

# Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

A regular meeting of the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Board of Directors was held on Monday, May 4, 2015, at the HMT Recreation Complex, Dryland Training Center, 15707 SW Walker Road, Beaverton. Executive Session 6 pm; Regular Meeting 7 pm.

Present:

John Griffiths President/Director Bob Scott Secretary/Director

Jerry Jones Jr. Secretary Pro-Tempore/Director

Joseph Blowers Director
Larry Pelatt Director

Doug Menke General Manager

# Agenda Item #1 - Executive Session (A) Legal (B) Land

President Griffiths called executive session to order for the following purposes:

- To consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed, and
- To conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions.

Executive session is held pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(e) & (h), which allows the board to meet in executive session to discuss the aforementioned issues.

President Griffiths noted that representatives of the news media and designated staff may attend the executive session. All other members of the audience were asked to leave the room. Representatives of the news media were specifically directed not to disclose information discussed during executive session. No final action or final decision may be made in executive session. At the end of executive session, the board will return to open session and welcome the audience back into the room.

## Agenda Item #2 - Call Regular Meeting to Order

President Griffiths called the regular meeting to order at 7 pm.

## Agenda Item #3 – Action Resulting from Executive Session

Joe Blowers moved that the board of directors approve the granting of permanent and temporary easements on land within the northwest quadrant to support a sewer improvement project, subject to appropriate due diligence review and approval by the general manager. Larry Pelatt seconded the motion. Roll call proceeded as follows:

Bob Scott Yes
Jerry Jones Jr. Yes
Larry Pelatt Yes
Joe Blowers Yes
John Griffiths Yes

The motion was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

Jerry Jones Jr. moved that the board of directors approve the declaration of surplus property for a site in the northwest quadrant, subject to appropriate due diligence review and compliance with all adopted policies and statutes regarding the disposition of district property. Bob Scott seconded the motion. Roll call proceeded as follows:

Joe Blowers Yes
Larry Pelatt Yes
Bob Scott Yes
Jerry Jones Jr. Yes
John Griffiths Yes

The motion was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

#### Agenda Item #4 - Washington County Partner in Public Health Award

Eric Owens, superintendent of Recreation, introduced Tricia Mortell, Public Health Division Manager for Washington County Health & Human Services, to recognize THPRD and FamilyCare, Inc., with Washington County's Partner in Public Health Award. Eric introduced Maegan Pelatt, Manager of Service Coordination for FamilyCare, Inc., who is also in attendance this evening.

Tricia noted that the Partner in Public Health Award recognizes an organization/business that has developed an innovative public health program that positively affects its employees and/or the community. THPRD and FamilyCare, Inc., are being recognized with this award due to their collaboration to help low-income families become physically active and learn about healthy eating.

✓ President Griffiths thanked district staff and FamilyCare, Inc., for their efforts in this area.

#### Agenda Item #5 – Audience Time

Bill Athenas, 15400 SW Heron Court, Beaverton, is before the board of directors this evening regarding maintenance concerns at Murrayhill Park. He described the recent invasive weed removal program that has taken place at Murrayhill Park over the past few years funded via the 2008 Bond Measure, noting that he has observed some blackberry and Scotch broom returning to the previously cleared areas. He described the invasive nature of these plants, noting that if they are allowed to regain a foothold, they will soon spread and essentially waste the tax dollars that had gone into cleaning up the area. He commented that he had spoken to a district staff person about his concerns and was told that the district does not address Class B invasive weeds, of which these species are categorized. He requested that the district reexamine their maintenance practices for this area in order to maintain the integrity of the bond project.

- ✓ Bruce Barbarasch, superintendent of Natural Resources & Trails Management, commented that the staff person Mr. Athenas spoke with was misinformed and offered to discuss his concerns about Murrayhill Park with him personally.
- ✓ President Griffiths noted that he, too, has observed some invasive species returning to the area and has been assured by the general manager that staff is addressing the issue.

