

MONTEREY PENINSULA REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
Preserving and Protecting Parks and Open Space



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Kelly Sorenson** - Marina, East Garrison/Fort Ord, north Seaside (**Ward 1**)
Shane Anderson – East Seaside (**Ward 2**)
Kevin Raskoff – Sand City, Del Rey Oaks, west Seaside, central Monterey (**Ward 3**)
Kathleen Lee - Pacific Grove, Pebble Beach west Monterey (**Ward 4**)
Monta Potter - Carmel, Carmel Valley, Big Sur, south Monterey (**Ward 5**)

**Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District
Special Board Meeting**

**February 10, 2024
Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.**

MINUTES

- 1) **9:00 a.m. Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 9:14.
- 2) **Roll Call** – Roll call was taken.
PRESENT: Directors Anderson, Lee, Potter, Raskoff and Sorenson
ABSENT: None
- 3) **Approval of Agenda** – Upon motion by Director Anderson, seconded by Director Sorenson, the agenda was unanimously approved.
- 4) **Public Comments** – Mary Dainton reported that at the February 7 Board meeting, it was difficult to hear people in the audience while on the Zoom feed.

Fred Rubin spoke about the issue of fire danger and asked the Board to pay attention to the health of District parks.

Ann Notthoff also asked the Board to think about climate change and the effects on parks and to incorporate it in the strategic plan.

Ivan Eberle spoke about the acquisition of the Rancho Cañada unit of Palo Corona and the upcoming restoration projects and habitat protection.

Tom Oliver urged the Board to consider raising the “annual fee” charged to District residents.

Mary Dainton noted that there aren’t enough staff to handle the District’s demands and would like to see more people hired.

Ranger Joseph Narvaez read a statement from the Cachagua Community Center Board about needs at Cachagua Community Park and announced the biannual Country Fair will be held on July 9.

Christy Fischer reported that the audio on Zoom is very muffled and it's difficult to follow. She encouraged the Board to build climate resilience in the strategic plan and to work with other large landowners in developing.

Darrell Stanaford announced that he's excited to hear more about the strategic planning process and how the "parkrun" program could be implemented in District parks.

5) **Discussion/Action Item** – Status of Current Strategic Plan, Streamlining, Modifying and Prioritizing Plan Elements, Chris Sliz, Facilitator

Facilitator Chris Sliz was introduced to the group, and she outlined the goals and objectives for the day and asked General Manager Rafael Payan to provide opening remarks.

General Manager Payan spoke about some of the accomplishments made on the current strategic plan and his excitement to potentially identify updates at this special meeting.

Director Sorenson spoke about the success of passing Measure E to garner CFD funding and the public support and commented that it might be a good idea to seek another ballot measure. He also opined that a good portion of District attention has been paid to the Palo Corona Rancho Cañada Unit acquisition and he hoped that the same attention could be paid to other properties. He also noted that the District was one of the only agencies to keep parks open at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Director Anderson called out the District's accomplishment of earning the Special District Leadership Foundation Transparency Certification.

Director Potter touted the success of starting the District fund at the Community Foundation. She also mentioned the usage of the new Multi benefit Community Trail at Palo Corona as an accomplishment.

Director Lee noted the strategic plan meeting timing was to help ID budget priorities.

Staff also mentioned accomplishments achieved toward the current strategic plan.

Ms. Sliz then broke up participants into working groups to participate in group activities.

6) **Working Lunch**

Continuation of the facilitator-led breakout group discussions. Facilitator Sliz reported that she would consolidate breakout group discussion notes and send them to District staff for continued progress on the Plan.

7) **3:00 p.m. Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 2:50.

Shuran Parker, Recording Secretary