

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING

APPROVED MINUTES

January 22, 2009

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Lou Reinkens, Ron Treabess, Judy Friedman

STAFF PRESENT: Bob Bolton, Cindy Gustafson, Layne Van Noy, Roger Adamson, & Amy Norman

OTHERS PRESENT: Karen Ellis with North Tahoe Art, Rob Westin with the Olympic Heritage Celebration (OHC), Lolly Kupec with the Downtown Association and Fritsi Briner.

The January 22, 2009 meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m.

4. PUBLIC FORUM

TCDA – Bob Bolton introduced Lolly Kupec with the Downtown Association. Kathy Davidson, owner of Mountain Critters, has donated a wooden bear to the TCDA. They, in turn, would like to donate this to the TCPUD to be installed on the pole that arches over the central access to Commons Beach. There will be no cost to the District other than general maintenance. TCDA will pay the \$150 installation fee and have the artist install it permanently. The bear is waterproof and designed for outdoor use. There was discussion concerning who would be responsible if the bear was stolen or damaged. It will be bolted through to the log and other bears displayed in the community have not been vandalized.

The next step would be to notify the public through the paper, inviting public input, and then present it to the Board. It was suggested that there be literature near the bear about bear awareness and an acknowledgement to Kathy for her donation.

OHC – Bob Bolton introduced Rob Westin with the Olympic Heritage Celebration Committee. 2010 is the 50th anniversary of the 1960 Olympic Winter Games. They are planning a 50th anniversary celebration from January 8 through January 17, 2010. The Olympics opened the corridor to Tahoe and brought tremendous exposure to winter sports in this area.

The 1960 Olympic cross country trails ran from Homewood to Sugar Pine State Park. The committee would like to apply to the TRPA for winter sports use (non-motorized) of these trails using the defensible space that the TCPUD just created on the trails. They would like to ask our Board for approval to use the trails located on TCPUD property. Cindy asked if the trails would be groomed. They would need to be occasionally to be safe. The Parks & Rec Committee agreed that the OHC should begin the permit process with the TRPA and bring this issue up to our Board.

2. NORTH TAHOE ARTS LEASE WITH TAHOE COMMUNITY CENTER

Karen Ellis was present to discuss the progress made with Bob Bolton at two meetings to finalize a lease. Bob has given Karen a draft three year contract. NTA would be allowed the "right of first refusal" to extend it further than 2012. This proposal will almost double their rent but NTA is eligible for making "in-kind" payments in lieu of cash payments for rent provided they satisfy the TCPUD. Karen felt this has been unclear as to what would qualify as in-kind payments. This has always been the intent but was very informal in the old lease and the goal is to make this clearer in the new lease. Discussion followed as to what types of programs the district would count as in-kind. NTA is non-profit but they do have retail sales and the artists do profit.

Karen asked for guidelines as to what the District was looking for in their programs to be considered in-kind. Bob mentioned sending volunteers over to the Rideout Community Center to offer classes to the after school programs. Karen said the goals of NTA are to promote art to the middle school and to senior citizens, two age groups that are lacking art education in our community. Cindy stated that in looking at ways to offset their rent, we have to set a minimum of rent dollars that they pay to make sure the TCPUD can pay their bills. The District can't afford to let NTA offset 100% of their rent. We do make some dollars off renting the upstairs room but it is not ADA assessable so rentals are limited.

Discussion followed on the costs and revenues associated with running NTA. They receive 30% of any art sold. They need to make a little over \$4,000/month to cover their costs with the current structure. Cindy pointed out that they could offset up to \$800/month. Karen is asking for the committees guidance as to what type of in-kind activities would qualify. The districts main goal is to support Rideout as a Community Center. Layne said he could foresee four hours a month, on Wednesdays when the middle school children are at Rideout, of volunteer hours, sending an artisan to RCC to work with the kids and the seniors.

Lou suggested the following as qualifying for in-kind hours.

- The man hours for the monthly Friday night receptions which are free to the public and promote art in our community.
- Monthly programs for children at the gallery which are either free or charged just enough to cover supply costs.
- A percentage of the staffing needed to keep the doors open.
- Volunteer hours used at RCC to expose the middle school children to art.

Cindy asked that we give NTA a proposal, see what they come back to us with, and then take it to the Board. Cindy then asked if we could get an annual financial report from NTA like we are currently getting from the Nordic Center. Our goal is to take the new lease to the Board at the February 20 meeting so it can become effective March 1, 2009.

1. REVIEW PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD REPORTS/STAFF UPDATES

Bob Bolton asked if he could get committee approval on tabling his discussion on the Goals and Objectives for RCC at the Board meeting tomorrow. He would like to wait until he can get more community support before this is brought up at a Board meeting. He is also concerned with timing considering all the opposition to Parks and Rec. currently being addressed. Cindy supported Bob on this and it was agreed to table it.

Bob then reported on the progress of moving classes from FCC to RCC. We have given the instructors a deadline of March 31, 2009, which was announced in letters sent out on January 16, 2009. Bill Ransom with Tahoe Faith Fellowship Church has expressed an interest in leasing FCC long term.

Layne reported on Recreation. Participation at Rideout was down in December but this was due to the holiday. Daily averages were up or consistent in December. He then introduced our two new interns, Katie Weber and Adam Tull. Layne discussed our promotional efforts and highlighted several articles where we were mentioned in the 2009 North Lake Tahoe Guide.

Lou asked if they had been any progress on the RCC lease with the school district. Cindy said the school district is very interested in finalizing a lease with us as soon as possible. They want to get out of their utility costs and there is the possibility of us leasing the entire building including the rooms currently used by Coldstream.

3. SET DATES FOR MONTHLY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETINGS

After some discussion it was decided that these meetings would be held the third Wednesday of each month at 3:00 p.m. at the main offices.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:26 p.m.

Amy Norman, Administrative Assistant

Prepared by Amy Norman