



OFFICIAL

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W.C. Walker Senior Center  
505 Sunset Avenue, Shafter, CA 93263

August 30, 2023

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Special Board Meeting of the Shafter Recreation & Park District (SRPD) was called to order at 5:15 pm by Chair Rodríguez.

2. FLAG SALUTE AND INVOCATION:

Chair Rodríguez led the flag salute and Ms. Chambers gave the invocation.

3. ROLL CALL:

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Gary Rodríguez  
Kevin Keillor  
Fortino Valdivia

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Nelson Salinas

4. POSTING OF THE AGENDA:

The posting of the agenda was declared on Friday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 5:00 pm.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mr. Rafael Zamudio was in attendance and commented that he was interested in doing a fundraiser for the family of Jaylyn Jimenez, who was in the hospital in Los Angeles. He requested help from SRPD to arrange the rental of the high school softball fields for a charity tournament. He noted that, alternatively, the fundraiser could be held on fields in Buttonwillow, but that it was important to involve the Shafter community in meeting this need. He noted that he often organizes fundraisers to help kids and he would likely ask for the use of fields at the CSC in the future. He requested the use of the fields on September 9<sup>th</sup>, from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm. He noted that alcohol would not be permitted since it would be a family-friendly event. He also commented that he had equipment and volunteers lined up to prepare the field, so he wouldn't require staff support.

Chair Rodriguez thanked Mr. Zamudio for his comments.

6. CONSENT AGENDA:

Director Keillor **MOVED** to approve Consent Agenda except for items C and E, minutes from the June 20<sup>th</sup> and July 25<sup>th</sup> Special Board Meetings, and with the proviso that the agenda be altered as follows: Item 10E of New Business be addressed before item 9A of Old Business. Chair Rodríguez **SECONDED**.

AYES 3 (Valdivia, Keillor, Rodríguez)

NAYS 0

ABSENT 1

ABSTAIN 0

**MOTION CARRIED**

7. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS - The Board Committees have not met since the last board meeting but are scheduled to meet in September.

8. STAFF AND CONSULTANT PRESENTATIONS:

DISTRICT MANAGER: Mr. Jimenez reported on numerous special speakers that Maria Martinez programmed to offer information to seniors during August and noted that Kern County Aging and Adult Services has donated a large-screen television and assisted SRPD to add an additional wi-fi connection at the WCW that will be open to the public. He also mentioned their recent day trip to Morro Bay. He noted that staff is working on ADP Payroll Services onboarding and that the ELOP program with Richland School Districts is established and running in the new school year. He mentioned the pool shed fire and connected equipment losses, meetings with Sills Farms and the City Manager on solutions to CSC water needs, donation/participation in the Stuff the Bus event, attendance at CPRS events and the SHS new teacher lunch, as well as efforts to organize a 5k Run in connection with the Colours Festival. He also noted that the annual audit is now in progress with Brown & Armstrong.

On behalf of Mr. Gilbert Garcia, he added that the Wonderful Grant application for 2024 has been submitted and that Mr. Garcia would be out of the country until the second week of October but would be in communication if we needed information or assistance.

Chair Rodriguez suggested that a 5k be organized for the Cinco de Mayo festivities as well and reminded everyone of the 3-on-3 Basketball Tournaments that SRPD previously held.

PROGRAM COORDINATOR: Mr. Skylar Garcia reported on winners from the 2023 Volleyball season and final tournament and said that a successful Tennis Camp had just ended with a participant tournament and that the Kern County Tennis Association and the Bakersfield College Tennis coach would be staying in touch and offering more opportunities for area kids. He noted that Striders Cross Country registrations are over, and their first race will be held on September 16<sup>th</sup>. He commented on final Fall Ball registrations and said that while 14u Baseball sign-ups were too low to create a league, a team has been invited to play at Southwest in their Club League. He also noted that Soccer sign-ups were about to close on September 1<sup>st</sup> and that player skills clinics would be held on Saturday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, for 8u, 10u and 14u divisions. The clinic will be combined with required evaluations for 10u and 14u participants.

