal Report - Dan Paranick gave report. The District received one complaint regarding masking in our line dancing classes and Director Miller has followed up. We have 5 positive cases since the last meeting, and 5 exposures. 7 staff are out right now. The District is operating at 100% therefore it hasn't impacted operations. The Federal vaccine mandate is off again.

Director Dennert asked Mr. Miller if he had spoken with the person at the line dancing class. Miller said yes, and the gentleman was understanding at the difficulty in enforcing the masking guidelines and they plan to continue in the class.

8. CONTINUED BUSINESS – NONE

9. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Report on the 1/13/2022 Oak Park Planning Committee Meeting – Verbal Report - District Manager Paranick gave the report. Oak Park Lagoon, Tree Pruning and Wildfire Resiliency Grant are on this evenings agenda. Tree at Mae Boyar – County has decided not to remove the tree and the District will provide part of the cost to keep the tree and the County will cover the remainder of the cost. Friends of Oak Park Open Space Volunteer Group has been an outstanding endeavor and is helping with projects in the community. The Oak Park Committee provided suggestions to enhance the Trail Guide, requested the removal of fountain grass (invasive species) at Deerhill Park which Wayne is coordinating, and discussed wildlife guzzlers with no action to be taken on that topic.

Dennert stated the committee is doing a good job and he is excited about the middle school crayfish removal club which is an invasive species. They are accepting donations.

There was no public comment on the item.

- b. Ratification of Appointment of Members to the Oak Park – Park and Recreation Planning Committee - Director of Recreation, Zach Miller provided the report. Staff asked the Board to ratify newly elected committee members Harry Medved and Ning Rosenthal to serve the February 2022 to January 2024 term. Continuing committee members include JL Diaz (MAC appointee), Derek Ross (OPUSD appointee), Dani Brusius, Dan Cooper and Sherri Wentworth. Miller stated there were three candidates who ran for the two open seats.

Motion: Director Freeman moved to approve the ratification of the appointment of new members of the Oak Park – Park and Recreation Planning Committee and Director Dennert seconded the Motion. The motion carried with the following Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Directors Abele, Dennert, Freeman, Gray and O'Brien

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent:

- c. Authorization to Solicit Bids for the Oak Canyon Community Park Lagoon Renovation Project - Director of Planning, Maintenance and Operations, Wayne Nakaoka gave the report. In the aftermath of the Woolsey Fire, and subsequent flood damage, the District has been working to repair and renovate the Oak Park Lagoon. Plans have been approved by Ventura County and environmental permits should be approved by early March 2022. Estimated cost to complete the project is \$1.8 – \$2.1 mil. Funds in the amount of \$2.5 million have been allocated in the 21/22 budget. The District is pleased to report that this is the final Woolsey Fire renovation project.

Motion: Director Dennert moved to approve the authorization to solicit bids to complete the Oak Canyon Community Park Lagoon Renovation Project and Vice Chair Gray seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Directors Abele, Dennert, Freeman, Gray and O'Brien

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent:

- d. Approval of Award of Contract for the Medea Creek Wildfire Resiliency – Palm Tree Removal Project - Director of Planning, Maintenance and Operations, Wayne Nakaoka gave the report. At its meeting of October 21, 2021, the District's Board of Directors authorized staff to solicit bids for the Medea Creek Wildfire Resiliency - Palm Tree Removal Project. This project is one of the major grant components awarded to the Park District from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy as part of the State of California's Wildfire Prevention Early Action Funding Plan. On January 18, 2022, sealed bids were received from three contractors to remove dead and burnt palm trees as a result of the Woolsey Fire from Oak Canyon Community Park in Oak Park. The apparent lowest responsible / responsive bidder is SGD Enterprises dba Four Seasons Landscaping of Van Nuys, California. Allowing for a \$10,000 project contingency, the cost to complete this project is estimated at \$79,000 [Base Bid (\$44,000 and Alternate Bid Locations 1 (\$12,500) and 2 (\$12,500) + \$10,000 Construction Contingency]. Funding for this project is a reimbursable grant expenditure through the California Wildfire Prevention Early Action Funding Plan. Therefore, staff does not anticipate any fiscal impact to the District's Budget. They have performed a great deal of work for municipal agencies in Los Angeles and Orange Counties and their references were good.

Director Dennert asked what resulted in the substantial savings, and commended Nakaoka for realizing those savings by selecting SGD as the chosen contractor. Nakaoka stated SGD was the only contractor that used the lower of two potential prevailing wage rates - the higher of which is for Landscape Construction and the lower is for Landscape Maintenance.

Director Freeman is very excited that the District is completing this project.

