



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

Tuesday, November 8, 2016

DRAFT MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Director Cyr called the 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 Curt Riffle

Members absent: None

Staff present: General Manager Steve Abbors, Assistant General Counsel Hilary Stevenson, Legislative/External Affairs Specialist Josh Hugg, and District Clerk Jennifer Woodworth

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

No speakers present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion: Director Hanko moved and Director Riffle seconded to adopt the agenda.

VOTE: 3-0-0

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

**1. Approve Legislative, Funding, & Public Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes:
August 30, 2016**

Motion: Director Riffle moved, and Director Hanko seconded the motion to approve the August 30, 2016 Legislative, Funding, and Public Affairs committee meeting minutes.

VOTE: 3-0-0

2. Legislative Briefing (R-16-150)

Legislative/External Affairs Specialist Josh Hugg discussed legislation for the Committee and Board of Directors to consider for possible action for the upcoming 2017 Legislative Session.

These include:

- Correction of a typo in Public Resources Code Section 5544

The Committee by consensus directed staff to pursue legislation to correct the typo.

- Possible increase of Board compensation

Director Hanko requested additional information regarding Board stipends for districts also formed by Public Resources Code Section 5500, under which the District was formed.

Director Riffle suggested bringing the item forward to the full Board of Directors for consideration, including multiple options, such as the amount of compensation per meeting, the number of meetings per month compensated, and whether multiple meetings held on the same day may be compensated.

The Committee discussed the need to notify and work with other open space districts to determine whether they are interested in pursuing a Board compensation increase.

Assistant General Counsel Hilary Stevenson explained Public Resources Code only sets a ceiling for Board members compensation, and individual districts may set their own Board compensation.

The Committee by consensus directed staff to research options for a possible Board compensation increase, and bring the item forward to the Board for consideration.

- Pursuit of a parks bond similar to AB2244 related to the definition used to identify disadvantaged communities. Due to the high cost of living in the Bay Area, many communities have a higher median income, but are disadvantaged or severely disadvantaged as compared to neighboring communities. The suggestion is to use a formula based on county median income as opposed to the state's median income.

The Committee by consensus directed staff to continue researching the issue and return to the Committee with more information.

- Pursuit of Design-Build Authority for the District related to some of the District's capital projects.

The Committee by consensus directed staff to continue researching the issue and return to the Committee with more information.

Director Riffle suggested staff research and follow any legislation related to marijuana tax if approved under Proposition 64, including whether the District is eligible for any funds from this tax for District activities such as habitat restoration, enforcement activities, etc. Additionally, staff should follow any progress related to any park bonds that arise and move forward as part of the upcoming Legislative Session and any legislation related to farm labor housing.

3. Filling the Volunteer Ombudsperson Position with Pool of Qualified Volunteers (R-16-149)

General Manager Steve Abbors provided the staff report describing the creation of the ombudsperson role following the 2004 Coastal Area Annexation. Mr. Abbors explained in the most recent recruitment three applications were received, and all applicants demonstrate a willingness and capability to serve as the District's ombudsperson. The involvement of the ombudsperson has diminished over the past couple of year as fewer problems have arisen.

Public comment opened at 2:53 p.m.

No speakers.

Public comment closed at 2:53 p.m.

Motion: Director Hanko moved, and Director Riffle seconded the motion to accept the applications of Lisa Zadek of Half Moon Bay, Kristen Yawitz of Belmont, and Bob Rosenberg of San Jose to serve as a pool of volunteer ombudspersons and forward a recommendation for approval to the Board of Directors.

VOTE: 3-0-0

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Director Riffle requested additional information regarding the District's contract with Public Policy Associates (PPA).

Mr. Hugg reported staff is still determining how his role will work with the District's lobbyist moving forward.

Mr. Abbors stated the District will most likely pursue a request for proposals process in the coming years when Ralph Heim, the District's lobbyist at PPA, retires.

The Committee members discussed the need for the District to identify legislators to work closely with the District in the future.

Director Riffle requested an update on the District's grant program at a future Committee meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Director Cyr adjourned the meeting of the Legislative, Funding and Public Affairs Committee at 3:04 p.m.

Jennifer Woodworth, MMC
District Clerk