



Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

A meeting of the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Board of Directors was held electronically on Wednesday, September 14, 2022. Work Session 5:15 pm; Executive Session 6:15 pm; Regular Meeting 7:30 pm.

Present:

Felicita Monteblanco	President/Director
Barbie Minor	Secretary/Director
Alfredo Moreno	Secretary Pro-Tempore/Director
Heidi Edwards	Director
Tya Ping	Director
Doug Menke	General Manager

Agenda Item #1 – Work Session: Disability Justice

A Work Session of the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Board of Directors was called to order by President Felicita Monteblanco on Wednesday, September 14, 2022, at 5:15 pm.

President Monteblanco introduced consultant Cory Lira to provide the board an introductory workshop on the topic of Disability Justice.

Cory provided a detailed PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was entered into the record, and which included the following information:

- Brief History of Disability Justice
- Core Concepts of Disability Justice
- 10 Principles of Disability Justice
- Strategies & Practices
- Creating More Accessible Spaces
- Practicing Disability Justice and Combating Ableism

Cory concluded the presentation by providing a list of resources to learn more about Disability Justice and offered to answer any questions the board may have.

President Monteblanco expressed gratitude for the resources Cory provided for the district's consideration in taking its next steps on this important topic. She acknowledged the beginning of her journey in learning about Disability Justice and hopes that the board members are open to learning more, noting that the board's conversation regarding values and priorities will be taking place at their retreat next month and that this topic may inspire some of the dialogue. One of her takeaways from this evening's presentation is that she has a lot of work to do regarding the language she uses, and that she commits to learning more.

Tya Ping thanked Cory for the helpful information and particularly liked the suggestion of forming an access committee. She asked how an organization ensures that all voices and viewpoints are represented on a committee dealing with such a vast subject and wide variety of needs?

- ✓ Cory explained that she would dissuade an organization from thinking that a committee will have all of the answers; instead, she would recommend bringing people together who have both the lived experience and the ability to be good thought partners for the work being done. It's not always about having the answer, but having the time, resources and

space to explore the topic together and thinking through all of the angles with intentionality.

President Monteblanco thanked Cory for the informative presentation and asked her fellow board members to let General Manager Doug Menke or herself know if this topic is something that they would like to learn more about.

Agenda Item #2 – Executive Session (A) Legal (B) Personnel (C) Land

President Felicita Monteblanco called executive session to order for the following purposes:

- To conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry out labor negotiations,
- To consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed, and
- To conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions.

Executive Session is held under authority of ORS 192.660(2)(d)(e) and (h).

President Monteblanco noted that the news media and designated staff may attend executive session. Representatives of the news media were directed not to disclose information discussed during executive session. No final action or final decision may be made in executive session.

Agenda Item #3 – Call Regular Meeting to Order

A Regular Meeting of the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Board of Directors was called to order by President Felicita Monteblanco on Wednesday, September 14, 2022, at 7:30 pm.

Agenda Item #4 – Action Resulting from Executive Session

There was no action resulting from Executive Session.

Agenda Item #5 – National Hispanic Heritage Month

The board members read into the record a proclamation declaring September as National Hispanic Heritage Month, in English. Lulú Ballesteros, cultural inclusion coordinator, then read the same proclamation in Spanish. President Monteblanco provided a brief overview of the activities and events THPRD is hosting in honor of National Hispanic Heritage Month.

Agenda Item #6 – Public Hearing: First Reading of Ordinance 2022-01 for the Purpose of Amending District Compiled Policies Chapter 7 – District Regulations

A. Open Hearing

President Monteblanco opened the public hearing to conduct the first reading of Ordinance 2022-01 for the Purpose of Amending District Compiled Policies Chapter 7 – District Regulations.

B. Staff Report

Mark Pierce, Safety Services manager, provided a brief overview of the memo included within the board of directors' information packet and proposed amendments to District Compiled Policies (DCP) Chapter 7 – District Regulations. The amendments being proposed this evening are to bring the district's general regulations into compliance with state law, better reflect current district practices, include more welcoming and inclusive language, and include new regulations around the use of E-vehicles on district property. Any edits requested by the board this evening will be brought back for board review at the second reading of the ordinance, currently scheduled for the October regular meeting. Mark offered to answer any questions the board may have.