Director Dennert suggested that we do a press release in the Oak Park Acorn.

Motion: Director Freeman moved to approve the award of contract to SGD Enterprises to complete the Medea Creek Palm Tree Removal Project and Director Dennert seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Directors Abele, Dennert, Freeman, Gray and O'Brien

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent:

- e. Authorization to Solicit Bids for Tree Trimming and Pruning Services at Various District Parks in Oak Park - Director of Planning, Maintenance and Operations, Wayne Nakaoka gave the report. The 2022 tree trimming contract was separated for Simi Valley and Oak Park. The Oak Park proposal includes 120 trees and indicates that a certified arborist will monitor the work. The Oak Park Committee was provided with the contract to review and reviewed the trees which will be pruned and removed. The District will solicit bids in early March 2022. Funding is included in Fund 30 of the Districts the 21/22 budget.

Motion: Chair O'Brien moved to approve staffs request to authorize the solicitation of bids for tree trimming and pruning services at various District parks in Oak Park and Director Dennert seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Directors Abele, Dennert, Freeman, Gray and O'Brien

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent :

- f. Adoption of Resolution No. 2026 Directing Preparation of the Engineer's Report for the Continuation of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Maintenance and Improvement District of the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District. Director of Administration, Theresa Pennington, and Susan Barnes of SCI Consulting Group presented the report. Ms. Barnes gave a presentation regarding the annual assessment process which kicks off in January with the annual CPI adjustment. For the Los Angeles area it is 6.569% for 20/21 which is high. Today's resolution is requesting authorization of the Board to assign the Engineer of Work. SCI provides the District with an estimate of the revenue we might receive based on the maximum rate allowed. SCI provides the engineers report to the District in April based on CIP projects included in the District's preliminary budget, which is submitted to the Board in May for review and preliminary approval and sets the date for the public hearing of the Boards intent to renew the assessment. Susan Barnes stated the maximum assessment increase is 3%.

Director Abele expressed concern about the increase in the assessment and asked if it was assumed that the Board will vote for the maximum increase. Susan Barnes said it is up to the District to decide what they wish to charge and include in the engineers report. Paranick stated that the budget timeframe has been adjusted to ensure the Board is allowed the time and discretion to make adjustments to the assessment and he will provide budget alternatives based on the various assessment percentages for the Boards consideration.

Director Dennert asked what the impact would be if the assessment went away. Paranick stated the assessment is approximately \$2.3 mil (10% of the total operating budget) and if unrealized would reduce the services we offer by 10%, including maintenance staff. The bulk of what we use it for is staffing so a reduction in the assessment could result in the reduction of staff.

Director Dennert asked the public to return to the next meeting to discuss lower fees versus reduced services. Dennert also asked Paranick to provide the connection between the reduction in the assessment and the implications to staffing and services.

Director Abele stated there are a lot of ways to balance a budget. He would like staff to be fair when considering how to balance the budget if the assessment were not included. He feels the fairest thing is to assume there will be no increase in the assessment and to not tax the public more. Paranick stated we will present the budget and the assessment at various levels to provide the Board with alternatives to present a realistic perspective on how each scenario would impact District operations.

Freeman suggested when we come to that point she would like to include the effect of funding shifts in ERAF and redevelopment funds and how they impacted our budget. She would also like to include the increase in costs in the discussion (salaries, fuel, water) and noted that there are controls already in place with the 3% cap.

Abele stated last year the District did go beyond the 3% cap because we didn't increase the assessment in 2020. He also asked to include revenues that were missed last year by not increasing golf fees and Strathearn rental fees.

Motion: Freeman moved to approve the engineers report which includes adoption of Resolution No. 2026 directing preparation of the Engineer's Report for the continuation of the parks, recreation and open space maintenance and improvement district and Director Gray seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Directors Abele, Dennert, Freeman, Gray and O'Brien

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent :

- g. Review and Provide Direction Regarding Before and After School Club and Teen Club Proposed Fee Increases for School Year 2022-2023 – Recreation Coordinator Danielle June gave report. The District currently operates before and after school programs on campus at eight SVUSD elementary schools and three SVUSD middle schools. Enrollment in the program prior to COVID totaled nearly 700 students. Enrollment sharply declined as a result of COVID, and although it's currently trending upward at 470 students, enrollment still falls far short of pre-COVID numbers. Increases in wages over the last several years and in the cost of goods and services has increased the expense of operating the program. To offset the increasing expense, ASC fees were increased 3% and Teen club fees increased 5% in the 2019/20 school year. In 2021/22, a 3% increase was implemented. 2018/19 pre-COVID program revenue totaled \$2.1 million with expenses of \$2.2 million resulting in an \$84k subsidy. In 2020/21 ASC revenues totaled \$538k with expenses of \$1.6 million resulting in a \$1.1 million subsidy. 2021/22 revenues are expected to total \$1.3 million, with expenses estimated at \$1.8 million resulting in a \$520k subsidy. Increases in hourly wages have resulted in a 6.7% increase in expenses. Staffing shortages and recruitment continue to be an issue for the program.

