
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Regular Meeting Of the Board of Directors

Vail Park and Recreation District
dba Vail Recreation District
March 28, 2024

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Vail Recreation District, Town of Vail, Eagle County, Colorado, was held on March 28, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. at the Vail Town Council Chambers, Town of Vail, Eagle County, Colorado, in accordance with the applicable statutes of the State of Colorado.

1. MEMBERS PRESENT

1.1. Bob Armour, John Rediker, Jason Plante, Kirk Hansen, Molly Rabin

2. MEMBERS ABSENT AND EXCUSED

2.1. None.

3. STAFF PRESENT

3.1. Mike Ortiz, April Heredia, Nell Davis, Jacob Tilmann, Scott O'Connell

4. OTHERS PRESENT

4.1. Billy Suarez, Rick Sackbauer, Jerry Stevens, Carol Johnson

5. CONSULTANTS PRESENT

5.1. Eric Weaver, Marchetti & Weaver, LLC.

6. CALL TO ORDER

6.1. Director Armour called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

7. CHANGES TO AGENDA

7.1. None.

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

8.1. By motion duly made and seconded it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2024, regular meeting.

9. PUBLIC INPUT FOR MATTERS NOT OTHERWISE ON AGENDA

9.1 None.

10. VAIL GOLF CLUB COURSE CONDITIONS REPORT

10.1 Mr. Tilmann first shared with the board that Nordic Center will be able to make it until the end of the season date of April 7th with the snow that we have

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recently received. He gave kudos to Stephen Marquette who has been a great addition to the crew this winter with amazing grooming skills.

10.1 Mr. Tilmann gave a very informative report on the state of the greens as he has now uncovered all the greens to be played this upcoming season. He first gave the board an explanation as to why the greens need to be uncovered. He shared that fungicide is only good for a certain amount of time, and how it is important to get them uncovered to let them start getting sunlight and air flow.

10.2 Mr. Tilmann went through a variety of pictures of each green uncovered and shared that he was pleased with the way they all came out of winter. He also thanked Dan Timm, Trey Johnson, Chad Young, Marc Thomas, and Mike Ortiz for helping clear some greens.

10.3 Mr. Tilmann shared with the board how the shading from existing trees affects holes 5 and 14. He showed various photos at different times of the day and explained how lack of sunlight is a major reason why the greens are not mending. He shared that the greens need good soil temperatures and sun for them to grow. He suggested removing just enough aspens to help the areas not receiving enough sunlight. He also suggested trimming down a few evergreens. He will put together a plan and share that with the board so that they can get Town of Vail approval.

10.4 Mr. Rick Sackbauer shared his thoughts saying he has gone to the Town of Vail with this problem and suggested that the Town have a master plan for trees. He suggested getting the Rec-subcommittee involved in this conversation.

11. SUMMER 2024 PICKLEBALL PASS SALES AND COURT RESERVATION POLICY

11.1. Mr. Mike Ortiz shared that rates for 2024 Pickleball were approved in the fall with input from taxpayers and residents. It has recently come to the attention of the district that the district needs to provide more access to the courts for taxpayers and residents.

11.2. Mr. Ortiz worked with others (Rick Sackbauer, Kirk Hansen and Billy Suarez to name a few) to create the proposed changes to the current rates and rental processes to make it better for taxpayers and residents. The new proposed changes are to sell passes only to VRD taxpayers and residents and only allow them to make reservations. If there are reservations still available, the manager can make those slots available to non-residents to rent. The fee for nonresidents to play will increase to \$25 per day or a 10-punch card can be purchased for \$200.00.

11.3. Ms. Carol Johnson gave public input about the policy and shared her concern about the impact this will have on the hotels since they are the property taxpayer and the visitor is not. She also shared her thought on how Tennis is not like pickleball, and that Tennis does not ever have open play like pickleball does and that they should not be compared.

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11.4. Mr. Billy Suarez also gave public input and shared briefly how it works to play pickleball in the area. He shared that other local towns do not charge their residents a fee and it is all open play. He felt that hotels should not receive a discount as he has played in many facilities and always has to pay a visitor's fee regardless of where he is staying.

11.5. By motion duly made and seconded it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the Summer 2024 Pickleball Pass Sales and Court Reservation Policy with the understanding that additional information clarifying specifics will be shared once staff has it figured out.

12. FEBRUARY 2024 FINANCIAL REPORT

12.1. Mr. Eric Weaver shared with the board that it is early in the year with not a whole lot happening. He shared we are currently showing a \$445K deficit. This is normal for this part of the year as some of our operations are in their slow time. Nordic revenues were a bit lower to start the year but have bounced back some in February. Sports and camps will be opening reservations and revenues will start to pick up.

12.2 Expenses were generally favorable for the first couple of months. Nordic Maintenance was not fully staffed and therefore saw savings. Capital spent was just the snow cat so far this year. Not much more to report.

13. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

14.1 Mr. Mike Ortiz shared a few highlights from the director's report that can be found on the website in the board packet.

14.2 He thanked Mr. Scott O'Connell for all of his efforts that he has been making for a successful 45th anniversary celebration for Dobson Ice Arena that will be on April 2, 2024. Nell and Maddy also did a great deal for this celebration and Mr. Ortiz thanked them for their great work. He also thanked Nell and Maddy for the summer brochure.

14.2 Mr. Ortiz shared that the sports department has some good numbers for their upcoming t-ball session and shared that they will be doing a 26 K for the first time on Vail Mountain this summer.

14.3 Mr. Ortiz shared that there will be many capital projects this year such as the restrooms at 6th and athletic field as well as the administration building. Director Rediker asked for the administrative building if the Town of Vail was willing to scale the building for functionality he also asked if the town was going to add a welcome center to Ford Park. Mr. Scott O'Connell answered that the administration building is staying as is that it will be an interior renovation only. Currently the budget for the building is about \$400K. Also, as of now no welcome center is being added.

14.4 Mr. Ortiz gave a quick update on displacement ice. He still thinks the best bet is down in Eagle. They are meeting soon, and he should have a better timeline for

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whether or not it is going to happen down valley. If it does not happen down valley it may have to be done at the golf course.

14. BOARD MEMBER INPUT

14.1 Director Armour shared that he will not be at the next meeting.

14.2 Director Plante asked about the water intrusion at the Golf and Nordic Clubhouse. Mr. Scott O'Connell confirmed that snow has been removed from the trouble spots. He shared that there are still others that need to be addressed and he is continually working on them.

14.3 Director Rabin shared that she attended Project Fun Way, and it was another great event. She praised the food & beverage team for their great job.

15. ADJOURNMENT

15.1. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously RESOLVED to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Vail Recreation District Board of Directors.

Respectfully Submitted,
April Heredia
Secretary to the Meeting