## Minutes of the Regular Meeting Of the Board of Directors

# Vail Park and Recreation District dba Vail Recreation District February 27, 2014

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Vail Recreation District, Town of Vail, Eagle County, Colorado, was held on February 27, 2014 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, Jeff Wiles, Joe Hanlon, Rick Sackbauer, Ken Wilson

# 2. MEMBERS ABSENT AND EXCUSED

2.1. None

#### 3. STAFF PRESENT

3.1. Mike Ortiz, Jamie Gunion

#### 4. OTHERS PRESENT

- 4.1. Michael Cacioppo, Vail Business Briefs
- 4.2. Kristin Bertuglia and Gregg Barrie with the Town of Vail
- 4.3. Seth Mason, Eagle River Watershed Council Consultant

# 5. CONSULTANTS PRESENT

5.1. Eric Weaver, Robertson & Marchetti, P.C.

#### 6. CALL TO ORDER

6.1. Director Hanlon called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.

#### 7. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

7.1. By motion duly made and seconded it was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2014 regular meeting.

#### 8. PUBLIC INPUT OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

- 8.1. Mr. Michael Cacioppo requested an update regarding the litigation of the Vail Golf Clubhouse project.
  - 8.1.1. Mr. Ortiz explained it is in Judge Dunkelman's court. There is a meeting scheduled March 13 at Eagle County Court where the judge will provide a

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progress report. Mr. Ortiz is unsure if it is a public hearing. The case is ongoing.

8.1.2. The Vail Golf Club will open as soon as conditions allow in early spring.

## 9. RESIGNATION OF JOE HANLON AS CHAIR

- 9.1. Director Joe Hanlon resigned his position as Chair of the Board to allow a new chair to become familiar with the procedures necessary to lead the board prior to the May election.
  - 9.1.1. Director Suarez nominated Director Wiles to serve as chair of the board and Director Wilson nominated Director Suarez to act as Secretary/Treasurer.
  - 9.1.2. By motion duly made and seconded it was RESOLVED to elect Director Wiles as chair and Director Suarez as secretary/treasurer. There will be an election for chair and secretary/treasurer after the May 6 election, when the public will elect three new members to the board.
- 9.2. Director Wilson recognized Director Hanlon's service as chair of the board for the past several years.

#### 10. GORE CREEK WATER QUALITY UPDATE

- 10.1. Ms. Bertuglia with the Town of Vail reviewed information regarding the quality of Gore Creek. She commented that Gore Creek is an important asset to the Town of Vail as both a recreational amenity and economic driver. Gore Creek is designated as a Gold Medal Water, which includes having 14" or longer fish and 12" trout with other criteria to achieve the designation. However, the Gore Creek has been enlisted as impaired on the state's 2011 303(d) listing, lacking an adequate amount of aquatic life (insects) to sustain its Gold Medal standard. The state allows 10 years to determine the cause of the decrease in the aquatic life before it removes the Gold Medal Water designation. The most affected area is East Vail.
- 10.2. She explained many agencies were involved in creating the Gore Creek Water Quality Improvement Plan, including the VRD. The agencies researched what might be causing the decline in the quality of the creek and created action items to improve the water quality.
  - 10.2.1. Mr. Seth Mason, consultant for Eagle River Watershed Council, explained that the first data was analyzed in 2010 and covered data from 2005.
  - 10.2.2. Three general causes for the decline included the degraded riparian buffer and stream bank habitat, impacts of impervious cover and urban runoff (drainage in developed areas) and pollutants associated with land use activities (road grime, deicers, ground water and surface pollution).
- 10.3. Town of Vail Landscape Architect Greg Barrie spoke about how to ensure that reality meets perception with Gore Creek- that it is the pristine creek shown in photographs. Sediments and pollutants do run off from developed areas/roads

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- into Gore Creek. Stream banks are also eroded along the creek. This causes algae and brown waters and effects aquatic life.
- 10.4. Mr. Barrie reviewed goals, objectives, action items, strategies, etc. that are meant to help improve the quality. To review the plan in its entirety, contact the Town of Vail.
  - 10.4.1. Strategies to improve the water quality include a community-wide education/outreach plan; site specific projects such as stream bank improvement projects, storm water quality vaults and more; best management practices to include revegetation work, sweeping of cinders, reviewing pesticide applications and more; and monitoring and continued studying of the creek.
  - 10.4.2. Mr. Barrie explained it is a community-wide effort to include governmental agencies, residents, homeowners, etc.
  - 10.4.3. Director Wiles questioned whether the town has reached out to other communities who have faced this issue. Mr. Barrie explained a lot of research has gone into the process.
  - 10.4.4. Mr. Barrie said next steps include convening a Gore Creek Water Quality Advisory Committee, RFP for an outreach campaign, evaluating best management practices, a Vail Town Council ordinance for insecticide application and other items to adopt a strategic action plan.
  - 10.4.5. Mr. Barrie also explained that from hole 14 at the Vail Golf Club to the Nature Center bridge is 2.25 miles. That is 20 percent of the 11-mile stretch of the creek being studied. He encouraged the VRD's involvement include best management practices on the athletic fields and golf course, be the eyes and ears of the community, support the strategic action plan advisory committee and water-wise Wednesdays.
- 10.5. Director Sackbauer, who also sits on the Eagle River Water and Sanitation District board, commented that there is a lot of planning and research to be done. Part of the Golf Course Master Plan included moving parts of the course closer to Gore Creek should be reevaluated. He requested staff, over time, create best management practices for the short-term and review the master plan to evaluate if it is appropriate for the Gore Creek and if there are needs for improved buffers between the course and the creek- without impacting golf. This could include stream bank improvements, planting of trees and other ideas for improvements. He suggested looking first to items that are cost-efficient and seek ways to be a better part of the solution.
- 10.6. Director Wilson questioned work on the Ford Park renovation and being good stewards to the creek.
  - 10.6.1. Mr. Barrie explained he is not directly involved in the project, but town staff is researching best practices to assure good drainage for the fields. He also said Ford Park has a fairly healthy riparian zone below the Ford Park fields.