Chair Rodriguez asked Mr. Garcia to focus on getting program evaluations from parents and coaches. Mr. Garcia commented that a paper survey for parents was conducted at the close of the Tennis Camp. It was suggested that QR codes might be a way to allow anonymous feedback in the future.

Mr. Zamudio asked about losing players from previous seasons. Mr. Jimenez explained that some age groups had private teams pull off to play at BASA or Southwest.

746 SPORTS FOUNDATION: Mr. Jimenez reported that the 746 Foundation Board had not met but was eliminating some Board members who did not have time to participate and adding on new ones.

- 10E. TOURNAMENT FIELD RENTAL – **INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM** Mr. Jimenez excused himself from the discussion to avoid any conflict of interest. Chair Rodriguez noted that it is important to consider precedents set, that outside events SRPD assists will reflect not only on the organizer, but on SRPD as well. He asked about assuring that drinking was not allowed and concerns about injuries and appropriate music. Mr. Zamudio noted that all participants sign waivers and said that participants who violate the no-drinking policy are eliminated, and their fees are not refunded.

Director Valdivia **MOVED** to allow the fundraiser tournament to take place on September 9<sup>th</sup>. Chair Rodriguez **SECONDED**.

AYES 3 (Valdivia, Keillor, Rodríguez)

NAYS 0

ABSENT 1

ABSTAIN 0

**MOTION CARRIED**

9. OLD BUSINESS

A. SRPD CSC SCHEDULE UPDATE – **INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM** Mr. Jimenez reported on updated CSC schedules and noted that Groundbreaking is expected to take place in January of 2024 and the Grand Opening in September of 2024. He mentioned that because of the City’s plan to cap and move wells, we will need to find water during the SWID maintenance period of 2-3 months a year, but that Sills Farm is willing to assist, though SRPD may have to invest in a pump. **NO ACTION TAKEN.**

B. WONDERFUL COMMUNITY FUND PROPOSAL – **INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM** Wonderful is now proposing that the two-cent per square foot tax be divided with one cent for SRPD and one cent for the 746 Foundation, which would need to add a steering committee to ensure that all Shafter citizens have meaningful input on the use of funds. It could consist of 10 commissioners, five appointed by SRPD and five appointed by Center for Race, Poverty and the Environment (CRPE) with the idea that specific marginalized communities such as the Mexican Colony, Smith’s Corner, Thomas Lane, etc. would be adequately represented. The agreement has been sent to CRPE and Wonderful is awaiting their response.

Chair Rodriguez established an Ad Hoc Committee consisting of Director Keillor and himself to review the Wonderful agreement.

- C. **CREATION OF VOTING DISTRICTS – INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM** The Board reviewed the two proposals received for the creation of voting districts ranging from \$30 to \$45K. Director Valdivia **MOVED** to accept the Q2 Data & Research, LLC proposal for the quoted amount of \$31,000 with any additional charges not to exceed \$40,000 and Director Keillor **SECONDED**.  
 AYES 3 (Valdivia, Keillor, Rodríguez)  
 NAYS 0  
 ABSENT 1  
 ABSTAIN 0  
**MOTION CARRIED**
  
- D. **RESOLUTION TO MOVE TO BY-DISTRICT ELECTIONS – INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM** After Board discussion, Director Keillor **MOVED** to approve Resolution #08082023 declaring Board Intent to transition from At Large/From District Elections to By-District Elections and Director Valdivia **SECONDED**.  
 AYES 3 (Valdivia, Keillor, Rodríguez)  
 NAYS 0  
 ABSENT 1  
 ABSTAIN 0  
**MOTION CARRIED**
  
- E. **ADP UPDATE – INFORMATION/ ACTION ITEM** Ms. Chambers gave an update on the ADP Workforce Now onboarding process noting that the preliminary meeting was held on Friday, August 25<sup>th</sup> and data upload session from our current payroll system was scheduled for Thursday, August 31<sup>st</sup>. ADP expects to be running payroll service for SRPD by mid-October. **NO ACTION TAKEN.**
  
