
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Of the Board of Directors

Vail Park and Recreation District
dba Vail Recreation District
October 26, 2023

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Vail Recreation District, Town of Vail, Eagle County, Colorado, was held on October 26, 2023, 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. Bob Armour, John Rediker, Molly Rabin, Jason Plante

2. MEMBERS ABSENT AND EXCUSED

2.1. Kirk Hansen

3. STAFF PRESENT

3.1. Mike Ortiz, Nell Davis, April Heredia, Scott O'Connell, Alice Plain, Justin Gompf, Sara Eaton, Chris Desseauve, Dan Timm, Julie Cotter, Beth Pappas, Jared Biniecki, Jacob Tilmann, Ben Moore

4. OTHERS PRESENT

4.1. Dr. John Gottlieb

5. CONSULTANTS PRESENT

5.1. Eric Weaver, Marchetti & Weaver, LLC.

6. CALL TO ORDER

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

7. CHANGES TO AGENDA

7.1. Mr. Mike Ortiz asked if we could add Staff Recognition to the agenda after Public Input.

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

8.1. By motion duly made and seconded it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2023, regular meeting.

9. PUBLIC INPUT FOR MATTERS NOT OTHERWISE ON AGENDA

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- 9.1 Mr. John Gottlieb shared with the board how Pickleball is an asset to the community and the need for an indoor facility. Director Armour thanked him for coming to share his thoughts and acknowledged his request.
10. STAFF RECOGNITION
- 10.1 Mr. Mike Ortiz recognized the four main people involved in organizing and implementing every year the BBB golf tournament. He thanked each one for all their efforts and time that make the tournament a great success every year. He awarded each one with a gift certificate. Thank you to Beth Pappas, Nell Davis, Alice Plain and Ali Wadey.
11. REVIEW OF PROPOSED 2024 PROGRAM FEES
- 11.1 Mr. Mike Ortiz shared with the board that this year's fees reflect the district's continued efforts to make a bigger price difference between Vail residents and non-residents. He stated that the VRD needs to be thoughtful about pricing for programs with a supply/demand issue such as day camps, golf and pickleball.
- 11.2 Director Armour went through each department's suggested changes and gave the board the opportunity to ask any questions they may have. The only department that there was concern was Tennis. Director Armour wanted to see a bigger gap in the season pass for residents' vs non-resident and wanted the fee for court time to increase as well. After some discussion it was suggested that the non-resident pass be increased to \$400 and that court time for an hour be increased to \$40/\$25 and an hour and a half be increased to \$50/\$35.
- 11.3 Director Rediker asked for clarification on the meaning of L1, L2 and L3 pricing for Camp Vail and Pre Kamp fees. Sara Eaton reminded the board of the tiered system that they adopted going into the summer of 2023. This gave locals priority over visitors for enrolling into camps.
- 11.3 After discussion and hearing no public comment and by motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the 2024 proposed program fees as presented, with the exception of the few changes suggested for tennis fees.
12. REVIEW OF PRELIMINARY PROPOSED 2024 BUDGET
- 12.1 Director Armour thanked the directors for their budget synopsis. He acknowledged that they made the review of the proposed budgets easier to look at for each department. He then took the time to go through each synopsis and gave the board the opportunity to ask any questions they may have. The most common increase to each department was increased labor cost. Most departments are also showing revenue increases due to projected fee increases for 2024.
- 12.2 Director Armour shared his concerns related to upcoming capital expenditures of the district and asked with those looming in the future can the current golf carts fleet be used for another year to help save some money. Mr. Eric Weaver

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responded no that it would cause us to both lose trade in value and also likely an increase in the cost of the carts if we waited another year.

12.3 Golf is budgeting for an increase in revenues next year as they will be able to open on time and have increased fees. Director Armour asked for the number of rounds that were played in 2022 and 2023. Ms. Alice Plain shared that in 2022, 22,000 rounds were played and in 2023 18,000 rounds were played. The difference of 4,000 was due to the late start of the course.

12.4 With no big concerns for the department budgets Mr. Eric Weaver reviewed his budget memo that was submitted to the board with the proposed 2024 budget. He went over what property taxes will potentially look like next year. He shared that the preliminary numbers showed a 38 % increase in assessed values. He shared the need for two budgets this year as there is a ballot measure that if passed will affect property taxes. The measure is proposition HH. He gave a quick and thorough explanation of his understanding of HH. He shared that if HH passes property owners will be giving up their TABOR refunds and property tax assessment rates will go down and the amount that is exempt from tax will increase for residential properties. The current mill levy rate is 3.86 mills, this will be adjusted to 3.97 or if HH passes it will be 4.09. The VRD would be affected by about \$65K.

12.5 Mr. Weaver then went on to point out that on the expenses side of the budget summary personnel costs continue to be a leading factor in the increase in expenses. He also shared with the board that there is no debt service at this time. Our capital budget for 2024 is \$4.6 million. This number has many items in it, to name a few, 3 employee housing units at \$1.7 million, new golf carts are \$610K, a new snow cat is \$275K and replacement equipment and many renovations cost throughout the district.

12.6 The board asked for more time to review the budget before any action. The budget hearing will be conducted at the November meeting.

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

13.1 Director Armour asked if there were any unfinished business items and there were none. He asked that maybe we need to have a retreat to speak more about employee housing again. There are still many concerns about this project and the board felt a retreat would be best for further discussion. It was agreed to meet before the meeting on the 16th of November at noon at the Vail Golf & Nordic Clubhouse.

13.2 Director Armour also shared that he wanted to understand an article that was written by Diane Johnson that was in the newspaper regarding water. He would like to know what we are doing and how we are paying for water. Mr. Ortiz said he would have April and Andrea work on those numbers.

14. SEPTEMBER 2023 FINANCIAL REPORT

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14.1 Mr. Eric Weaver provided a quick overview, noting food and beverage had a \$130k turnaround in the month of September and will be close to breaking even this year.

15. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

15.1 Mr. Mike Ortiz shared a few highlights from the director's report that can be found on the website in the board packet. He gave props to Sunny Hasebe, our gymnastics coordinator that went with him to meet a Japanese contingent that came to town from Nagano. They met them at the Golf and Nordic Clubhouse and Sunny was the interpreter.

16. BOARD MEMBER INPUT

16.1 Director Rabin shared she is just happy to be a part of the board and also thanked the staff for their time preparing their budgets.

16.2 Director Armour shared that he appreciated the light read with each budget overview. He also wanted to recognize the passing of Vi Brown. He shared that they are having a service for her at Donovan on November 1, 2023.

16.3 Director Rediker spoke to the public sharing that price increases are not taken lightly, and we try to keep our fees as affordable as possible for all our programming. But we are in inflationary times, and we need to help cover some of those costs, a big part is increasing our pay so that we can retain quality staff and provide better programming going forward. He shared his support for all the proposed increases for 2024.

16.4 Director Plante thanked all the staff for their great work this summer. He recognized all the work that goes into budget preparation.

16. ADJOURNMENT

17.1 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,
April Heredia
Secretary to the Meeting