

KENSINGTON POLICE PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

DRAFT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Special Meeting February 1, 2019

Kensington Community Center, 59 Arlington Avenue, Kensington

Closed Session

Prior to opening the meeting, President Nottoli explained that Director Sherris-Watt was at home because of an unexpected illness. Director Sherris-Watt had posted the agenda outside her home and offered to attend the meeting in person if anyone objected. No one present objected to her participating by phone. President Nottoli opened the meeting at 8:45 and took roll. Directors Deppe, Hacaj and Modavi were present in person and Director Sherris-Watt was present by phone. There were no public comments and the Board adjourned to closed session.

Special Open Meeting

President Nottoli explained that Director Sherris-Watt would be phoning into the meeting due to an unexpected illness. She had posted the agenda outside of her house. Directors Deepe, Hacaj and Modavi were present in person and Director Sherris-Watt was present by phone. No one objected to Director Sherris-Watt participating by phone.

President Nottoli reported that the Board had given direction during closed session to the District's attorneys regarding the MOU negotiations and with respect to the settlement.

Public Comment

- It was suggested that prioritizing district resources is important because the District has limited staff and legal counsel time to assist in the needs of the District.
- A resident objected to being photographed as she spoke.
- A resident asked that the meeting be adjourned and the discussion be during a regular meeting.
- One resident suggested that live oak acorns be planted on the vacant lot at Coventry and Arlington because live oaks are native.
- Ann Harlow donated \$1,000 for the Community Center renovations with no strings.
- Several residents spoke in support on acquiring the paths and noted that the paths are cited as evacuation routes in Berkeley's evacuation plan.
- Others noted that there are significant potential liabilities associated with ownership of the paths and Kensington has a very small commercial base unlike Berkeley and El Cerrito. Some suggested working the Fire District on a joint effort to acquire the paths.
- A resident thought that Bay View rates were the highest in the area and was surprised to learn that some residents had objected to the use of wheeled carts for compost and recycling.

Board/Staff Comments

- Those who want notice of meetings can contact the District Administrator. Agendas are posted on the District's website as well as at the Arlington kiosk and Colusa Foods. Audio and, whenever possible, video recordings of District meetings are on the District's website.
- The District publishes a newsletter twice a year.
- There are limited resources to address the District's four major obligations: general administration, the police, the park, and solid waste.
- The District is working on major renovations to the Community Center for seismic upgrades and ADA compliance. The District has taken steps to understand the likely challenges and costs associated with the planned improvements. Until the bids are returned, the exact costs are uncertain. The seismic improvements are to allow occupants to safely evacuate. Estimates from 2015 were between \$3-5 million dollars rebuild a Community Center that would qualify under the "essential services" designation. The original method of construction can only be renovated to "life safety" standard.
- The District retained a Matrix Consulting to evaluate the police department, recommend any needed improvements, and identify options for full or partial contracting of police services. This has been a year-long process including a survey and several community meetings to obtain input. Two additional meetings are planned for February 28 and March 2, 2019. Matrix has estimates on contracting but actual numbers are needed in order to make an informed decision.
- The District, like many other jurisdictions, has had difficulty in hiring and retaining officers. The District is in the process of negotiating a Memorandum of Understanding with the police.
- The District is re-doing its Policy and Procedure Manual based on the California Special District Association model manual. This is a major effort and has consumed considerable staff time to adapt to the District. The current manual is missing necessary polices. It is unclear that all sections were adopted by the Board. The draft manual will be presented at a Board meeting for public comment.
- There are a number of needs in Kensington Park. The tennis court needs resurfacing and trees that show sign of disease need to be removed.
- The General Counsel must address legal obligations such as preparing resolutions and responding to public record requests, both of which are very time consuming.
- A professional evacuation plan is needed, and the Interim Chief of Police is working to develop a plan.
- The Public Safety Building is an important community asset and the Fire District has not determined if it can re-build in its present location.
- The District must prepare annually a budget and has been working on an improved budget format.
- Bay View garbage rates are not the highest rates in the area and an analysis is available on the District's website at www.kppcsd.org

No action was taken at the meeting. Director Modavi moved, and Director Deppe seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Directors Deppe, Hacaj, Modavi and Nottoli in the room and Director Sherris-Watt on the phone voted in favor of adjourning the meeting at 1:54.

Prepared by: Eileen Nottoli