Mountain Recreation Metropolitan District – August 28, 2019 Meeting Minutes

# Minutes of the Regular Meeting Of the Board of Directors Mountain Recreation Metropolitan District August 28, 2019

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Mountain Recreation Metropolitan District, Eagle County, Colorado, was held on August 28, 2019, at 6:00pm, at the Edwards Field House, Edwards, Eagle County, Colorado, in accordance with the applicable statutes of the State of Colorado.

**Attendance** Mikayla Curtis was absent and excused. The following Directors were present and acting:

- Liz Jones
- Chris Pryor
- Mike McCormack
- Tom Pohl

### Also in attendance were:

- Ken Marchetti, Marchetti and Weaver
- Janet Bartnik, Executive Director
- Scott Ruff, Facilities Superintendent
- Scott Robinson, Marketing and Communications Manager
- Alethea Platter, Accounting Manager
- Cat Olson, Human Resources Manager
- Stacey Todd, Recreation Supervisor Outdoor Programs
- Becky Johnson, Recreation Supervisor Gymnastics
- Eddie Campos, Content Marketing Coordinator
- Kelli Dauleh, Administrative Assistant
- Karen Nolasco, Recreation Supervisor Youth and Senior Programs
- Brad Johnson, Facility Supervisor Edwards
- Sheryl Staten, Facility Supervisor Eagle
- Kevin Sharkey, Vail Mountaineers Hockey Club
- Jeff Place, Vail Mountaineers Hockey Club

# 1. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Mountain Recreation Metropolitan District was called to order by Chairperson Jones on August 28, 2019, at 6:04pm, noting a quorum was present.

# 2. Changes to the Agenda

No changes were made to the agenda.

# 3. Minutes

Director Pryor noted that the word "of" was missing from page 2, paragraph 3 of the minutes. Director Pohl requested that Ms. Rios be added to the list of attendees and that a reference

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to his agreement with Director McCormack's comments be stricken snice the minutes did not include those comments. Chairperson Jones made a motion to approve the July 17, 2019 minutes as amended. Director Pryor seconded the motion. It was unanimously

RESOLVED to approve the July 17, 2019 meeting minutes as amended.

# 4. Public Input and Presentations

a. Gymnastics Programming Report – Ms. Johnson presented information about District-wide gymnastics and anti-gravity programming. She described the facility components in both Edwards and Gypsum. Ms. Johnson summarized revenues and expenses for each cost center including the anti-gravity center in Edwards, Edwards gymnastics, and Gypsum gymnastics. All cost centers generate significant revenue for the District. Ms. Johnson detailed programs offered by season and facility. She shared annual enrollment trends, stating that the competitive team has grown from eight gymnasts to a consistent 35 gymnasts each year. The programs offered enjoy a high participant retention rate and offer an affordable, high level instruction program. Challenges include aging equipment, area sizing, and staffing.

Director Pryor asked where the Miller Ranch preschool program falls in the revenues shown. Ms. Johnson explained that the program revenues are included in the Edwards Gymnastics revenues since it is operated as a Mountain Rec program. Director Pryor asked about expenses and revenues creating larger margin in Edwards. Ms. Johnson explained this is because staff is paid higher in Gypsum. Additionally, Gypsum hosts the Shamrock classic each year. Director Jones asked what the budget is for equipment. Ms. Platter stated that there was \$11,000 in the FY2019 budget that has been used to acquire a new set of uneven bars in Gypsum. Director McCormack asked where the opportunity for gymnastics is. Ms. Johnson said she was able to get creative with planning early in her tenure but has been at a standstill trying to maintain the large number of programs currently offered. Ms. Bartnik asked what Ms. Johnson would like to do with future renovations in Eagle and Edwards. Ms. Johnson gave examples as to what she has seen to be popular elsewhere. Many gyms have separate ninja warrior areas. Director McCormack stated that girls seem to lean towards gymnastics whereas boys lean towards ninja so this might help get boys involved as well. Ms. Johnson added that the Edwards facility could be used for meets if the gymnasium space were adjacent to the gymnastics space. Director Pryor asked where the biggest safety concern is and how we can fix it. Ms. Johnson said it would be staffing and finding the right age and training for the specialty. Mr. Robinson commented that it does not take much marketing to get the programs filled since they are so popular.

Vail Mountaineers Hockey Club (VMHC) – Mr. Sharkey introduced Mr. Place, the president of the hockey club board. Mr. Place reported that the club had just hired a new director of hockey operations. Mr. Place noted that the club had delivered a letter requesting Mountain Rec and Town of Eagle consideration of the addition of more ice and rink amenities. VMHC has seen growth of about 10% per year since

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2014. Place stated that the Club is emphasizing their girl's hockey program. With growth on both the traditional boys and added emphasis on girls, the valley's current two sheets are experiencing capacity issues. Director Jones asked if they only practice in Eagle. Jeff says no, they practice in Eagle and Vail but members are all across the valley. VMHC fundraises to subsidize costs. Director McCormack shared a comparison of VMHC fees versus the typical amount paid by a hockey player in other youth leagues. McCormack agrees they do a remarkable job with subsidization and every kid who wants to play, will play. VMHC also offers scholarships.

b. Sponsorship Program Ratification – Mr. Robinson presented information about a sponsorship program staff developed to implement district-wide. The recommendation is for a cohesive, streamlined partnership program that increases available funding from \$60,000 to \$143,000 annually and includes cornerstone partnerships, youth scholarship program title sponsor, youth summer camp sponsor, and facility signage opportunities. Mr. Robinson requested board ratification of the program so that staff could begin to solicit local businesses in time to meet their budget timelines.