Neil Soiffer, 9215 NW Lovejoy Street, Portland, is before the board of directors this evening regarding recent changes in practice at the Tualatin Hills Tennis Center. He described a variety of procedural changes that he believes are driving patrons from the center, including hours of operation, cancellation policy, fees collection, and not applying the senior discount to non-primetime court rates. He explained that he regularly uses the Tennis Center during non-primetime hours, for which the rates are reduced in order to encourage more participation during low-use times of day. However, the senior discount is no longer being offered in conjunction with non-primetime hours, which he disagrees with as he believes that the non-primetime fees should be considered as a rate, not a discount. In addition, the senior discount in conjunction with the non-primetime rates should result in an increase in the overall revenue for the Tennis Center as it

would further incentivize the usage of the facility at a time when no one else is using it. He commented that he has noticed a decrease in usage at the Tennis Center since all of these changes have been implemented and that he personally knows former users who have joined private tennis clubs as a result.

President Griffiths asked Mr. Soiffer to clarify his main area of concern.

✓ Mr. Soiffer replied that he would like the board to instruct staff to reinstate the senior discount for non-primetime hours, noting that without the senior discount, it is the same price for a senior to play during peak times as non-peak.

Larry Pelatt asked district staff for the intent behind not applying the senior discount to non-primetime rates.

✓ Keith Hobson, director of Business & Facilities, replied that this issue is addressed in the Service and Financial Sustainability Plan adopted by the board, which states that the district would evaluate implementation of fee pricing adjustments, but that additional discounts should not be applied to these adjustments.

Larry commented that he believes the board may need to further discuss this aspect of the Service and Financial Sustainability Plan in that he can see the point in the argument that a non-primetime rate is an attempt to drive participation to certain times and that an additional discount should be applicable.

✓ General Manager Doug Menke commented that this issue will be before the board later this evening under agenda item 8B, Resolution Amending District Compiled Policies Chapter 6 – Finance.

General Manager Doug Menke commented that Tennis Center revenue is up 5% in the last 12 months, including the timeframe that the air structures were unavailable due to emergency maintenance issues.

✓ Mr. Soiffer replied that this has not been his observation, noting that perhaps it could be attributed to an increase in classes versus individual court usage.

Jerry Jones Jr. requested that staff evaluate whether the local private clubs are indeed more inexpensive than the district's offerings, as testified this evening.

✓ Doug replied that he can speak from personal experience that they are not and, in addition, the private clubs are highly competitive in securing court times; however, staff will provide the board with the requested information.

# Agenda Item #6 – Board Time

There were no comments during board time.

## Agenda Item #7 – Consent Agenda

Larry Pelatt moved that the board of directors approve consent agenda items (A) Minutes of April 13, 2015 Regular Board Meeting, (B) Monthly Bills, (C) Monthly Financial Statement, and (D) Parks Bond Citizen Oversight Committee Chair. Bob Scott seconded the motion. Roll call proceeded as follows:

Jerry Jones Jr. Yes
Joe Blowers Yes
Bob Scott Yes
Larry Pelatt Yes
John Griffiths Yes

The motion was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

# Agenda Item #8 – Unfinished Business

## A. Fee Waiver Program for District Residents

Bob Wayt, director of Communications & Outreach, introduced Juan Mercado, community outreach coordinator, to provide an overview of the memo included within the board of directors' information packet regarding the current discussions relating to the district's fee waiver program for residents (i.e. the Family Assistance Program). With the adoption of the district's Comprehensive Plan Update in late 2013, the recommendation was made that the district evaluate certain policies and practices in order to either control costs or increase cost recovery. The initial presentation to the board on this subject occurred at the December 8, 2014 regular meeting.

