



OFFICIAL

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W.C. Walker Senior Center
505 Sunset Avenue, Shafter, CA 93263

January 30, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Special Board Meeting of the Shafter Recreation & Park District (SRPD) was called to order at 6:02 pm by Chair Salinas.

2. FLAG SALUTE AND INVOCATION:

Chair Salinas led the flag salute and Ms. Chambers gave the invocation.

3. ROLL CALL:

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Cristina Camacho
Amando Chávez
Gary Rodríguez
Fortino Valdivia
Nelson Salinas

4. POSTING OF THE AGENDA:

The posting of the agenda was declared on Friday, January 26th, 2024, at 6:00 pm.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS: No public comments.

6. CONSENT AGENDA:

Director Rodríguez **MOVED** to approve the Consent Agenda and Co-Chair Valdivia **SECONDED**.

AYES 5 (Camacho, Chávez, Rodríguez, Valdivia, Salinas)

NAYS 0

ABSENT 0

ABSTAIN 0

MOTION CARRIED

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. DISTRICT VOTING – **INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM** Steven Ochoa of Q2 Data, Inc. reviewed the districting process and timeline. He mentioned the communities of interest (COIs) identified at the previous meeting as follows: (1) South Shafter (including Smith’s Corner, the Cherokee Strip and the Mexican Colony), Southwest

Shafter and North Shafter. He reviewed Board instructions to create two draft maps, to try to build districts around community parks and to investigate the possibility of one district east of Highway 43 and four on the west side. Finally, he presented Draft A, which included four districts largely on the west side. He noted that population density on the east side was slightly too large to be included in just one district and for that reason, the area around Mannel Park was included in the west-side districts. He also noted that in Draft A, he was able to combine the COIs into one district. He then presented Draft B, which consisted of roughly two districts east of Highway 43 and three on the west side.

During public comment, Gustavo Aguirre, from the Center on Race, Poverty and the Environment (CPRE) in Bakersfield, noted that he had met with a number of Shafter residents the night before who were unable to attend the Board meeting and that the consensus was a preference for the Draft B districting plan. He noted that Draft B better offers equity for the COIs and added that it was better to have two districts with the potential to represent the COIs and that the Draft B population numbers were more balanced. He concluded that Draft B would be very good for the community.

Co-Chair Valdivia asked about the population numbers for Gossamer Grove, noting that they seemed extremely low. Mr. Ochoa explained that by law, the districting population numbers must be taken from the 2020 Census and that mid-decade districting processes like this one often included population numbers which had shifted in subsequent years. After the 2030 Census, the required redistricting will likely include substantial changes based on population growth.

Director Rodriguez requested that Mr. Ochoa explain the census data included with the Draft maps and a member of the community questioned why the CVAP numbers are included. Mr. Ochoa noted that this is considered standard practice in districting.

Several of the Board members expressed their preference for Draft B. Director Rodriguez **MOVED** to discard Draft A and focus on adjusting Draft B. Chair Salinas **SECONDED**.

AYES 5 (Camacho, Chávez, Rodríguez, Valdivia, Salinas)

NAYS 0

ABSENT 0

ABSTAIN 0

MOTION CARRIED

The public hearing on SRPD's districting process closed at 7:21 pm.

- B. SRPD CSC SCHEDULE UPDATE – **INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM** Mr. Jimenez noted that work on the CSC is moving forward and that the current focus was on settling contracts with Musco Lighting and Public Restrooms, which are necessary for final plan approvals. He also noted that they were working with Ordiz & Melby to create an updated schedule. **NO ACTION TAKEN.**

- C. CSC GROUNDBREAKING UPDATE – **INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM** Mr. Jimenez noted that the Groundbreaking Committee still needed to meet to discuss plans and that the date was still expected to be somewhere between late May and early July. Director Rodriguez reminded the Board that where possible all regular business should be addressed at the first Board meeting of the month, so that the second C can focus on CSC concerns. It was agreed that the committee would meet after the upcoming SDLA conference. **NO ACTION TAKEN.**
- D. SPECIAL TAX INITIATIVE – **INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM** Mr. Jimenez commented that discussions continued with CPRE and that he was interviewed by the New York Times, but that the story was currently on hold. **NO ACTION TAKEN.**

8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. WAGE SCALES 2024-2026 – **INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM** Mr. Jimenez presented updated hourly wage rates for SRPD employees from 2024-2026, which had been reviewed and revised by the budget committee. Chair Salinas asked about wages for pool employees. Mr. Jimenez noted that SRPD still hopes to be involved with the Shafter Aquatic Center once it is reopened, however since that is not expected in 2024, those wages were not given the same detailed update as other current positions.

Chair Salinas also asked about the rates for Certified Officials and about how they were evaluated. Phillip noted that all basketball officials with a CIF certification were all paid a standard rate of \$40 per game. There was a discussion of the evaluation process for seasonal employees (both Rec Aides and Certified Officials), and it was decided that the Personnel Committee could review appropriate evaluation of seasonal employees. Phillip also offered to share the Personnel Action Form used by the district for rehiring seasonal staff with the Board.

Director Rodriguez **MOVED** to approve the revised wage scales and Director Camacho **SECONDED.**

AYES 5 (Camacho, Chávez, Rodríguez, Valdivia, Salinas)

NAYS 0

ABSENT 0

ABSTAIN 0

MOTION CARRIED

- B. **INFORMATION/ ACTION ITEM** Mr. Jimenez reminded Board members of required 700 Form updates to be completed and submitted to the District Secretary by early March. Chair Salinas requested that an update on Board training requirements and completions be presented at the next Board meeting. **NO ACTION TAKEN.**

9. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Director Rodriguez reported that he had attended several basketball games and enjoyed them, noting that parents were enthusiastic. He also mentioned that officials in the older

divisions were doing a good job explaining calls to the players. He did question why we are keeping score with the 4u's and asked if they needed bands for playing man-to-man or if they were using a zone defense. He also noted that there were some issues with age-appropriate basket heights at the Activity Center but noted that these issues could be discussed in a Program Committee meeting. He also requested a report on planned uses for the new equipment trailer.

Director Valdivia noted that he had attended games as well and commented that the upper-level games were more competitive and there was often a packed house. He said, "it was cool to see, the officiating was solid, and I saw a lot of familiar faces."

Director Salinas commented that at the Shafter High School Gym, some parents were bringing in ice chests, which was affecting concessions and leaving water on the floor. He asked about the possibility of having a girls Flag Football Division. He also noted that it would be good to display sponsor banners/posters or have a way of honoring sponsors at the gyms.

Director Camacho had no report.

Director Chavez noted that he had been enjoying the games on Saturday, though he hadn't been able to attend the Friday night games yet.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: SRPD Mascot, Fundraisers Rental Policy, Driver Safety Policy, Track & Field, Naming Rights Brochure, Board Training Update, ADP Update

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION: No executive session.

13. ADJOURNMENT: Chair Salinas adjourned the meeting at 8:04 pm.

APPROVED ON THIS DAY: February 13, 2024

SIGNATURE: _____

TITLE: Board Chair _____

ATTEST: _____