# Minutes of the Regular Meeting Of the Board of Directors

Vail Park and Recreation District dba Vail Recreation District June 27, 2019

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Vail Recreation District, Town of Vail, Eagle County, Colorado, was held on June 27, 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, Kim Newbury Rediker, Jason Plante, Roland Kjesbo, Tom Saalfeld

## 2. MEMBERS ABSENT AND EXCUSED

2.1. None

#### 3. STAFF PRESENT

3.1. Jessie Klehfoth, Mike Ortiz, Scott O'Connell

#### 4. OTHERS PRESENT

4.1. Axel and Janie Wilhelmsen, Joe Staufer, Karla Sjogren, Dennis Scioli, Gretchen Busse, Hermann Staufer, Jeff Kissane, Art and April Carroll, Michael Cacioppo, Sheika Gramshammer

# 5. CONSULTANTS PRESENT

5.1. Eric Weaver, Dan Cudahy

#### 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 April 25, 2019 regular meeting with Director Saalfeld abstaining due to absence.

## 9. PUBLIC INPUT FOR MATTERS NOT OTHERWISE ON AGENDA

# Vail Recreation District June 27, 2019 Meeting Minutes

- 9.1. Mr. Axel Wilhelmsen gave public input regarding the possible development of employee housing on a portion of the Vail Golf Course and urged the Board to stand up and protect green.
- 9.2. Mr. Hermann Staufer gave public input and asked the Board to come out against the housing proposal.
- 9.3. Mr. Joe Staufer also gave public input and urged the Board to come out against building anything on town open space.
- 9.4. Mrs. Gretchen Busse expressed her opposition to the housing proposal. She also asked the Board to look at the dead trees along the berm between Sunburst Drive and the Vail Golf Club parking lot.
- 9.5. Mr. Art Carroll said he agreed with Mr. Wilhelmsen's comments. He was sorry the VRD Board was being asked by the town to consider this proposal and said he feels that much of the public input he gives lately is in defense of view planes and open space.
- 9.6. Mr. Michael Cacioppo gave public input and asked if the proposal has been made public. He said he agreed with some of the comments made by Mr. Hermann and Mr. Joe Staufer, and said that town open space should be sacred, and hopes the VRD Board will express this point of view to the town.
- 9.7. Mrs. Sheika Gramshammer gave public input and said while Vail does need employee housing, there is a place and time to build it, and open space is too important and must be protected.

#### 10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 10.1. By motion duly made and seconded it was unanimously RESOLVED to move into executive session for the purpose(s):
  - 1. §24-6-402(4) (b), C.R.S., "Conferences with an attorney for the public entity for the purposes of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions." Possible Development of Employee Housing on a Portion of the Vail Golf Course
- 10.2. By motion duly made and seconded in was unanimously RESOLVED to move out of executive session.
  - 10.2.1. Director Saalfeld noted that the Board did not discuss anything not noticed in the meeting agenda.
  - 10.2.2. Director Kjesbo recused himself from the discussion due to his conflicting involvement on a town board.
- 10.3. Following the executive session, Director Plante gave public comment on the proposal and expressed that he strongly disapproves of converting open space into residential housing.
- 10.4. Director Suarez also stated that he adamantly disagrees with converting recreational space into residential housing.

# Vail Recreation District June 27, 2019 Meeting Minutes

- 10.5. Director Newbury Rediker stated that her job as a board member of the Vail Park and Rec District is to take care of recreation and she doesn't believe that open space should be converted into residential property.
- 10.6. Director Saalfeld also stated he was adamantly opposed to the proposal.
- 10.7. By motion duly made and seconded it was unanimously RESOLVED to direct the Board's attorney to draft correspondence to Vail Town Council stating that the VRD Board is opposed to moving forward with this proposal, with Director Kjesbo recused from the discussion and vote.

## 11. PRESENTATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF 2018 AUDIT

- 11.1. Mr. Dan Cudahy presented the 2018 audit and stated that the District received an unqualified or "clean" opinion. He said there were no disagreements with management, and audit controls are good with good segregation between the VRD staff and Marchetti & Weaver consultants. His only suggestion was that supervisors sign off on daily void reports at the end of each day. He said the District's operating reserve is good with some additional funds available for capital projects. The District's net position increase of \$1.2M in 2018 indicated that district's revenues are adequate to fund operations and capital improvements. He informed the Board that from an audit, internal control, and financial standing it is a good report with no issues to be concerned about.
- 11.2. Mr. Weaver explained that the increased mill levy is why the District is seeing operating reserve increases.
- 11.3. By motion duly made and seconded it was unanimously RESOLVED to accept the audit draft as presented.

