
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Regular Meeting Of the Board of Directors

Vail Park and Recreation District
dba Vail Recreation District
July 25, 2019

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Vail Recreation District, Town of Vail, Eagle County, Colorado, was held on July 25, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. at the Vail Town Council Chambers, Town of Vail, Eagle County, Colorado, in accordance with the applicable statutes of the State of Colorado.

1. MEMBERS PRESENT

1.1. Bill Suarez, Jason Plante, Roland Kjesbo, Tom Saalfeld

2. MEMBERS ABSENT AND EXCUSED

2.1. Kim Newbury Rediker

3. STAFF PRESENT

3.1. Mike Ortiz, Jessie Klehfoth, Scott Zessin, Jim Sanders, Jared Biniecki, Dan Timm, Andy Holland, Julie Cotter, Danielle Salinsky, Joel Rabinowitz, April Heredia, Jerrica Miller, Chad Young

4. OTHERS PRESENT

4.1. Cameron Wolfe, Jean Hadley, Addison Nothnagel, Samantha Nothnagel, Robye Nothnagel, Mark Nothnagel, Davis Page, Riley Bellm, Mackenna Simson, Michael Cacioppo

5. CONSULTANTS PRESENT

5.1. Eric Weaver

6. CALL TO ORDER

6.1. Director Saalfeld called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

7. CHANGES TO AGENDA

7.1. None

8. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

8.1. By motion duly made and seconded it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2019 regular meeting.

9. PUBLIC INPUT FOR MATTERS NOT OTHERWISE ON AGENDA

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Vail Recreation District July 25, 2019 Meeting Minutes

- 9.1. Mr. Cacioppo stated that he is opposed to the town taking open space and turning it into something else, in regards to a proposed employee housing development on the Vail Golf Course. He mentioned the town charter and that it may require Town of Vail voters to approve any sale of open space to a developer. He also said that town council could call up and overturn a decision by an unelected planning commission, if they were to go ahead with such a proposal.

10. PRESENTATION OF VAIL SCHOLAR ATHLETE AWARD WINNERS

- 10.1. Mr. Ortiz introduced the two Vail Scholar Athlete Award winners and said this year was a hard choice with the most applications ever submitted to the VRD. The award is a \$4K award, with \$1K given each year if the student stays in school and maintains a C average.
- 10.2. Mr. Ortiz introduced the female Vail Scholar Athlete Award Winner as Miss Addison Nothnagel, an EVHS graduate with a 4.6 GPA who will attend Ithaca College in New York for their six-year physical therapy program. Miss Nothnagel was a very dedicated member of the Vail Gymnastics Center competitive team since 2012 and achieved Level 9, even while overcoming an injury.
- 10.3. Mr. Ortiz next introduced Mr. Cameron Wolfe as the male Vail Scholar Athlete Award Winner. Mr. Wolfe graduated from VMS with a 4.0 unweighted GPA. He will be attending Dartmouth College, which he chose for their strong academics and ski team. He intends to major in mechanical or electrical engineering. In high school, Mr. Wolfe was an accomplished scholar, Nordic skier and baseball player.

11. GAME BALL AWARDS

- 11.1. Mr. Ortiz asked to move the game ball awards before the Civic Area Plan discussion.
- 11.2. Mr. Ortiz recognized numerous VRD employees for outstanding work. These employees included Gymnastics Coach Ms. Danielle Salinsky, Assistant Finance Director Mrs. April Heredia, Dobson Ice Arena employees Mr. Andy Holland and Mr. Scott Zessin, Marketing and Communications Director Mrs. Jessie Klehfoth, Community Programming employees Mr. Chad Young and Miss Jerrica Miller, Nordic Director Mr. Dan Timm, Director of Parks Maintenance Mr. Jim Sanders, Sports Director Mr. Joel Rabinowitz and Director of Operations and Facilities Mr. Scott O'Connell. Mr. Ortiz spoke about each employee and their contributions to the VRD team.