Director of Recreation Zach Miller gave the report on possibly expanding the current discount program that is offered by the District to qualifying ASC families. 13 families are currently taking advantage of the 20% discount program. Eligibility requires household income to be 200% of the poverty line which is approximately \$56k per year. Seven alternatives are offered in the staff report for the Boards consideration and discussion.

Paranick stated these are difficult decisions that have broader implications including trying to meet expected program quality levels and the ability to attract and keep staff. He would like to receive input from the Board on fees and alternatives 6 or 7 should the board want to head in that direction.

Vice Chair Gray stated that he emailed the principals at the eight elementary schools where our ASC's operate to see if they had any comments. Paranick stated we received 12 emails but he doesn't believe any were from school principals.

Director Dennert asked the public for feedback on the quality of the ASC's and for clarification on what "affordability" means to them.

Vice Chair Gray asked how many participants we are basing the \$30 per month increase on and what the budget deficit is that we're trying to address. Recreation Coordinator Danielle June stated that each ASC/Teen Club needs 32 students to break even. Many sites are not meeting that criteria at the moment. The District was previously subsidizing 9% (\$84k) of the program pre-COVID, which is now estimated at 13-14% of \$2.1 million.

Paranick stated that the fee increase is intended to keep pace with the increase in expenses and the way the budget is currently constructed. If we chose not to increase fees then other areas of the District budget will need to be prioritized to make up for not keeping pace with the cost of the program.

Director Abele stated he had “buyers remorse” on increasing fees last year after seeing the fee study. He asked how the alternatives within the staff report were ranked and Paranick replied that they are ranked in the order to financially sustain the program. Abele also asked how increasing fees will make people want to attend the program. Danielle June stated that reduced enrollment is a result of a cultural shift since many people are now working from home as a result of COVID and no longer need the childcare services we offer which is unrelated to the fee structure of the ASC / Teen Club program. Teen clubs are all highly subsidized as they have a lower fee structure.

Director Freeman stated we have a decision to make regarding how much we want to subsidize the program and how much of the cost we want to recover. She would prefer to offer more scholarships and keep our market rate competitive. The weekly amount of the increase is not much. To be able to offer additional scholarships you need some people to pay the market rate.

Chair O’Brien asked how our fees compare to YMCA and the Boys & Girls Club. The Boys & Girls Club is \$275 per month which is comparable to the Districts current discounted rate. YMCA \$460 per month and operates on campus. We most closely resemble the YMCA programmatically with 1:10 student ratios versus 1:15 or 20 at the Boys & Girls Club. She asked if we keep fees the same can we provide a list of what would be eliminated. Richard Lemmo said we may lose staff due to our wages not being competitive, requiring the program to operate with fewer staff and higher ratios.

Chair O’Brien opened the item for public comment. Joe Ayala opposes increasing the ASC fees which he feels will create a greater hardship for families. He’s a golfer and would be willing to pay higher golf fees to support kids in need. April Amante echoes what Joe Ayala said and also feels raising rates contributes to the inequity in the system and giving those with privilege more opportunity to attend the program and contributes to systemic issues. Guest Cassandra Douglas is a single mother in Simi whose children attend the Boys & Girls Club afterschool program at Parkview Elementary which is a free program. Suggested basing income eligibility criteria on local Simi Valley income values versus Ventura County. Guest Rebecca commented that subsidizing the ASC program is a valuable investment and suggests no fee increases, adopt a grant or scholarship program and investigate other sources of funding. Guest Roop Maan supports no fee increases and more grants be made available. Paranick read three email comments that were received subsequent to the issuance of the supplemental packet this afternoon. All asked that the District not increase ASC fees.

Chair O’Brien asked if we should discuss a way to fundraise to subsidize the scholarship program with a raffle.

Director Dennert suggested that the District cover a certain amount and fundraise the remainder. Would like the maximum number of children to benefit. He is against cutting the current fee and would prefer to offer greater subsidies to those in lower income categories who need it most. Does not want to reduce program quality. He’d like to survey families to see what we would need to do to get their kids to come. He disagrees on increasing youth sports league fees and doesn’t want to shift the cost.

