



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

Wednesday, July 1, 2015

DRAFT MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Director Hanko called the regular meeting of the Legislative, Funding and Public Affairs Committee to order at 2:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members present: Jed Cyr, Nonette Hanko, and Cecily Harris

Members absent: None

Staff present: General Manager Steve Abbors, Assistant General Manager Ana Ruiz, Assistant General Manager Kevin Woodhouse, General Counsel Sheryl Schaffner, Operations Manager Michael Newburn, Public Affairs Manager Shelly Lewis, and District Clerk Jennifer Woodworth

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

No speakers present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Director Hanko stated that Item 3 will be heard first.

Motion: Director Cyr moved and Director Harris seconded to adopt the agenda, as amended.

VOTE: 3-0-0

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Item 1 was heard after Item 3.

1. Approve March 17, 2015 Minutes

Motion: Director Cyr moved and Director Harris seconded to adopt the minutes of March 17, 2015.

VOTE: 3-0-0

2. Commemorative Site and Trail Re-Naming for Herb Grench at Windy Hill Open Space Preserve (R-15-96)

Public Affairs Manager Shelly Lewis provided the staff presentation summarizing the project and described the proposed location for the commemorative site and bench. Ms. Lewis provided details regarding a ribbon-cutting event which would celebrate the opening of the commemorative site, if approved by the Board of Directors.

Discussion ensued regarding the location for the commemorative site and access to the knoll.

Director Harris expressed her concerns regarding the costs associated with the commemorative site and costs associated with site naming and other special recognitions especially related to celebrations associated with opening the site.

Director Hanko stated that past policy has been that when the District has proposed the recognition, the District covers the costs. However, when an outside request for a memorial or commemorative site is requested, the requestor covers the costs of the bench and celebration.

Public comment opened at 3:33 p.m.

No speakers present.

Public comment closed at 3:33 p.m.

Motion: Director Cyr moved, and Director Harris seconded the motion to forward to the full Board of Directors a recommendation to name a knoll, install a commemorative seating area and dedicate a trail at Windy Hill Open Space Preserve in honor of Herb Grench, the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District's first General Manager.

VOTE: 3-0-0

3. Legislative Briefing (R-15-97)

Item 3 was heard before Item 1.

Ms. Lewis introduced Ralph Heim of Public Policy Advocates who participated in the meeting via conference call. Mr. Heim provided an update on several pieces of legislation that he and his associates are tracking at the state level, which are of interest to the District. Mr. Heim described the current status of Assembly Bill 495 regarding the General Manager's purchasing authority, including opposition that has recently arisen from labor unions. Mr. Heim reported that he does not anticipate any problems with Senate Bill 422 regarding the Santa Clara Valley Open Space

Authority's name moving forward. Finally, Mr. Heim summarized Assembly Bill 665 and proposed next steps for the District if the bill continues progress through the various legislative committees, including contact various legislators, which represent areas within the District.

Director Harris expressed her strong opposition to AB665 due to the high potential for it creating an unsafe situation between hunters and users of the land.

Extensive discussion ensued regarding the limits AB665 would place on the District and its ability to regulate activities on its preserves. Mr. Heim suggested District staff draft a question on this topic to be sent to the bill's sponsors.

Director Harris inquired regarding several other bills that may be of interest to the District and whether these are being tracked by staff or by the District's consultant, including AB1251 and SB988.

Mr. Heim reported that he and his staff are tracking these bills and can provide more information at the next meeting.

Public comment opened at 3:02 p.m.

No speakers present.

Public comment closed at 3:02 p.m.

4. Minor Amendment to Board Policy 3.03, *Public Contract Bidding, Vendor and Professional Consultant Selection, and Purchasing Policy (R-15-98)*

Assistant General Manager Ana Ruiz provided the staff report describing the proposed change to Board Policy 3.03, *Public Contract Bidding, Vendor and Professional Consultant Selection, and Purchasing Policy*. Ms. Ruiz explained that the proposed change resulted from the Financial and Operational Sustainability Model Study in order to help streamline the contracts process.

Director Harris inquired regarding the rotational process proposed for the approved consultants.

Ms. Ruiz explained that a list of qualified consultants would be created, and the rotation would be devised to distribute the workload among the approved consultants. Additionally staff hopes this will expand the number of consultants who are familiar with the District's terrain and site limitations, which will encourage more to bid on District projects.

Public comment opened at 3:46 p.m.

No speakers present.

Public comment closed at 3:46 p.m.

Motion: Director Cyr moved, and Director Hanko seconded the motion to recommend to the Board of Directors a minor amendment to Board Policy 3.03, *Public Contract Bidding, Vendor*

and Professional Consultant Selection, and Purchasing Policy, to extend the period of prequalification for professional services from 2 years to 4 years.

VOTE: 3-0-0

ADJOURNMENT

Director Hanko adjourned the Regular Meeting of the Legislative, Funding and Public Affairs Committee at 4:00 p.m.

Jennifer Woodworth, CMC
District Clerk