

Magalia Community Park Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, October 7, 2024
Magalia Community Center

Minutes to be transcribed by the Executive Director at a later date

Linda Horton-Lyons, Chair

1) Call to Order & Board Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 6:07pm

Board members present: Linda Horton-Lyons, Chair, Lucas Warmerdam, Vice Chair, Roni Turner, Treasurer (via Zoom), Phil Howard, Ryann Pinnegar, Jake Bates, Disc Golf Commissioner, and Executive Director Chris Rauen. Not present: Rich Gingery Jr, Secretary. Guests: Dan Eseaff, District Manager, Paradise Recreation and Park District

Quorum: Board Quorum requires four (4) members. Quorum has been met.

2) Approval of Minutes: September meeting minutes have been submitted for review by the board;

Motion to approve minutes was given by Phil & seconded by Linda. Minutes approved 5-0.

3) Treasurer's Report – Roni

Balance at Tri-Counties Account: \$62,965.22. There are some funds leftover from the summer concert series – brief discussion on how this could be spent. Roni also commended the Community Garden Committee for their work (Jeanne) on the accounting & reports for their program. (At this point Roni excused herself from the meeting due to recuperation from illness; meeting continued with a quorum of 4.)

4) Dan Efeaff, Paradise Recreation & Park District

Dan spoke about PRPD's Neighbor to Neighbor grant program, and offered ideas for events MCP could hold which we could apply for. This is a state grant that was awarded to the district in the amount of \$750,000. Grant focus is on bringing neighbors together & how it reduces health risks & increases personal security. Per grant requirements, concepts for events need to be submitted in Nov-Dec for any activities proposed from Jan-March. Chris & Ryann asked about indoor activities; state is emphasizing connection to the outdoors but yes, a kid's craft activity, for example, can be held indoors as long as the "outdoor" connection is made. Some programs are subject to interpretation within the grant parameters; PRPD staff can help us if we have an idea or concept for an event to fit within the guidelines. "Swag" and food can't be funded (swag under certain circumstances is OK), and the event can't be a fundraiser. Ideas Dan suggested included a disc golf course clean-up day. Music event is doable but needs to have a special connection to an activity that brings people together to work on an activity.

PRPD disc golf sponsorship – Dan suggested a “swap” (the district can’t pay for a sponsorship directly), where we keep their sign on the course in exchange for promotion with our logo at other venues, or their digital sign on Skyway.

5) Executive Director’s Report – Chris

Chris reported that the main parking lot on the corner will be resealed and restriped on Oct 9; to be paid for by Safor from a damage claim they submitted w/MCP to the county last year. Donations report: RCI donated \$1500 for general support (they donated the same in 2025); also reached out to Mechanics Bank for a possible \$1000 donation. Chris emphasized that most Camp Fire funds are now depleted, plus many more organizations asking for donations than when we first started. Maintenance – Rich Hefner will take down hazard trees at the bottom of Hole 9 (Cardiac Hill) and move oak logs to the top of the hill where people can easily access for firewood. Work to be donated but dump fees or any extra work would need to be paid for by MCP. We did receive \$1500 from Dadco Construction for any work needed re: trees on the course. Also speaking with Magnuson Construction for doing some limited donation work on the course where trees are easily accessible. FRAP (Fuels Reduction Assistance Program) limiting their focus to hazard trees affecting homes only.

California Climate Action – with Paradise Garden Club, MBA and the Fire Safe Council Sat Oct 19 from 9-1pm (same date as Community Garden Grand Opening) – Phil reported that the group is coming together to plant some native & drought tolerant plants (donated) in the area around our sign at the corner. Timer & soaker hose has been installed. At 11am that Saturday Phil & other volunteers will head over to the Community Garden for the dedication.

Janel with Camp Fire Restoration has offered tree saplings to be planted on the course where trees were destroyed by the fire. Project would be starting now, however grant funds have not yet come in as expected.

Calls already coming in for rentals for private parties this fall; Butte County Elections rental Nov 5 + \$1000 donation for providing volunteers to serve as precinct workers on Election Day (Ryann is one of them!). Those interested are pleased with the low rate due to MCP not having a kitchen, but those that call aren’t looking for one.

6) First 5 / Youth for Change Update –

Brief update, Youth for Change has purchased some furniture for young children & other supplies; Lorraine is the employee who will be directing the program with oversight & help from Mary Beth (not Beth), and she has started working in & sharing the office w/Chris. They are still working through the details of the grant requirements – no report on exactly when the program will officially start.