Juan provided an overview of the fee waiver program review process and public outreach that has taken place thus far via a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was entered into the record, noting that the following changes are being recommended for consideration of board adoption this evening:

- Discontinue funding to third-party providers that offer programs through the district.
- Discontinue funding to tryout-based affiliated sports league programs such as classic soccer. Recreational programs offered by those leagues would continue to be eligible for assistance from THPRD.
- Change the name to the THPRD Scholarship Program to more accurately reflect that individuals as well as families can qualify for assistance.

Juan offered to answer any questions the board may have.

Larry Pelatt asked for confirmation that the recommended adjustments would not impact the district's recreational affiliated sports groups.

✓ General Manager Doug Menke confirmed this.

Bob Scott asked for additional information regarding the services to district residents by third-party providers.

✓ Bob Wayt replied that these are for-profit businesses that provide offerings that the district does not, such as river rafting and ice skating.

Bob asked if there is any concern in not offering financial assistance for third-party programs that the district does not have the expertise or facilities to run.

✓ Doug replied that in many cases the district has private contractors that conduct programs within the district's facilities, all of which would still be eligible for assistance. It is the off-site, third-party providers that would be impacted.

President Griffiths asked how many patrons would be affected by the recommended changes.

- ✓ Juan replied that in 2014, \$2,000 in assistance was used for programs provided by third-party providers and \$8,000 was used for tryout-based affiliated sports programs.
- ✓ General Manager Doug Menke commented that the tryout-based affiliated sports programs are very expensive, much more than the \$200 in assistance allotted to qualifying district residents, and that these organizations also have their own scholarship programs.
- ✓ Larry expressed agreement, noting that the funding assistance that would no longer be provided to competitive league players is a small percentage of the total amount of fees assessed to participate in such programming.

Joe Blowers expressed support for the recommended changes, noting that they align well with the district's philosophy of providing recreational opportunities for a broad spectrum of the community.

✓ President Griffiths expressed agreement, noting that the funding saved would now be available to other patrons interested in participating in more recreational-based programs.

Bob Scott moved that the board of directors approve the changes to the fee waiver program for district residents as proposed. Joe Blowers seconded the motion. Roll call proceeded as follows:

Larry Pelatt Yes
Jerry Jones Jr. Yes
Bob Scott Yes
Joe Blowers Yes
John Griffiths Yes

The motion was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

B. Resolution Amending District Compiled Policies Chapter 6 – Finance
General Manager Doug Menke introduced Keith Hobson, director of Business & Facilities, to
provide an overview of the memo included within the board of directors' information packet
regarding the district's fee policies as contained in Chapter 6 of the District Compiled Policies
(DCP). These policies need to be updated to reflect the recent changes that resulted from the
Comprehensive Plan Update and the Service and Financial Sustainability Analysis adopted by
the board in late 2013. The initial presentation to the board on this subject occurred at the
November 3, 2014 regular meeting.

Keith described the review of the district's financial policies that has taken place thus far, noting that the proposed amendments to DCP 6 reflect the strategies and direction of the Service and Financial Sustainability Plan. DCP 6 has historically provided policy level guidance on fee-setting rather than detailed procedures. Although the cost recovery philosophy and the use of cost recovery targets to establish fees is recognized in the amended DCP 6, it does not specify the cost recovery target for each service, nor does it specify the means of calculating fees. Instead, staff will prepare, and the general manager will approve, detailed administrative procedures that cover these. Keith provided a brief overview of the proposed changes to this policy that were drafted after the board last reviewed it in November, which include the following: the definition of "military" pertaining to the military discount, the newly-adopted name for the THPRD Scholarship Program, and language added to clarify that the limitation in fee adjustments to any single fee applies to both discounts and other fee adjustments. Keith noted that this particular change was based on language contained within the Service and Financial Sustainability Plan which directs THPRD to consider implementing additional fee costing for prime/non-primetime and seasonal demand pricing strategies and that additional admission discounts should not apply to these pricing structures. The other proposed amendments remain as originally presented to the board in November. Keith stated that the action being requested this evening is board approval of a resolution amending District Compiled Policies Chapter 6 – Finance, and offered to answer any questions the board may have.