Chairperson Jones asked who will own the responsibility for this program once it is implemented and will ensure agreements are met. Mr. Robinson said he would be the owner of this responsibility. Director Jones asked if he is also the salesman. Mr. Robinson will oversee larger funding relationships, while facility supervisors will oversee facility-specific solicitations such as dasher board ads. Director Pryor said he had similar concerns about bandwidth but thinks staff can make it work. Director Pohl said he is concerned about giving away things too quickly. Mr. Robinson says he recognizes that staff may need to ease into this program. Director Pryor suggested that there is a need to develope a list of approved businesses that are aligned with our brand. Director Pohl asked what will happen when attention is gained from two large businesses. Mr. Robinson said by not putting it in the newspaper, he will have the ability to go out and pick and choose as we pilot the program. Director Pryor said to utilize the board as needed in support.

The consensus of the board was to ratify the Sponsorship Program as presented.

c. Mountain Recreation & Social Issues – Mr. Campos described an opportunity to use existing online and physical spaces to engage the community and show support for various social issues impacting the community, supporting the District's mission. The goal of the initiative is for the District to be perceived as welcoming, supportive, and a resource for our community, leading, questioning, and increasing awareness. Mr. Campos shared that several social media posts have served as pilot tests for the initiative. A "bill of rights" has been developed to give the initiative parameters within which the staff would work.

Director Jones asked if the Bill of Rights would be public or internal. Mr. Campos said it could be publicly posted. Director Jones asked what he will do with negative

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feedback on social media. Mr. Campos agreed that there will be some negative comments and feedback but staff will focus on why the District is choosing to engage the community in this way. Campos suggested that the goal is for the public to see Mountain Rec a resource and community center. Director McCormack said to watch out for reverse racism and to know that some people will have issues. Director Pohl said he likes the bill of rights and thinks it would be a great community resource, but staff will need to be careful not to create a negative situation. Director Pryor stated that staff needs to be cognizant of what is being created and not lose sight of what our organization is about. Posts should be more heavily weighted to Mountain Rec programs and activities and less on social issues so as not to dilute the message. No posts should provide advocacy for any political agenda. Mr. Campos said he wants to raise awareness about the issues and not take a stance. Director Pohl asked who has control over the social media posts. Director Pohl asked if we know what other organizations are doing with this type of media awareness work. Ms. Bartnik stated the she knew of none and hopes this initiative will set us apart from other similar organizations. Director McCormick stated that Mountain Rec needs to stay apolitical, but has an opportunity to see what comes. Director Pryor says we have a core criteria that our organization meets and this could go well with health and wellness.

The consensus of the board was to ratify the Social Issues Initiative as presented.

#### 5. Business

**a. Mountain Recreation Driving Policy** – Ms. Olson presented a policy drafted to guide staff in proper use of District vehicles, equipment, and property.

Director Pohl asked where this business template came from. Cat said it came from SHRM (Society for Human Resource Management). Director Pohl shared a concern related to the termination language. If an employee is involved in a severe issue, Mountain Rec should have the right to terminate driving privileges after a single incident. Pohl also asked that staff ensure incidents reports include witness contact information. Director Pryor asked if ECO transit is the only place staff can get fuel. Ms. Olson said that staff can use procurement cards at any gas stations, but that the ECO stations offer reduced fuel prices. Most vehicles are filled down valley before being returned to Edwards.

Director Pryor moved to approve the Driving Policy as amended. Director Pohl seconded the motion. It was unanimously

RESOLVED to approve the Driving Policy as amended.

b. Resolution for Website Notices – Ms. Bartnik stated that the Colorado General Assembly recently passed House Bill 19-1087, concerning online notice of public meetings of a local government entity, which allows local government entities in Colorado to post notices of public meetings on the local government's website to

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meet the open meetings law requirement of full and timely notice. The resolution presented provides for the transition from paper posting to electronic.

Director Jones moved to approve the Resolution for Website Notices as presented. Director McCormack seconded the motion. It was unanimously

RESOLVED to approve the Resolution for Website Notices as presented.

**c.** Other Business – Chairperson Jones invited the board, managers, and families to attend a party at her home on September 15.

# **Financial Matters**

a. Financial Statements and Accounts Payable - Ms. Platter reported that the expenditures were not out of line with expectations. She asked if the board had any suggestions for improvement on this first trial of her new finance report, to please let her know.

Director Pryor asked about the administration property tax revenue line item and why there was a significant difference between the actual and budget. Ms. Platter said that was all the income form the tax revenues and third quarter conservation trust fund disbursement. Ms. Bartnik said we can better project what months those revenues are expected to be received to reduce differences in actual versus budget comparisons. Director Jones likes layout but feels it's hard to read since the figures are so small.

The board moved to approve financials and accounts payable as presented. It was unanimously

RESOLVED to approve financial and accounts payable reports.

# **Staff Reports**

Director Pryor praised Karen Nolasco on her report to the Board. He suggested that all staff could include similar reporting as it gave him a well-rounded picture of her programs and what she was managing in the field.

# Adjournment

Director Jones moved to adjourn the business meeting to a work session to discuss the FY2020 budget reparation period, long range funding forecast, and funding goals and objectives. Chairperson Pryor seconded the motion. The business meeting was adjourned at 7:52pm.