President Monteblanco asked for additional information regarding E-bicycles in reference to section 7.08, Vehicles and Watercraft, and the proposed amendment that the use of E-bicycles be limited to the Class I type. Is this class of E-bicycle generally more accessible to the public?

- ✓ Mark noted that the intent in starting with Class I E-bicycles is that the current district regulations limit bicycles to human-powered only, and Class I E-bicycles are the first step up from that in that they require human power to activate the motor, which isn't necessarily the case for Class II and Class III E-bicycles. He confirmed that Class I E-bicycles are much more reasonable in price and that this is likely what drives their overwhelming popularity when compared to the other classes of E-bicycles. A Class III E-bicycle is essentially a small motorcycle.

Felicita acknowledged the public feedback that the district has received on this topic in the past and noted that she is happy to see the district taking this step.

Tya Ping referenced section 7.02 General Use of District Property, in particular section H that would prohibit someone to "wash any clothing in a shower or sink on district property." She expressed concern with the impact this could have on someone who needs access to such facilities for accidents, such as spills on children's clothing. She suggested rephrasing the statement as prohibiting doing laundry instead in order to provide more flexibility.

- ✓ Mark confirmed that this section would be updated as suggested.

Tya referenced section 7.13, Assemblies/Meetings, and asked how an "assembly" is defined in this circumstance. She expressed concern that the language as proposed gives the impression that people aren't allowed to gather on district property, such as in a park for a small prayer group or birthday party, and that it goes against the district's desire to be open and welcoming to all. Is there a way to better define what size of group would be subject to this rule?

- ✓ General Manager Doug Menke explained that the term "assembly" implies a much more formal and organized group whose impromptu gathering could create an impact on other park users, not birthday parties and other smaller gatherings.
- ✓ Holly Thompson, Communications director, expressed agreement with Doug's comment and appreciation for the spirit behind Tya's question, noting that the intent of this section is toward large religious and political gatherings that could happen without prior district knowledge or authorization. She also described the district's future plans for making it easier and more accessible for the public to reserve park spaces in general.

Tya described a problematic scenario where a member of the public misinterprets this clause and uses it to confront a group of people using a park site. While district staff might understand the intent behind this regulation, she is more concerned about the public's interpretation and wonders if it can be clarified in some manner.

- ✓ Holly offered that revised language would be proposed for the board's consideration at their second reading next month.

Alfredo Moreno inquired whether this regulation can be defended legally.

- ✓ Doug and Mark confirmed this, noting that the section is a fine balance meant to regulate the meeting itself on district property, not freedom of speech or freedom of religion.

C. Public Comment

There was no public comment received.

D. Board Discussion

There was no additional board discussion.

E. Close Hearing

President Montebianco closed the public hearing.

F. Board Action

Heidi Edwards moved that the board of directors approve the first reading of Ordinance 2022-01 by title only and considering the friendly amendments. Tya Ping seconded the motion. Roll call proceeded as follows:

Alfredo Moreno Yes
Barbie Minor Yes
Tya Ping Yes
Heidi Edwards Yes
Felicita Monteblanco Yes

The motion was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

President Monteblanco read the ordinance title into the record: Ordinance No. 2022-01 of the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District, Oregon: An Ordinance Amending District Compiled Policies, Chapter 7, to Update District General Regulations.

Agenda Item #7 – Public Hearing: First Reading of Ordinance 2022-02 for the Purpose of Amending District Compiled Policies Chapter 8 – District Property

A. Open Hearing

President Monteblanco opened the public hearing to conduct the first reading of Ordinance 2022-02 for the Purpose of Amending District Compiled Policies Chapter 8 – District Property.

B. Staff Report

Aisha Panas, Park Services director, and Julie Rocha, Sports & Inclusion director, provided a brief overview of the memo included within the board of directors' information packet and proposed amendments to District Compiled Policies (DCP) Chapter 8 – District Property. The amendments being proposed this evening include two new sections, Acquisition of District Property and Disposal of Surplus District Land, as well as the transfer of the district's Affiliate and Athletic Facility Use Policy from DCP Chapter 7 to DCP Chapter 8, and various edits throughout the other sections as reflected within the redline document provided. Aisha and Julie offered to answer any questions the board may have.