Larry Pelatt referenced the public testimony received earlier this evening during audience time, noting that although he understands the intent behind prohibiting double discounts in terms of combining a senior and military discount, he does not believe that a non-primetime rate should be considered a discount as such rates are attempting to drive demand to a specific, underutilized timeframe within a facility that would otherwise remain empty.

✓ Keith noted that the recommendation this evening stems from the board-adopted Service and Financial Sustainability Plan. He described the thought-process behind the recommendation that doubling up on market rates and discounts created pricing anomalies. He provided an example of the 20-punch pass, which when it was previously priced at a discounted rate and then combined with a senior discount, created a user fee

substantially lower than the standard drop-in fee, which reduced the district's ability to achieve cost recovery. Another point is that as the senior discount is phased down, at a certain point the non-primetime fee will be less than a senior-discounted rate.

Larry reiterated his previous comment that non-primetime rates are a deliberate method to drive demand and should be considered a fee rather than a discount. He suggested that the board pause on this particular decision in order to evaluate the financial and usage impacts that would occur if discounts are allowed on non-primetime rates.

✓ Keith expressed agreement that additional evaluation could be conducted, noting that if the board wishes to reconsider the recommendation pertaining to discounts being applied to non-primetime rates, that the board should also consider a revision to the Service and Financial Sustainability Plan in order to remain consistent.

Joe Blowers requested more information regarding the overall attendance rates at the Tualatin Hills Tennis Center, noting that he would like to better understand how great the usage deficit is during the non-primetime hours.

✓ General Manager Doug Menke confirmed that this information would be provided.

Jerry Jones Jr. expressed agreement with Larry's comments, noting that his interpretation of the double-discount recommendation related to not being able to apply both a senior and military discount to one fee. In addition, Jerry referenced the commitment to periodically compare fees to the market and asked how often this would be done.

- ✓ Keith replied approximately every three years.
  Jerry suggested that consideration be given to conducting reviews more often.
  - Larry commented that the length of time of 3 years between conducting comparisons took into account the funding and staff time in order to collect the necessary information.
- ✓ Keith noted that some fees are evaluated on a more frequent basis, such as drop-in fees. Jerry commented that private businesses constantly reassess fees and how to stay marketable, and encouraged the district to find a balance between the staff time it takes to conduct such analysis and remaining competitive. He inquired what level of authorization is necessary in order for the district to react to changing market conditions.
  - ✓ Keith replied that the policy under consideration for adoption is high-level and sets the framework for the actual fee calculations that would then be conducted by staff. He explained how a program fee is typically calculated.

Jerry expressed agreement, noting that he supports the district's ability to react to market conditions as nimbly as possible.

- ✓ Keith commented that by having the board approve the framework, staff can establish the fees as a function of cost. Fees are driven by cost and cost recovery. While market is a factor in a sense that the program will not be successful if priced over market, it does not directly set the fee.
- ✓ Larry recalled the lengthy discussions the board had when initially deliberating the concepts of pricing via cost recovery or market condition.

President Griffiths concluded that the board needs additional information in order to continue the discussion on this recommendation.

✓ General Manager Doug Menke stated that this item would be brought back before the board for review and consideration again in order to address the feedback received from the board this evening.

#### C. Advisory Committee Structure Options

General Manager Doug Menke introduced Bruce Barbarasch, superintendent of Natural Resources & Trails Management, to provide an overview of the memo included within the board of directors' information packet regarding the current policy discussion relating to the district's

utilization of advisory committees, which was a recommendation made within the district's Comprehensive Plan Update adopted in late 2013. The initial presentation to the board on this subject occurred at the November 3, 2014 regular meeting.

