

ORANGEVALE RECREATION & PARK DISTRICT

Minutes of Special Meeting of Board of Directors March 31, 2011

A Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Orangevale Recreation and Park District was held on Thursday, March 31, 2011 at the District Office. Director Stickney called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Directors present: Stickney, Brunberg, Hawkins, Meraz

Directors absent: Caldwell

Staff present: Greg Foell, Administrator

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.
4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** The agenda was approved as presented.
5. **PUBLIC DISCUSSION** The public present did not wish to address the Board at this time.
6. **CORRESPONDENCE**
 - a) 3 Emails from Jeff Kleeschulte
7. **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT** None to report.
8. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** None to discuss.
9. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - a) Discussion Regarding Issues at the Disc Golf Course

Admin. Foell introduced Jeff Kleeschulte who has brought his concerns about the disc golf course participants to staff. Admin. Foell provided a background of the concerns that were outlined in his emails:
 1. Unacceptable Behavior at the Disc Golf Course:
 - a) Overflow Parking on Almond View Lane: This has increased over time and impacts the residents on this street. On one occasion, during a tournament, 31 cars were noted to have parked there.

- b) Illegal activity at the Disc Golf Course including smoking marijuana and drinking alcohol.

Admin. Foell went to the course to talk with the owner, Jim Oates, and also talked with another resident who had complained. The complaints were found to be legitimate and all agreed action needed to be taken. He also met with Mr. Kleeschulte to discuss solutions.

Immediate resolutions included additional signage to outline the rules of the course and begin an enforcement/education program to ensure all disc golfers were aware of the rules that they needed to follow. These actions have been taken. A security company began Saturday, March 26, 2011, to inform the participants of the rules. Admin. Foell recently visited the course and believed the program has been fairly successful in its beginning.

- 2. In his emails, Mr. Kleeschulte expressed concern that the problems should be under control before the shade structure is constructed. The board approved the project one month ago and supplies have been purchased.

The purpose of tonight's meeting was to hear public comment and receive direction from the Board for further efforts.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Carl Curtis did not believe the issues could be separated. He stated the illegal activity at the course has been an issue before the course was built. He complained a long time ago but was told "to get over it." He did not like the illegal activity taking place so close to the school. He believed the store was doing a good job in education and security to discourage the illegal activity. He recommended the money being paid to the District be earmarked to be put back into the course for extra parking and other expenses. However, he did not like seeing other amenities (tennis, group picnic area) being given over to disc golf.

Terry Benedict believed the Board and the District

encouraged overuse and negative impacts by approving an agreement with Final 9 Sports in 2002. They ignored public input from 60 residents in opposition to this commercial business. He believed the park has been abused and over used by non residents of Orangevale. The owners of Final 9 are not Orangevale residents yet receive special consideration of the District. He did not feel his safety and interests were being protected by the Board.

Kim Kinett is a teacher at for Folsom Cordova and California State Disc Golf Champion. She hoped visitors to the course would feel welcomed and not banned. She noted parking was an issue at every disc golf course and neighbors needed to talk to the County to request parking permits. She believed signage was very important and rules needed to be outlined. Course etiquette needs to be reinforced. She believed Disc Golf needed to be respected as a sport. She noted participants were told during the tournament that certain activities were not acceptable. She believed things have improved since the signage and education has been implemented.

Jim Oates an owner of Final 9 confirmed he did live in Orangevale. He has been involved in numerous community projects, the newest being the shade structure. He confirmed the District has pledged up to \$26,000, with the Mormon Church and numerous volunteers who have committed their time to complete the project. He stated he was embarrassed that so many players have shown disrespect for the game. He was thankful Mr. Kleeschulte brought his concerns to light and they were dealt with immediately. Anyone found to be doing illegal activity at the tournament was asked to leave. He acknowledged he cannot police people daily but tried to impact them positively through the Pro Shop. He agreed the signage and education program were very important. He hoped no parking signs or permit only signs could be obtained for the residential streets and always told their players to park on the other side.

Austin Smith is a police officer, a disc golfer and has worked with County and City Parks. He believed the golfers show respect for the horse riders and others. He agreed marijuana and alcohol use was unacceptable behavior. The older

generation was stepping up and becoming educators and mentors and encouraging better behavior. The course was very clean and safe. [Director Stickney asked if medical marijuana users could be cited. Admin. Foell explained the park ordinance stated it was not legal and they could be fined.]

Lisa Montes is a wife of a disc golfer, a mother and community supporter. Final 9 is an active and positive member of the community however she said he husband won't take her kids to the course. She believed more effective actions are needed to deter the illegal activity.