7) MCP Endorsement of Measure G – brought before the board as New Business at the September meeting by Rich Gingery, to be placed on the October Agenda. Chris presented this item in lieu of Rich’s absence tonight. Request is for the MCP board to formally endorse Measure G, the Paradise Unified School District bond measure which is

on the Nov 5 ballot. There were concerns raised by board members if our organization could take any action that was political in nature. Chris read the passage in the by-laws which outlined the limitations & expectations of the organization in terms of political activity. After extended discussion, it was determined that the by-laws do grant authority for MCP to take non-partisan political-related action, but not as a main focus of its overall mission or activities. This was followed by extended discussion of the measure itself and why MCP should endorse Measure G. The main purpose of the bond is to fund the construction of a new elementary school in Paradise to handle the unexpected overload of younger students in the district, with overcrowding at Paradise Ridge Elementary School cited as an example. Other projects may be funded from the bond as well. The rapid influx of new families with school-age children was also discussed, and the role that the Community Center has been playing in serving youth on the Ridge.

Ryann motioned that MCP endorse Measure G; Linda seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0

8) Committee Reports

A) Disc Golf Committee Report – Jake reported that a glow round will happen on Sat Oct 26.

Disc Golf Sponsorships – Linda has brought in a total of \$3,300 for course sponsorships for 2024; Hilltop has confirmed, waiting on a check. Four spots left open.

Guest arrival: Lauren Wemmer & Jeanne Brovelli, Members of the Magalia Community Garden Committee

Wellness Committee

B) Community Garden Update: Lauren & Jeanne reported the Open House & Dedication of the garden will be 11am to 2pm, with refreshments & door prizes. Concept is to open the garden & let the public see what the gardeners have been doing & generate more interest. Two large community beds with lots of pumpkins, and another patch with potatoes & peas. Winter will be sugar snap peas, rice. An ADA compliant bed is in place. Discussing how to open up the composting and what items will be recycled including food waste – they are working with Janel on this. They currently have 7 active gardeners right now; the Open House will help bring new members. MCP is sharing the Community Garden group on its page to help promote. Volunteer is working on a sign for the front of the garden for neighbors driving by. Compliments from the disc golfers!

Chris will not be in town the weekend of the Open House, however Richard Yale will be present at the dedication, in addition to Phil who will both speak and represent MCP (Rev. Yale obtained funding through the Episcopal Diocese to make the garden possible).

C) Youth Program Update – Ryann reported first youth nights of the season in Sept had lower numbers/turnout than in May. Having some IT challenges with the new KidCheck software but we are requiring pre-registration through Eventbrite. Most recent youth night (TK-6 Grade) was very busy (38 kids) however many parents just came and dropped off as opposed to registering in advance. Hoping to encourage more new parents to participate and be a chaperone. Most recent teen night was a smaller group but much different behavior-wise, there was interest in crafts & knitting which she introduced. Looking to do more engaging craft-type activities at the kids & teen nights. Chris shared that parent feedback about the check-in system & requirement for kids to wear bracelets was a welcome upgrade and made the parents feel more comfortable about dropping off their kids at our events.

C) Events –

PRPD Fall Family Fun Fest in September – Chris reported turnout was good, about the same as last year. Competing with other events in town but still a good event. The PRPD Movie Night was successful, with 50 kids & parents attending; more people had pre-registered but could not attend due to football & other activities – again competing with other events but still offering a great alternative activity. Both of these events were funded by the Neighbor to Neighbor grant (referenced earlier by Dan) and MCP received rental compensation from the district for use of the facility.

Music on the Green recap – Shout-out to Phil for organizing the 13 artists this summer and to Chris for getting the sponsors + Roni connecting w/Doug Munjar at Dadco for a sponsorship. Season Finale was Oct 5 with The Gerald James Band, and even with competition from Johnny Appleseed Days, Rotary Blues and Brews and others, we still filled the lawn with attendees. Overwhelming consensus to continue the series in 2025.

Halloween Trunk or Treat + Games & Crafts Sat, Oct 26 – Chris & Ryann need to meet to determine what to order for craft materials & prizes for games. New this year, we are moving the games outside on the lawn, the building will have self-guided crafts available w/adult supervision. Parents team has met to start planning the crafts. For Trunk or Treat, 20 cars are booked for the parking lot at present, room for many more. Candy donations start this week.

8. New Business, from Chris: Congratulations to our fellow Magalian John Stonebraker, who was appointed to the open seat on the Paradise Recreation and Park District Board by the Butte County Board of Supervisors. He will be sworn in as our “Magalia representative” by December (exact date TBD).

Phil brought up the idea of a “Fun Run” on the course, as an activity/sponsored fundraiser to consider for future. Opportunity for exposure and notoriety. Ryann knows someone at Pine Ridge School’s PTO who may be interested in organizing this – she will reach out.

Next meeting will be Monday, November 4th at 6pm

Meeting adjourned 8:13pm. Minutes to be transcribed by Chris from audio recording & submitted to the board for approval