



Midpeninsula Regional  
Open Space District

**MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT  
LEGISLATIVE, FUNDING, AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Administrative Office  
330 Distel Circle  
Los Altos, CA 94022

**Tuesday, July 17, 2018  
2:00PM**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Director Harris called the meeting of the Legislative, Funding, and Public Affairs Committee to order at 2:08 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Members present: Cecily Harris, Larry Hassett

Members absent: Nonette Hanko

Staff present: Acting General Manager Ana Ruiz, Acting General Counsel Hilary Stevenson, Chief Financial Officer/Director of Administrative Services Stefan Jaskulak, Acting Assistant General Manager Christine Butterfield, Acting Assistant General Manager Brian Malone, Acting Public Affairs Manager Cydney Bieber, Governmental Affairs Specialist Joshua Hugg, Public Affairs Specialist I Carmen Lau, Public Affairs Assistant Jordan McDaniel

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

No speakers present.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Motion:** Director Hassett moved, and Director Harris seconded the motion to adopt the agenda.

**VOTE: 2-0-0** (Director Hanko absent)

**COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

**1. Approve the March 27, 2018 Legislative, Funding, and Public Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes.**

**Motion:** Director Hassett moved, and Director Harris seconded the motion to approve the March 27, 2018 Legislative, Funding, and Public Affairs committee meeting minutes.

Public comment opened at 2:09 p.m.

No speakers present.

Public comment closed at 2:10 p.m.

**VOTE: 2-0-0** (Director Hanco absent)

**2. Consideration of a Memorial Bench for Vince Garrod at Fremont Older Open Space Preserve (R-18-80)**

Public Affairs Specialist Carmen Lau provided an overview of Vince Garrod's contributions to the District and shared the proposed location for the bench, the dedication plaque language, and estimated installation and maintenance costs.

Director Hanco arrived at 2:12 p.m.

Director Hanco recognized Vince Garrod's as a significant supporter of the District and expressed support of the idea to honor Vince Garrod with a memorial bench.

Director Hassett was honored to consider the memorial bench request for Vince Garrod.

Public comment opened at 2:15 p.m.

Jan Garrod, third son of Vince Garrod, expressed his gratitude and appreciation to the Board of Directors for considering the installation of a memorial bench for his late father.

Public comment closed at 2:20 p.m.

**Motion:** Director Hanco moved, and Director Hassett seconded the motion to forward to the full Board of Directors a recommendation to install a memorial bench and plaque in honor of conservationist and significant supporter Vince Garrod atop Nob Hill at Fremont Older Open Space Preserve.

**VOTE: 3-0-0**

**3. Revisions to Board Policy 5.01 – Site Naming, Gift, and Special Recognition, Section III (B) Constituent Memorial Benches (R-18-83)**

Public Affairs Specialist I Carmen Lau, provided an overview of Board Policy 5.01 – Site Naming, Gift, and Special Recognition, Section III (B) Constituent Memorial Benches. Ms. Lau

reported the number of constituent memorial bench requests from 2010 to 2018 and presented three different options for revisions to the policy.

Director Harris expressed an interest in Option 1, proposed the addition of an “Honorary” category for living constituents, spoke in favor of using a first-come first-served system, supported designating existing benches for constituent memorial bench requests, and cautioned staff about the varying maintenance costs of benches.

Acting Assistant General Manager Brian Malone confirmed the estimated costs in the report are overall accurate; however, costs vary depending on the location and condition of the bench. General Manager Ana Ruiz confirmed the estimated costs are along the same lines as other agencies with similar memorial bench programs.

General Manager Ana Ruiz asked the Board of Directors if there is a desire to continue having eligibility restrictions on constituent-initiated bench requests.

Director Hanko and Director Hassett expressed a strong interest in ensuring that eligible recipients provided substantial contributions to the District. With this inclusion, Director Hassett supported Option 1.

Public comment opened at 3:17 p.m.

No speakers present.

Public comment closed at 3:18 p.m.

**Motion:** Director Hassett moved, and Director Harris seconded the motion to forward to the full Board of Directors the revised recommendation to approve the following change to Board Policy 5.01 – Site Naming, Gift, and Special Recognition, under Section III (B) Constituent Memorial Benches: revise the policy language as presented in Option 1 with the inclusion of “Significant Supporter” and “Volunteer” eligibility requirements, clarified “Volunteers” as individuals or groups of individuals who donated a minimum of 250 volunteer hours and 5 years of service to the District, and add a new “Honorary” dedication category that is subject to the same eligibility requirements to also allow bench dedications of living constituents.

**VOTE: 2-0-1** (Director Hanko abstained)

#### **4. Briefing on Legislative Engagement Day Schedule (R-18-84)**

Governmental Affairs Specialist Joshua Hugg presented an update on the plans for the August 7, 2018 Legislative Engagement Day in Sacramento.

Director Harris and Director Hassett commented these types of events are productive and valuable to the Board.

Director Harris suggested the group split up into small groups when visiting the committee chairs.

Mr. Hugg stated additional feedback is welcomed, and staff will incorporate Committee feedback into the event planning.

No committee action required.

**5. Consideration of District position on AB 2614 (Carrillo): Outdoor experiences: community access program (as Amended July 3, 2018) (R-18-85)**

Governmental Affairs Specialist Joshua Hugg summarized AB 2614 (Carrillo), as amended. Mr. Hugg provided reasoning for the District taking a position on AB 2614.

Director Harris expressed support of the bill and expressed concern about the bill not including a large portion of the population who do not have exposure or access to preserves and do not fit the two criteria in the amendment. Director Harris suggested writing a letter of support with a provision to contain more inclusive definitions which better serve our communities.

General Manager Ana Ruiz clarified AB 2614 specifically looks at disadvantaged and low-income communities, and District staff are actively seeking bills more global in nature to help integrate environmental studies and outdoor education more fully in the education system across California.

Public comment opened at 3:41 p.m.

No speakers present.

Public comment closed at 3:42 p.m.

**Motion:** Director Hassett moved, Director Harris seconded the motion to forward a recommendation to the full Board of Directors for support of AB 2614 (Carrillo) as amended.

**VOTE: 3-0-0**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Director Harris adjourned the meeting of the Legislative, Funding, and Public Affairs Committee at 3:42 p.m.

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Jordan McDaniel  
Public Affairs Administrative Assistant