Carol Shoemaker is a long-time resident of Orangevale. She believed the parking lot was full daily of "riff-raff people" drinking and swearing. She believed the shade structure would invite more of this activity and the money should be spent on the children, possibly a skateboard park. She did not believe security would be effective.

Lorraine Benedict stated the meeting was very difficult to hear and hoped the microphones could be more effective. She expressed concern about someone making an income from a county park. She believed their term should be limited to three years.

Mike Kelly is a disc golfer and wanted the communication to continue to improve the relationship between the golfers and the community. He assured the audience not all disc golfers were "riff-raff" and civil behavior should be expected. The park belonged to the community. He agreed the shade structure should be constructed.

Jennifer Knicely is a representative of the Professional Disc Golf Association and her husband is part-owner of Final 9. She stated every player was told during the tournament that drug and alcohol use would not be tolerated. Disc golf it is a multiple age sport. The shade structure would not just be used by disc golfers. She has worked with other disc golf parks and offered her services to work with the District.

Jeff Kleeschulte stated he was only interested in driving the problems out of the park. He was concerned about his son being so close to the park

and illegal activity. He asked the responsible golfers to police the course and educate the other players. He believed the shade structure should not be a reward until the problems were cleared up. He believed it would make it more comfortable for the "bad people." He hoped the construction could be delayed.

Tim Oates is a resident of Orangevale and disc golfer. He stated Mr. Kleeschulte's issues were very clear. He apologized for the overflow parking. The shade structure will not be the focus of the illegal activity. He was the starter for the tournament and made sure every rule was explained in detail. There will always be people who will not follow the rules and were subject to ejection. He has noticed an improvement in the last week at the course. He believed continued education and enforcement are the keys to make the needed corrections.

Brandy, an employee of the district, initially thought the money for the shade structure should be spent elsewhere. However, listening to the comments, she believes there will be benefits and precedent setting. She commended the public for their ideas and possible solutions to the problems to make the course better.

BOARD COMMENT

Director Stickney stated the owners of Final 9 are not employees of the District. They pay the District close to \$20,000 per year that has been put back into the community parks. The Church provided an opportunity to build the shade structure. There is no District plan to get rid of the tennis courts.

Director Meraz stated bad language was rampant among the schools but it did not make it right. The POP officers were excellent enforcers but have been lost due to funding. He recalled smoking and drinking in the area was a big issue prior to Final 9. However, Final 9 has worked hard to clean up the area and it has improved. Compaction of the soil has been addressed by the maintenance department. Parking has been investigated but held back by County ordinances. The shade structure is not a reward and has been in the planning for many years. A lot of the revenue has been spent on graffiti and vandalism. He concluded that Final 9 has been a

good caretaker. Illegal activity will not be tolerated.

Director Hawkins thanked the public for their input. He thanked Mr. Kleeschulte for bringing his concerns to light and believed there was a mutual goal to improve things.

Director Brunberg also thanked the public for their input. She hoped disc golf could be a family sport and that the disc golfers could police each other. Now that the issues have been brought to light, she pledged to work hard to make sure the rules are enforced so families could play together. Director Brunberg was thankful to be able to get the shade structure in the tough economy. She is willing to explore parking alternatives such as shuttles during tournaments so the neighbors would not be affected.

Director Stickney stated the Board looks at the shade structure as an opportunity to get something for the community.

ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS

Admin. Foell reiterated the intention was to first educate which has been successful. In talking with the players, he learned the majority want to police themselves and the course to be clean. Education is more positive and more effective than enforcement. Education will continue for the next few weeks. If negative issues remain, enforcement will be strongly implemented by security and off duty officers.

Temporary signage has been done with permanent signage being planned. Educating the public on parking options will be important. Neighborhood parking will be discouraged. Options with the County will also be reviewed. This will be an ongoing effort.

The staff encourages public feedback and input. Corrections and improvements will be ongoing.

Admin. Foell stated the Church has remained committed to working on the shade structure. A group of dedicated community workers has committed to doing the cement work and provide the materials. The Church is also concerned about the issues.

The Board agreed they were committed to complete the project. It is a community-park structure not just for disc golf players.

Director Brunberg recommended a Family Day at Disc Golf be arranged.

10. **DIRECTORS AND STAFF
COMMENTS**

Nothing to add.

11. **ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

Disc golf.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, the Special Board Meeting of the Board of Directors was adjourned until the next Regular Board Meeting of April 7, 2011.

Mike Stickney, Chairperson