Bruce provided an overview of the process thus far, noting that at the initial presentation to the board on this subject, staff presented a concept for advisory committee restructuring which included the following:

- A. Defining the difference between fundraising (friends) and advisory groups. The recommendation stated that friends groups would fundraise and make improvements to a facility or set of amenities, while advisory committees would cover issues that affect broad areas of district operations and services.
- B. Increase opportunities to broaden the public involvement process. This included diversity and inclusion efforts by offering short-term committees, web-based open houses and surveys, having in-park input opportunities, and targeting public involvement to underserved audiences at times and locations that work well for them.
- C. Improve the effectiveness of advisory committees.

He noted that while the board seemed comfortable with the recommendations for A and B, there were mixed feelings about the proposed single, broad-based advisory committee intended to address assignment C. Based on that feedback, staff has researched and conducted public outreach on a different model, one which would combine the district's current eight advisory committees into three committees: Nature & Trails, Parks & Events, and Programs & Activities. Under this recommendation, the Stuhr Center Advisory Committee would transition to a friends group, which the committee supports, and senior programming would be folded into other areas.

Bruce stated that no formal action is being requested this evening and that staff intends to return to the board at a future date with a formal recommendation taking into consideration feedback received this evening. Bruce offered to answer any questions the board may have.

Jerry Jones Jr. complimented staff's proposal this evening, noting that he believes this new structure will bolster and strengthen the district's advisory committees, and that he is looking forward to serving as a liaison to one of the committees.

✓ Joe Blowers expressed agreement with Jerry's comments.

Bob Scott questioned whether the Parks & Events category is too broad and perhaps would better function as separate committees. He questioned how these two areas relate to each other.

✓ Joe expressed agreement with Bob's comments and asked whether any district events occur outside of a district park.

Bruce replied not a district-wide event, but that the district's facilities host their own indoor events. He conceded that this topic area may also fit well within the Programs & Activities category, noting that this may need to be further discussed among staff.

President Griffiths inquired as to the level of board member participation recommended.

- ✓ Bruce replied that the vision is that these committees would meet anywhere from once a month to once a quarter based on their agendas and current discussion areas. He noted that how involved the board chooses to be can be determined by the board.
- ✓ Board discussion occurred regarding whether board members would be assigned to one committee at a time, rotate attendance amongst all of the committees, or share attendance of one committee between two board members. It was agreed that the board liaison should attend a meeting of their assigned committee at least once per quarter.
- ✓ Joe warned against board members becoming entrenched in a specific topic area by being assigned to one particular committee for too long and suggested adding language

- that would encourage a yearly rotation of committee assignments. The other board members agreed that while this is a valid point, they would like to see how this process moves along first before creating such a specific rule.
- ✓ Jerry commented that other agencies handle this process by designating the board president to assign which board members serve on which committees.

Bruce recapped the board's feedback this evening as while the structure of the recommendation is sound, the board may want to look at moving around some of the subject areas. Additionally, include soft language regarding board member involvement.

✓ President Griffiths confirmed this, noting that while he believes that the board intent is to be involved in the committees, exactly how this involvement will be accomplished will unfold as the board moves through this new structure, rather than by creating specific rules preemptively.

#### D. Parks Functional Plan

Aisha Panas, director of Park & Recreation Services, provided an overview of the memo included within the board of directors' information packet regarding the draft Parks Functional Plan (PFP) being presented to the board for adoption this evening. This functional plan was recommended for development within the 2013 Comprehensive Plan Update and provides a vision and set of tools to help staff prioritize and measure the success of park planning, development and maintenance in the district. An initial outline for the PFP was presented to the board at their September 22, 2014 regular meeting, followed by a draft plan presentation at the April 13, 2015 regular meeting. Aisha noted that staff is requesting formal adoption of the PFP this evening by the board of directors.

Aisha provided an overview of the changes to the draft PFP that resulted from the board's feedback via a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was entered into the record, and offered to answer any questions the board may have.

President Griffiths referenced the new prioritization criterion added of in-district versus out-ofdistrict and asked how this might affect the district's future service areas, such as North Bethany and South Cooper Mountain.