#### 12. CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

12.1. Mr. Scott O'Connell presented an update on capital projects including the completion of the starter building, driving range and bridge replacement projects and the progress toward competition of the tee renovations.

# 13. CIVIC AREA PLAN UPDATE

13.1. Mr. Ortiz gave an update on the Civic Area Plan and said he and Mr. Saalfeld attended the last town council meeting. Mr. Ortiz also met with the planning group and stressed to them that the VRD must have events within Dobson in order to not increase the operating subsidy. He said if there aren't events in Dobson, there is not a need for a second sheet of ice, but if the town does want events in there, we could consider a second sheet of ice so as not to displace users. The next town council meeting presentation is scheduled for July 16, with some more proposals. He urged the Board and public that this is our one shot now to make Dobson what they want it to be. He said the consultants are working very hard now to look at the economic feasibility of these suggestions and wants to present council with some data.

# Vail Recreation District June 27, 2019 Meeting Minutes

- 13.2. Director Saalfeld explained that Mr. Ortiz has done a great job of pleading VRD's case that Dobson is 40 years old and needs to be replaced.
- 13.3. Mr. Ortiz reiterated that VRD is not just asking for a sheet of ice, we're asking for a multi-purpose facility. There needs to be more discovery of the economics of this, based on costs and programming.

## 14. RECREATION SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE

14.1. Mr. Saalfeld updated the board that he and Director Suarez met with town councilmembers Greg Moffet and Jen Mason along with VRD and town staff on June 6. During the subcommittee they discussed VRD projects, the Red Sandstone Elementary gym floor, clubhouse punch list items, the new Ford Park shelter and then had a small discussion on the civic center plan. All of this was followed by a presentation by a local developer who was invited to the meeting by Town of Vail staff. There were also several members of the Vail Local Housing Authority present for this portion of the meeting.

#### 15. MAY 2019 FINANCIALS

15.1. Mr. Weaver stated that overall everything budget-wise is a little delayed due to weather conditions. He said there is lots to be seen of how the weather will affect the golf course budget, as they are currently behind in terms of pass sales but hopes that will be made up in time and with daily fee revenue. He said revenue forecasting is down compared to budget, but not to previous years. Mr. Weaver stated the golf course capital projects are projected to come in under budget and he is now releasing contingency funds. Between that, savings and deferrals he said there is approximately \$700K available in additional capital funding. He is also closely monitoring and saving for property tax challenges by local hotels that are going through the legal system now. Allowing for potential abatements, the District may have to pay back previously collected taxes with 10% interest.

# 16. BOARD MEMBER INPUT

- 16.1. Director Plante stated he is really happy with how everything came out on the golf course. He thanked Mr. O'Connell and Mr. Ortiz for their hard work. He also agreed with Mrs. Busse's comment regarding the trees at the golf course and asked that those be looked at.
- 16.2. Director Suarez also congratulated the golf course staff, Mr. Scott Todd, Mr. O'Connell and Mrs. Plain for a job well done. He said the starter house is beautiful and really likes the new driving range set up. He also mentioned that the Vail Tennis Center is now hosting some of the USTA tennis teams and said the courts look great.

## Vail Recreation District June 27, 2019 Meeting Minutes

- 16.3. Director Newbury Rediker said she enjoyed seeing the Davos Dash go through her neighborhood. She said it seemed to go very smoothly and was well-run.
- 16.4. Director Kjesbo stated he was very happy that construction will be done and over on the golf course for a while, and said the course is in great shape.
  - 16.4.1. Mr. Ortiz also thanked the golf staff who managed well through all the construction and thanked residents for their patience. He stressed the importance of doing updates to a 40-year-old golf course to keep guests coming back. Without daily fees, we couldn't make the course financially viable.

#### 17. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR INPUT

17.1. Mr. Ortiz thanked the whole VRD staff who have all been dealing very well with different challenges in their departments. The sports department had 10 weeks in a row where they either had a race or canceled and rescheduled a race. Community programming dealt with moving, licensing and staffing challenges. Mr. O'Connell and Mrs. Plain dealt with golf course challenges admirably and with lots of attention to details. He also thanked Mrs. Klehfoth who has been working hard to get out the word on all of these challenges and programming and keeping people informed with what's going on. Dobson also has staff working hard to keep everything going and looking forward to the Bob Johnson Hockey Camps and tournaments.

#### 18. ADJOURNMENT

18.1. 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