C. Public Comment

There was no public comment received.

D. Board Discussion

President Monteblanco expressed support for the language changes made within the policy and affordable housing acknowledgements.

E. Close Hearing

President Monteblanco closed the public hearing.

F. Board Action

Alfredo Moreno moved that the board of directors approve the first reading of Ordinance 2022-02 by title only. Tya Ping seconded the motion. Roll call proceeded as follows:

Barbie Minor Yes
Heidi Edwards Yes
Tya Ping Yes
Alfredo Moreno Yes
Felicita Monteblanco Yes

The motion was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

President Monteblanco read the ordinance title into the record: Ordinance No. 2022-02 of the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District, Oregon: An Ordinance Amending District Compiled Policies, Chapter 8, to Update District Property Regulations.

Agenda Item #9 – Board Time (taken out of order)

A. Committee Liaisons Updates

Tya Ping provided the following updates and comments during board time:

- ✓ Will be assuming the role of board liaison for the Nature & Trails Advisory Committee.
- ✓ Attended a gathering of elected officials to meet the new superintendent for Beaverton School District, during which the focus was building intergovernmental partnerships.

Heidi Edwards provided the following updates and comments during board time:

- ✓ Also attended the gathering referenced by Tya, noting that she would like to see another joint board meeting scheduled with the Beaverton School District board.
- ✓ Attended the Tualatin Hills Park Foundation's annual meeting and recognized the work of the foundation and its executive director, Eileen Kravetz.
- ✓ Meetings coming up include the district's Audit Committee, Fiduciary Committee, and the Washington County Preschool for All Taskforce.
- ✓ Encouraged continued participation in Welcoming Week which is taking place now, noting that she will be attending the grand opening celebration of Parivar Park tomorrow.

Alfredo Moreno provided the following updates and comments during board time:

- ✓ Also attended the Tualatin Hills Park Foundation's annual meeting and recognized the impactful stories heard from those who have benefited from the foundation and community's support of the district's financial assistance program.
- ✓ Recognized the volunteers serving on the Parks & Facilities Advisory Committee and their work in developing a variety of concepts for potential Challenge Grant funding.

President Monteblanco provided the following updates and comments during board time:

- ✓ Along with General Manager Doug Menke, met with Stuart Wells, the new Executive Director for Portland Audubon.
- ✓ Also with Doug, met with David Martinez, the new Assistant County Administrator for Washington County, whose areas of oversight include their parks department.

Agenda Item #8 – Audience Time (*taken out of order*)

John Gillingham, 14956 NW Fawnlily Drive, Portland, is before the board of directors this evening regarding his request for an easement on district property in order to install solar panels, which was denied by the General Manager. Mr. Gillingham referenced his email to the board of directors received this afternoon, a copy of which was entered into the record, noting that it contains the substance of his argument with the additional knowledge he has gained regarding the district's procedures for analyzing easement requests. He stated that he is adamant about doing what he can about climate change and believes he is supported by the State of Oregon and the U.S. government in this regard in terms of the resources going into trying to generate energy by solar panels. He is mindful that the district is the steward of park property and that easements are given sparingly when it benefits the community and is not a detriment to THPRD. He referenced the photos and commentary contained within his email describing his request for an easement eight feet outside of his property line onto district property which would be utilized for solar panels so that he can continue in his quest for a net zero carbon footprint. He described the other investments he has made in his home and vehicle in moving toward this goal.

- ✓ President Monteblanco thanked Mr. Gillingham for his testimony this evening, noting that General Manager Doug Menke has kept her informed regarding this request. While the board is in alignment with Mr. Gillingham's values of addressing climate change and working to mitigate our impacts as organizations and individuals, the easement being requested would be on public land for a private benefit and she is in full support of the General Manager's decision to deny the easement.

Mr. Gillingham requested that the board review his email for his argument against this request constituting private use of public land.

- ✓ President Monteblanco committed to re-reading his email, as will her fellow board members, and that they will reach out if there is a change in the decision. However, at this point, the General Manager has the board's support in the decision he has issued.