- F. **SRPD MASCOT – INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM** The Board discussed choosing a mascot and encouraged staff to run a community survey. **NO ACTION TAKEN.**
  
- G. **DISTRICT MANAGER ANNUAL EVALUATION – INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM** To be addressed in Executive Session. (Gov. Code 54957 (b) (1))

10. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **2023 CROSS COUNTRY BUDGET REVIEW – INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM** The Board reviewed the budget. Chair Rodriguez commented that the Board should consider assisting with participants who go on to Nationals. **NO ACTION TAKEN.**
  
- B. **WCW WATER FOUNTAIN –INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM** Mr. Jimenez announced the installation of the new WCW drinking fountain/bottle-filling station installed thanks to the generous donation of the Aera Employees Foundation. **NO ACTION TAKEN.**

- C. TINY ROBOTS – **INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM** Mr. Jimenez presented information on the demonstration of Tiny Robots automated field painting system and invited Board members to attend a demonstration from Turf Tank on Friday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, sat 11:00 am. The Board asked staff to research the cost/benefit analysis for a field painting system. **NO ACTION TAKEN.**
  
- D. CAPRI SAFETY RATING – **INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM** The Board reviewed the improved CAPRI safety rating for 2022. The Board asked the staff to create a policy for any problems with staff drivers, noted that an annual review of the handbook in January would be helpful, suggested a presentation on active shooter plans and a website-based ADA grievance procedure. **NO ACTION TAKEN.**
  
- E. TOURNAMENT FIELD RENTAL – **INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM** Addressed earlier in the meeting.
  
- F. BOARD VACANCY (California Government Code Section 1780) - **INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM** Mr. Jimenez gave notice of Co-chair Lorena Ayon’s resignation from the SRPD Board effective immediately. Director Valdivia **MOVED** to accept her resignation and Chair Rodriguez **SECONDED.**  
 AYES 3 (Valdivia, Keillor, Rodríguez)  
 NAYS 0  
 ABSENT 1  
 ABSTAIN 0  
**MOTION CARRIED**
  
- G. NOTICE OF BOARD MEMBER RESIGNATION (California Government Code Section 1780) - **INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM** Director Keillor **MOVED** to proceed with notifications of Board Vacancy to fill the final 13 months of the term with applications due by September 22<sup>nd</sup> and Chair Rodriguez **SECONDED.**  
 AYES 3 (Valdivia, Keillor, Rodríguez)  
 NAYS 0  
 ABSENT 1  
 ABSTAIN 0  
**MOTION CARRIED**
  
- F. SOUND SYSTEM – **INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM** Staff member Angel Serrano presented sound system purchase options with a potential cost of up to \$12,000. The Board asked staff to return with a clear idea of where this amount can be found in the current budget as well as specific procedures to safeguard the system from damage or theft when it is transported or in use and a plan for storage and maintenance of the same. Tabled for a future meeting. **NO ACTION TAKEN.**

11. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Director Valdivia had nothing to report.

Director Keillor noted that the Board needs to be consistent in holding meetings.

Chair Rodriguez noted that he had gone by the Tennis Camp and liked what he saw. He also mentioned that the portraits of William C. Walker and Antoinette Johnston would benefit from plaques explaining why they were being honored.

12. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Automated Field Painting Machines, Sound System, Wonderful Community Fund, Voting Districts, SRPD Mascot, Fall Ball and Soccer Budgets, SRPD Driver Safety Policies, CSC update, Naming Rights
13. EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Board went into Executive session to discuss District Manager's Annual Evaluation (Gov. Code 54957 (b) (1)) at 7:45 pm. They came out of closed session at 8:15 pm. **NO ACTION TAKEN**
14. ADJOURNMENT: Chair Rodriguez adjourned the meeting at 8:17 pm.