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10.7. Mr. Ortiz said he and Mr. Scott Todd (Golf Course Maintenance Director) will become involved and work with town staff on best practices, as well as any review of the golf course master plan that is needed.

#### 11. ASSIGNMENT OF COUNCIL PEERS

- 11.1. The Board designated who their peers will be with the Vail Town Council as follows:
  - 11.1.1. Director Sackbauer will work with Ludwig Kurz
  - 11.1.2. Director Wilson will work with Andy Daley and Margaret Rodgers
  - 11.1.3. Director Hanlon will work with Greg Moffet
  - 11.1.4. Director Suarez will work with Dale Bugby and Jen Bruno
  - 11.1.5. Director Wiles will work with David Chapin

# 12. REVIEW OF REQUESTS RE: ORGANIZATIONS SEEKING GOLF COURSE DONATIONS

- 12.1. Mr. Ortiz reviewed the organizations that have requested a donated day at the Vail Golf Club to conduct a charity golf tournament. These included the Philanthropic Education Organization, Battle Mountain High School Hockey Booster Club, Eagle Valley Land Trust, Ski and Snowboard Club Vail, Vail Jazz Foundation and Vail International Hockey Group. Staff requests a decision of one donated day to a group and then the VRD will offer a discounted rate for the charitable organizations who have requested the donation. The VRD typically hosts these organizations during the fall when the course is at its best and it doesn't affect peak season play. Mr. Ortiz also said there needs to be an equal value in marketing for the donations and reduced fees. The suggested fee for a reduce rate is \$50 per player.
- 12.2. Mr. Cacioppo encouraged the board to develop a non-profit fee, such as 50 percent, and to be cognizant about giving away "freebees."
- 12.3. Director Sackbauer said the fundraising tournaments are a good way to bring down valley golfers to the Vail Golf Club and show them how great the course is, if they haven't visited ever or in awhile. He requested a committee of two board members review the documents and come back with a recommendation at the March 13 meeting. Director Wilson and Hanlon will review the requests.
- 12.4. By motion duly made and seconded it was RESOLVED to table the item to the March 13 regularly scheduled meeting.
- 12.5. Director Suarez left the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

#### 13. JANUARY 2014 FINANCIAL UPDATE

13.1. Mr. Weaver said there is little to report for January. The VRD is starting 2014 ahead of budget. Currently the majority of expenses are fixed with little revenue at this time of year.

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#### 14. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S INPUT

- 14.1. Mr. Ortiz reviewed information provided in the executive director's report, which included:
  - 14.1.1. The greens at the Vail Golf Club will begin being cleared the first week of March. This is to avoid ice build up on the greens during the spring melt.
  - 14.1.2. The Vail Golf Club will offer a Vail Golf and Yoga Wellness Retreat in June for 30 participants. This is a new program.
  - 14.1.3. The Sports Spectacular begins Thursday with introduction to six sports.
  - 14.1.4. The Kids Adventure Race is being transition into the Kids Adventure Games. The VRD is working with the Mattisons on a contract for the transition and the event. However, this year's event will operate the same as previous years. This will help the race garner more national exposure. In five years the event has grown over 300 percent and is also the recipient of \$35,000 from the Commission on Special Events for 2014. The partnership will only elevate the event.
    - 14.1.4.1. Director Sackbauer encouraged working with the organizers to make Vail the event finals and recognize the tremendous work that has taken place to make it a success.
  - 14.1.5. The Shamrock Shuffle will take place on March 15 at 4 p.m. at the Vail Nordic Center.
  - 14.1.6. Preparations are underway for the Spring Gymnastics Show and camps have been organized for the summer season.
  - 14.1.7. Community Programming KidZone was full every day during the School's Out program. Today, there were 52 kids in the After School Program.
  - 14.1.8. Building Maintenance (Scott O'Connell), Mr. Weaver and Mr. Ortiz continue to work on the Borne Report.

#### 15. BOARD MEMBER INPUT

- 15.1. Director Sackbauer thanked Director Hanlon for his leadership. Mr. Ortiz also thanked Director Hanlon on behalf of VRD staff.
- 15.2. Director Wilson thanked Director Wiles for coordinating the VRD staff/board ski day. As a thought, he encouraged coordination of an annual ski day and a golf day. He shared his impression of staff and how well they work, ski and interact together.
- 15.3. Director Hanlon also thanked Director Wiles for thinking of ski day and commented on Jake, a new Dobson Ice arena employee, who on his second day of skiing ever, was cruising down blacks and blues.
- 15.4. Director Wiles commented on the camaraderie of the staff and how it was so great to recreate with everyone. He also thanked Director Wilson and Hanlon for chairing the board for the past six years. He commented that there is a lot of work

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to do and three new board members will be elected in May. He also shared the Burton US Open begins March 3 and last through March 8.

## 16. ADJOURNAMENT

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,

Jamie Gunion Secretary to the Meeting