Agenda Item #10 – Consent Agenda

Barbie Minor moved that the board of directors approve consent agenda items (A) Minutes of August 10, 2022 Regular Board Meeting, (B) Monthly Bills, (C) Monthly Financial Statement, and (D) Resolution Authorizing Application to Land & Water Conservation Fund. Heidi Edwards seconded the motion. Roll call proceeded as follows:

Tya Ping	Yes
Alfredo Moreno	Yes
Barbie Minor	Yes
Heidi Edwards	Yes
Felicita Monteblanco	Yes

The motion was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

Agenda Item #11 – Unfinished Business

A. Comprehensive Plan Update

As stated in the memo included within the board of director's information packet, a comprehensive plan (comp plan) is a high-level policy document that helps jurisdictions operationalize their community's vision and address complex issues over a longer period, usually 20 years. The board adopted the district's last comp plan in November 2006 and a subsequent update to that plan was adopted in July 2013. With adoption of the district's Vision Action Plan (VAP) in September 2020, the 2013 comp plan update nearing the end of its useful life, and the district kicking off its Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies reaccreditation process, staff began planning for a new 2022 comp plan. Updates on this project were previously provided at the board's January and May 2022 meetings. For this evening's update, staff are seeking board feedback on two questions resulting from the 2022 Level of Service (LOS) update study. Board feedback will be incorporated into the comp plan's policies and recommendations sections, informing staff on what should be incorporated into future LOS analyses and how staff should seek to balance conservation and recreation through internal development review processes.

Aisha Panas, Park Services director, and Peter Swinton, urban planner, provided a detailed overview of the comp plan update effort currently underway, via a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was entered into the record, and which included the following information:

- 2022 Comprehensive Plan Structure
- Geo-Referenced Amenities Standards Process (GRASP) LOS
 - Helps THPRD benchmark how well we serve our patrons and where our gaps are
 - Assesses quality, quantity, and accessibility of parks and park amenities
- Changes in Neighborhood LOS
- Changes in Community LOS
 - Changes in the analysis of Community Parks LOS were made in order to make the analysis more complete and robust
- How LOS Is Used
 - Benchmarks district amenities against standards
 - Identifies land acquisition & park development priorities
 - Informs Internal Design Team process
- Two questions resulting from the 2022 LOS update study:
 - What should THPRD consider when studying LOS in the future?
 - What should staff consider when weighing development priorities to balance conservation and recreation needs according to 2022 comp plan goals?
- Comp Plan Goals

- Welcoming and Inclusive
- Play for Everyone
- Accessible and Safe
- Environmental Stewardship
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Access
- Technology & Innovation
- Financial Sustainability

- Planning Timeline

Aisha and Peter offered to answer any questions the board may have and invited feedback regarding the two questions previously referenced.

Tya Ping asked for confirmation that the LOS data is in relation to our outdoor park sites only, not our indoor facilities like recreation centers.

- ✓ Peter confirmed this.

Barbie Minor inquired whether there was a change in how Neighborhood LOS was analyzed, too.

- ✓ Peter replied that there wasn't, which helps to provide consistent, comparable data over the past decade or so for this category.

Barbie described how she would like to see census data overlayed and taken into consideration when analyzing the LOS, in helping to determine how the district is living out its values by serving communities that have been historically underrepresented. And when we're looking at this information, being mindful by taking into account access to transportation and access for those experiencing disabilities. She would like to see more information that helps bridge the gap between data-driven information and the district's values.

- ✓ Aisha noted that similar feedback was provided at a recent Parks & Facilities Advisory Committee meeting, including ideas around demographics and population density.

President Montebianco expressed agreement with Barbie's comments, adding that the next time the district has a choice between multiple sites and which to develop, she would like to know the socioeconomic levels and racial data of those communities in order to better understand which communities have been underinvested in. She referenced a study conducted by Portland State University on the prevalence of tree canopy resulting in cooler temperatures and which neighborhoods are receiving that important investment as the climate continues to warm.

Heidi Edwards expressed agreement with the previous comments, adding that data around where our Title I schools are located could be another layer of information for consideration. She would also like to better understand how access to public transit influences our current park usage, and whether we could partner with TriMet or other transit agencies to make our sites more accessible.

- ✓ Felicita agreed, noting that building a relationship with TriMet is an area in which the board could also assist.