Vice Chair Gray prefers no fee increase. Would like to prioritize grants and scholarships for certain individuals. Invest in advertising at the schools where our programs currently operate. Suggests increasing youth sports league fees over ASC fees since it's an elective activity versus a necessity like afterschool care. As a government agency he doesn't feel it's fair to compare District programs to the YMCA or Boys & Girls Club. He feels we should allocate a greater percentage of our budget toward after school program subsidies. Vice Chair Gray stated he would be open to a 3% increase if there is a significant grant / scholarship program.

Director Abele is a fiscal conservative and his priority is our youth who are our future. Based on the fee study, he feels the ASC's are not substantially subsidized, rather they are subsidized to a small extent based on the findings of the fee study. He agrees with offering a greater scholarship program. He's not comfortable voting to increase fees until he understands what the District plans on doing with the grant / scholarship program. Alternatives 1 and 2 are not a consideration for him. Feels there are other places we can generate income without raising fees and taxes (i.e. increasing golf fees and Strathearn wedding rental fees which are disposable income items versus necessities like childcare).

Director Freeman agrees our youth are very important and is what the Park District is about in helping to create healthy kids and adults but feels it's also important to have a healthy District. She agrees we should look into a greater scholarship program and promote the program and scholarships more. This year's ASC subsidy was \$519k which she feels is a substantial amount of money. Asked how to balance providing service and maintain the quality of the program. She would like to see the extension of the scholarship program and a plan to educate the parents on the program and would support 3% increase in fees which is minimal. If we continue to delay increasing fees, when we do it will be a substantial increase. People can absorb an increase if it's a minimal amount that is increased gradually.

O'Brien feels that a 3% increase - which is \$10 per month - isn't a great deal. Suggested we reach out to the Ed Foundation for a donation. Asked the members of the public who attended this evening to provide their ideas on how we can generate additional funds. Likes Alternative 7 and agrees increasing the grant / scholarship funds is a good idea.

Paranick commented on Alternative 7 and how it relates to Alternative 6. The District's current ASC program is \$339 per month for full time care based on a 10 month school year which is approximately \$3400. The current discount is 20% or approximately \$750 per school year. 13 children are currently receiving the discount ($13 \times \$750 / \text{year} = \$10,000$).

Director O'Brien suggested increasing the amount of available ASC scholarship funds to \$20k which is doubling the current amount we offer.

Director Gray asked how much in scholarship funds is a reasonable amount to budget that would allow a greater number of children to participate in the program. Paranick responded up to \$50k.

Paranick stated the District will setup income levels so more families qualify and should investigate the actual need to determine how much should be allocated to the scholarship program. Current eligible families are at 200% of the poverty line.

Director Freeman feels \$50K is too much and feels it's better to start out gradually. Since we're subsidizing very few students it appears there's not a great need.

Director Abele stated that it sounds as if a scholarship program is doable without a fee increase based on Paranicks comments about the budget. Paranick stated what he means is if we have an extra amount of revenue it would be included in the discussion regarding the Boards priorities against all other things in the budget process. Abele stated the ASC program is very important and a high priority.

Paranick indicated staff would bring the ASC fees discussion back in 2 weeks with scholarship program alternatives based on an allocation of \$30,000 to the program.

Director Abele wants to decide on the scholarship program before he decides on fee increases. Director Freeman said to leave the \$750 discount as is. Vice Chair Gray would prefer to see a stronger discount than \$750 and wants to split it into 2 tiers offering a greater discount for those in greater need, above \$750.

Paranick asked if the Board wants to increase the current eligibility threshold of 200% above the poverty line in order to receive a discount. Vice Chair Gray suggested we increase the scholarship eligibility threshold to 250% of the poverty line (\$66k). Director Dennert, Chair O'Brien and Director Freeman agreed.

Zach Miller stated its important to make a decision quickly on both fees and discounts so the District can begin marketing and advertising the program before registration opens for the new school year.

Paranick said staff would prefer to do either scholarship or a discount program, not both. O'Brien said she would choose Alternative 7 which would replace the discount program. Freeman said she'd like to keep both programs. Miller said the 20% program would remain the same for all other recreation programs aside from the ASC program.

Danielle June reminded everyone that we are in a critical time since February is school of choice month when parents are making their decisions based on the school as a whole including after school care options. Richard Lemmo also noted that fall ASC registration begins March 1st.

No motion was made. Direction given to staff by the Board is to bring the ASC and Teen Club fees discussion back in two weeks with scholarship program alternatives. Miller said Alternative 7 is the path to pursue based on the feedback received from the Board. The BMX Track item will be moved to the March 2, 2022 meeting agenda.