✓ Aisha replied that this scoring criterion is specific to the development of parks, not acquisition, noting that if a significant number of neighbors have annexed to the district around the parcel in question, it would score higher for development. She noted that the framework for the future service areas of North Bethany and South Cooper Mountain require property owners to annex to the district either prior to the development application being submitted or at least by the time of final approval. On the other hand, this will affect areas developed prior to such requirements, where the district has neighborhoods within its current boundaries that are not annexed to the district.

Larry Pelatt provided a hypothetical example of a joint development project between the park district and school district on property owned by the school district that borders some in-district residents, but also borders out-of-district residents. He asked how this project would score out under the proposed criterion for in-district versus out-of-district.

✓ Aisha replied this is only one criterion in a list of many and that ownership of the property is also a criterion. The district would be more likely to prioritize development of a site owned by the district. However, a criterion also included is whether the property presents a unique opportunity. There are many ways that such a proposal could increase its score. President Griffiths referenced the New Underserved Areas Map and asked which color reflects highly dense areas, in particular those residents that are living in apartments that do not have access to a park nearby.

✓ Aisha replied that the areas identified on the map are those without any level of service. Otherwise, there is a level of service that is being provided. She provided a detailed overview of the map and what the different colors reflect in terms of level of service, including whether there will likely ever be a potential for service, such as with the large private commercial areas.

Jerry Jones Jr. referenced the Revised Land Acquisition Criteria and asked if partnership could also be a factor added to the criterion of "Is the property a donation or being discounted or expand an existing park?"

- ✓ Bob Scott expressed agreement with this suggestion.
- ✓ Aisha confirmed that this would be added.

Joe Blowers moved that the board of directors approve the Parks Functional Plan as proposed. Jerry Jones Jr. seconded the motion. Roll call proceeded as follows:

Larry Pelatt Yes
Bob Scott Yes
Joe Blowers Yes
Jerry Jones Jr. Yes
John Griffiths Yes

The motion was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

President Griffiths opened the floor for public testimony and apologized for the oversight in not calling for testimony prior to the board's decision this evening.

Laura Porter, 2135 SW Knollcrest Drive, Portland, is before the board of directors this evening regarding the Parks Functional Plan. She commented that although she serves as chair for the Natural Resources Advisory Committee, her testimony this evening is that of her own opinions. She noted that the committee has reviewed the draft PFP and was pleased to see so many of their comments incorporated into the final draft. She suggested that Level of Service criteria include a new criterion that would call for consideration of the Natural Resource Functional Plan in evaluating potential park developments. She explained that this would create a direct linkage between the two documents, which should work together strongly since so many parks contain natural resource aspects. She reminded the board of how highly the district's residents have rated protection of natural resources in district-conducted surveys and requested that they take her suggestion under consideration.

President Griffiths asked district staff to comment on Ms. Porter's suggested additional criterion.

✓ Aisha explained that all of the functional plans are being developed under the umbrella of the district's Comprehensive Plan and that all are intended to be used in conjunction with each other. She provided a similar example of a trail that runs through a park and how that would necessitate drawing information from the Trails Functional Plan. However, she conceded that currently all of the documents are separate. She suggested development of an overarching cover document that would be attached to each plan that clarifies how each of the plans should work together.

#### E. Program Functional Plan

Eric Owens, superintendent of Recreation, provided an overview of the memo included within the board of directors' information packet regarding the draft Programs Functional Plan (PRFP) being presented to the board for review this evening. This functional plan was recommended for

development within the 2013 Comprehensive Plan Update and provides a vision and set of tools to help staff prioritize and measure the success of programs. An initial outline for the PRFP was presented to the board at their September 22, 2014 regular meeting. Eric noted that after the board's review and comments this evening, staff will return to the board to request consideration of adoption of the PRFP at a future board meeting.