Tya expressed agreement with the previous comments and suggested that the district also develop a LOS analysis for the following areas: tree canopy/green space/natural area availability in order to determine whether there is sufficient wildlife habitat throughout the district; safe bicycle access to district sites; and a LOS analysis specifically for recreation centers to assist in the district's future planning efforts, including land acquisition of larger sites.

Alfredo Moreno referred to the lower LOS reflected on the maps along the district's eastern boundary and asked if this is due to that area's close proximity to Portland Parks & Recreation sites on the other side of our boundary.

- ✓ Peter explained that the LOS analysis doesn't currently look at parks that are outside of the district's service area.

- ✓ General Manager Doug Menke added that there are several perspectives to take into consideration regarding the district's service area versus actual participants in the tax base. THPRD has large gaps between these two factors in some areas and it can be a difficult discussion regarding prioritization and whether investments should be made to serve current taxpayers or areas that hopefully have future taxpayers.

Alfredo expressed agreement with the board's previous comments and emphasized the need to better understand the socioeconomic data, including walkability to district sites for areas of low-income housing versus neighborhoods that typically have backyards, and prioritizing those who could benefit the most.

President Monteblanco invited any additional staff comments or questions.

- ✓ Aisha explained how demographic information is taken into consideration in weighing development priorities when there are a number of undeveloped sites from which to select. What has held the district back in applying that same information to the acquisition of land is due to land acquisitions being so opportunistic. She agreed that when there are choices between land parcels to purchase, consideration of demographic information is absolutely valid. District staff will give this area additional thought and consideration.

Heidi added that she appreciates the helpful information the GRASP maps demonstrate and believes that there would be a benefit in showing this information to the community.

- ✓ Aisha noted that, as authorized by the board through approval of the FY2022-23 Budget, the district will be recruiting for a park resource analyst who will take all of the information gathered through this latest update and expand upon it. Examples include a recreation facility LOS as described by board member Ping, and additional analysis of where specific amenities are located across the district, such as pickleball courts. This information will help the district make more informed decisions regarding where specific amenities need to be provided.

Tya referenced Alfredo's comments about the areas of THPRD that border other park providers and expressed a preference that park sites of those other providers be considered when determining LOS. She explained that if an area already has access to three recreation facilities, whether all three are ours or not, the district could then be able to determine whether funding would be better spent on purchasing a larger site elsewhere that doesn't have any actual access.

- ✓ Aisha agreed that this could be further analyzed and taken into consideration, as could parcellation as referenced by board member Moreno in terms of access to backyards.

B. General Manager's Report

The following presentations were provided as listed within the General Manager's Report included in the board of directors' information packet:

- Affordable Housing Update
 - Peter Swinton, urban planner, provided an update on the affordable housing waivers issued in FY2021-22, as well as anticipated waivers for the next two years, via a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was entered into the record.
- FY2021-22 Annual Grant Report
 - Gery Keck, Planning manager, provided an overview of the FY2021-22 Annual Grant Report that was included within the board of director's information packet, via a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was entered into the record.
- Welcoming Week
 - Lulú Ballesteros, cultural inclusion coordinator, and Karin Madsen, community events specialist, provided an overview of the district's participation in Welcoming Week, via a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was entered into the record.

Doug and the presenters offered to answer any questions the board may have.

The board members expressed comments of gratitude for these important programs and initiatives and their positive impacts on the community.

Agenda Item #12 – New Business

A. Resolution Supporting Beaverton School District Local Option Levy

President Felicita Monteblanco introduced a resolution in support of Beaverton School District’s Local Option Levy renewal proposed for the November 2022 ballot. She noted that the board’s support of this levy is in strong alignment with its values of partnership, and supporting teachers and students.

Heidi Edwards moved that the board of directors approve Resolution 2022-13, supporting passage of the Beaverton School District local option levy renewal this November. Barbie Minor seconded the motion. Roll call proceeded as follows:

Tya Ping	Yes
Alfredo Moreno	Yes
Barbie Minor	Yes
Heidi Edwards	Yes
Felicita Monteblanco	Yes

The motion was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

Agenda Item #13 – Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Felicita Monteblanco, President

Barbie Minor, Secretary

Recording Secretary,
Jessica Collins