12. REVIEW OF CIVIC AREA PLAN

- 12.1. Mr. Ortiz gave an overview of a recent town council meeting in which the Civic Area Plan was discussed. He reminded the board that this is a master

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Vail Recreation District July 25, 2019 Meeting Minutes

plan, not a development plan. They are not deciding the fine details of each facility, but the master plan for the area. Mr. Ortiz expressed some concerns about the discussions around Dobson Ice Arena in the plan so far and explained to the board that VRD needs to still be able to host special events in any future facilities in order to maintain a reasonable subsidy. Currently, special events in Dobson reduce the subsidy by almost \$120K. He said it's not in the best interest of taxpayers in Vail to subsidize ice even more, if Dobson becomes a utilitarian ice rink with no ability to host special events.

- 12.2. After some discussion, Director Saalfeld encouraged the board directors to attend future town council meetings where Vail Civic Area plan will be discussed and give input to encourage and be supportive of the council and be there for information, but also look out for VRD's best interests and financial sustainability.
- 12.3. Mr. Cacioppo gave public input regarding a proposed conference center in the Vail Civic Area plan and how Vail taxpayers have already opposed this development type twice in the past. He also said that Avon is considering a convention center, hotel and parking structure, which would be too close of competition to a Vail facility. He stated he disagreed with adding a conference center at the expense of parks and recreation and would like to see Dobson rebuilt bigger and possibly with a second sheet of ice.

13. JUNE 2019 FINANCIALS

- 13.1. Mr. Weaver stated that June saw VRD financials playing a lot of catchup. Revenues were down because of weather and expenses favorable because of late starts. Overall, he stated there were no major concerns. On the expense side, he talked about the need to hire a new HR employee, but the challenges of limited VRD office space. He stated that capital projects were forecasting to be about \$700K favorable due to cost savings on projects and a 15% contingency that was not needed. Mr. Weaver expects to roll most of that forward, with the exception of some equipment purchases made now that were budgeted for future years.

14. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR INPUT

- 14.1. Mr. Ortiz asked the board to read through the staff report attached to the packet. He highlighted that there will be a local memorial for Mr. Bill Wright at the Vail Tennis Center on Aug. 22 and a dedication ceremony at the golf course for Mr. Ben Krueger on Oct. 10.
- 14.2. Mr. Ortiz challenged all Board members to get a team together for the Businesses, Bogeys and Bragging Rights on Sept. 5, the VRD's annual scholarship fundraiser.
- 14.3. Mr. Ortiz thanked the Board for the meeting time to honor people who work really hard, both the scholarship winners and the staff.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Vail Recreation District July 25, 2019 Meeting Minutes

- 14.4. Finally, Mr. Ortiz encouraged the community and town council to go around to the different VRD facilities and see how much participation there is at every facility, in every program, every day. He thanked the Board for seeking the mill levy increase and setting up the VRD for future success. He stated that people should be very proud of what the recreation district does in this little community and how many people are impacted every day.

15. BOARD MEMBER INPUT

- 15.1. Director Plante congratulated Miss Nothnagel and Mr. Wolffe on their scholarships. He also thanked Mr. Ortiz for doing an excellent job and keeping staff going. He thanked Mr. Biniecki for putting numbers on Dobson usage and participation together.
- 15.2. Director Suarez reflected back on his Board tenure and said he is proud of the organization and is happy he chose to serve on the Board. He said tonight's meeting really sent it home, he's honored and proud that the VRD is taking care of kids with scholarships and staff with recognition.
- 15.2.1. Mr. Ortiz thanked Director Suarez for all he's done for the VRD while serving on the Board.
- 15.3. Director Kjesbo stated that serving on the Board is very much a privilege that starts with Mr. Ortiz and the incredible staff he has assembled. He said it makes it easy for him to serve on the Board.

16. ADJOURNMENT

- 16.1. Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was unanimously RESOLVED to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Vail Recreation District Board of Directors.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessie Klehfoth
Secretary to the Meeting