Eric provided a detailed overview of the draft PRFP via a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was entered into the record, and which included the following information:

- Program Development and Service Assessment: Lays the groundwork for continuously assessing and reviewing recreational programming. This will help to ensure that a balanced set of programs and services meet the needs and interests of the community.
- Access for All Programming: Guidance for staff to ensure that the entire community is considered in the programming of activities, including meeting the needs of low-income families, providing inclusion services for participants with disabilities, and conducting community outreach.
- Facilities: Helps direct staff on the use of facilities, facility resources, facility scheduling and future facility development.
- Staffing: Provides information and direction for recruiting, hiring and training quality staff as well as the use of volunteers to augment program delivery.
- Cost Recovery: Details a method for a balanced cost recovery model that identifies and establishes financial accountability and sustainability goals, while equally supporting the core values, vision, and mission of the district and the community it serves.

Eric offered to answer any questions the board may have.

Bob Scott complimented staff on all of the work that has been done in developing the functional plans, noting that he appreciates the analytical thought process that has been used throughout.

Joe Blowers inquired how the district will measure whether programs are encouraging diversity.

✓ Eric replied that staff will be actively seeking out programming that is culturally sensitive and serves people with disabilities, but that a specific measurement has not been identified.

Joe suggested that measuring the success of diversity-focused programming could be a good indicator.

✓ Eric agreed, noting that another measurement could be the increase in use of the district's inclusion services.

Larry Pelatt asked whether the district collects ethnicity data on its patrons.

✓ Keith Hobson, director of Business & Facilities, replied that the district does not currently collect such data due to the politically sensitive nature of requesting such information.

Joe asked how the district can measure improvements in this area if the data is not collected, in both the areas of the employment of the district more closely reflecting its residents, as well as providing appropriate programming and services.

- ✓ Larry noted that although it is legal to collect such information for employment purposes, it becomes more convoluted when being collected for other purposes. He suggested that staff work with district legal counsel to further explore this area.
- ✓ General Manager Doug Menke confirmed that this topic area would be further researched.

## B. General Manager's Report

General Manager Doug Menke provided an overview of his General Manager's Report included within the board of directors' information packet, including the following:

- General Obligation Bond Issue Refinancing
  - Keith Hobson, director of Business & Facilities, provided an update regarding the General Obligation Bond Issue Refinancing, noting that the process has been

completed at an interest rate lower than initially anticipated. Overall, the debt financing for the \$100 million authority has resulted in lower interest and levy rates, and a shorter debt period than originally anticipated in November 2008.

- Senior Fee Accommodations
  - Eric Owens, superintendent of Recreation, provided an update regarding the various steps that are underway in an attempt to mitigate fee increases for senior programs at the Stuhr Center and district-wide.
- THPRD/Portland Parks & Recreation Partnership
  - Bruce Barbarasch, superintendent of Natural Resources & Trails Management, provided a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was entered into the record, regarding logs harvested from Lowami Hart Woods Natural Area during its construction that are being utilized at Portland Parks & Recreation's Westmoreland Park for their nature play area.
- Upcoming Dedication Events
  - Bob Wayt, director of Communications & Outreach, provided a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was entered into the record, noting upcoming dedication events to celebrate the completion of major bond projects in 2014.
- Board of Directors Meeting Schedule
- Memorial Day Event

Doug offered to answer any questions the board may have.

Jerry Jones Jr. thanked district staff for working so diligently in attempting to find other options to lessen the expense for seniors to participate in district programs.

President Griffiths referenced the recent public relations controversy experienced by the district regarding the potential sale of surplus park property. He noted that one of the lessons that could be taken away from this experience is the need to create a forum or some type of channel whereby a board member could have an opportunity to address current topics or proposals in a public manner. He described the City of Beaverton's newsletter that includes a city councilor column. He suggested that the board further consider this concept, noting that district staff is working on some ideas for the board's consideration.

# Agenda Item #9 – Adjourn There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9 pm. John Griffiths, President Bob Scott, Secretary Recording Secretary, Jessica Collins