Director Dennert stated he didn't like the communication that he received that stated the Board was going to vote to raise fees which wasn't the case. He also thanked Danielle and Richard for filling in due to staffing shortages. He appreciates the program and his children attended the District's ASC program. Would like to maintain the quality of the program.

10. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS OF NOTE – CSDA asked the District to write thank you letters to our local legislators who supported the special district COVID relief funding in the state budget.

11. REPORTS BY BOARDMEMBERS

Director Abele – Has no park board related activities to report.

Director Dennert – Stated that he appreciates how the Board treats each other especially when they disagree. He attended the Kids Swap n’ Sell event and saw the article in the newspaper that highlights the children and how much fun they have and the valuable skills they learn. Thanked Recreation staff for their hard work in putting the event together. He announced that he will buy cookies from the first 20 Girls Scouts who contact him. He attended the SMMC Board meeting where they discussed the broad vision of the governors 30x30 plan. Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin was also in attendance. He suggested our welcome kiosks also encourage residents to explore in addition to providing safety information. Would like to promote getting outdoors and celebrate with a Summer Kickoff Hike-A-Trail event. He’d like to start a program where residents hike a trail and receive an entry into a raffle. Paranick suggested doing it after daylight savings time. Dennert hopes the District has a bilingual Trail Guide available by then.

Director Freeman – Attended the VCSDA meeting last night where Supervisor Linda Parks was the guest speaker and Marc Malloy of PVRPD was awarded the Director of the Year and Brian Pendleton received the GM of the Year award. She suggested we do a framed park photo and certificate for retiring SVUSD Superintendent Dr. Jason Peplinski. A Board Member could present it to him if he has a retirement party, or personally if not.

Vice Chair Gray – Agrees with Director Dennert we should get out and hike. It’s beautiful and green after all the rain. He appreciates the Eagle Scout project that was completed at Knolls Elementary by Jake Gray that will benefit the students and the ASC program there. Suggested checking out the college student loan forgiveness program to encourage young people to volunteer. Director Dennert said it applies to volunteer efforts related to climate resiliency, COVID relief and recovery, and education. Gray thanked staff for all their hard work over the last months and years; staff dedication makes a difference to the community every day.

Chair O’Brien – Attended VCSDA with Director Freeman and a few staff members. Rotary is having a blood drive for Ayden, the boy with leukemia, which will be held on March 2nd in the Junkyard Café parking lot from 9am to 3pm.

12. REPORT BY DISTRICT MANAGER – Dan Paranick gave report. Operations at the skate park are good. The City requested a briefing on the Arroyo Greenway at the City Council Meeting on February 28th which has been moved to March 14th if you’d like to attend. The District submitted the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant application yesterday for up to \$3 million for the Rancho Santa Susana Community Park Phase 4 Project. Staff spent approximately 250 hours on it with the help of a grant writer. Theresa Pennington submitted an application to CSDA on behalf of the District to receive their District Transparency Certificate of Excellence. CAPRI completed their annual safety inspection and the District scored a 99 out of 100 and received a very good bill of health. The District was informed that what may be Indian remains were found at Hummingbird. We were put on notice by the tribe that we may be responsible for protecting those relative to the law. The Board will be updated on any new information we receive. There are two sets of signs at Corriganville: one set of movie signs was recently replaced by a Boy Scout who will be recognized at an upcoming meeting. The second set of point-of-interest signs which were installed by a Leadership Class still need to be replaced. Opening Day Baseball events are coming up which you should have received information about. The County is asking us to place two permanent ballot boxes at 2 local parks in Simi. December financials for the first six months of the fiscal year look good and are on track with budget. Staff is in the process of putting together the 2022 summer concert series. Golf fees will be reviewed in April. The next meeting on February 16th will include

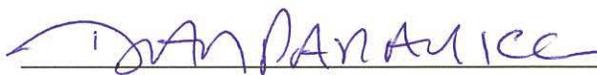
ASC fees. The March 2nd meeting will include the BMX track. No committee meetings are scheduled aside from the regular Historical Society and Soccer Foundation committee meetings. Harry Medved asked Dan to check in with him before replacing the signs at Corriganville as there is misinformation about the movie locations on the current signs.

13. CLOSED SESSION was called to order at 9:56pm by Chair O'Brien.

- a. Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.95
Claimant: Cory Stone
Agency Claimed Against: Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District

Closed session was adjourned and the regular meeting was called back to order at 10:03pm.

14. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 10:04pm by Chair O'Brien.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dan Paranick". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "D".

Dan Paranick, District Manager / District Clerk