



Western Gateway Recreation & Park District

MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

Regular Meeting 6:30 pm

Buttermaker's Cottage

- 1) **Call to Order** Meeting was called to order by Chairman Lindsen at 6:32 PM
Pledge of Allegiance led by Chairman Lindsen
- 2) **Roll Call** – Brandon Lindsen, Chair, present; Sharon Lewis, Vice Chair, present; Lance Eck, present; Chris Potter absent; Paul Towne, present
- 3) **Introduction of guests** Jason Fouyer of Cranmer Engineering, Kimberly Crispin of WGPF, Dana Ettlin
- 4) **Agenda Approval** – Director Towne motioned and Vice Chair Lewis seconded to move up 10b and 11c to follow public comments. Unanimously approved.
- 5) **Public Comments** – No public comments
- 10) b. Vice Chair Sharon Lewis recused herself from this agenda item. Jason Fouyer representing Cranmer Engineering is tasked with cleaning up the 1960s sledge lagoons behind Creekside Village. Creekside Village had provided sewage for the surrounding community, including the shopping center, for decades. The state now requires this site be cleaned up. There is no direct access to the lagoons. Cal Trans has denied encroachment access and the county has denied support of the efforts. The park's creek crossing would allow access to the sledge, which at this point is basically old soil. Cranmer Engineering is asking for permission to use the creek crossing to transport the sledge from the lagoons. Mr. Fouyer suggested an ad hoc committee to review the details. Costs, including the park's legal counsel, would be covered by Creekside. Needs to be discussed would be timing, size and weight of vehicles and any necessary park protections as a starting point. Mr. Fouyer displayed a map to provide context of the project. Cranmer will also be negotiating with state fish and game and Nevada County. Mr. Fouyer anticipates the project would take twelve months to be completed. He has worked with Bryan McAlister of Sierra Land Solutions in the past, who did civil engineering for the creek crossing. At this point he is asking for permission to move forward with an ad hoc committee, meetings and negotiations. Chairman Lindsen and Director Eck volunteered to be on the committee. Director Eck expressed concern regarding the creek crossing. Mr. Fouyer responded he was more concerned about the park's asphalt. Chairman Lindsen added his concern was also the state of the asphalt. Mr. Fouyer stated he would get a legal retainer. The three will connect first via email.
- 11) c. WGP Foundation Update –Ms. Crispin stated that the key provided did not work on the Cottage door. They are trying to ascertain their contribution totals that could be used for the arch. Planning a Flea Market for May 3rd on the basketball courts or in the cottage. They would like to borrow cottage tables for this event. In case the cottage is being reserved, Vice Chair Lewis might have tables that could be used. They are starting with Junk King for pilot flea market but hoping to expand to additional vendors. According to the county, non-profit markets are exempt from permitting but they need to send a letter of intent to the county. Proceeds to benefit the entrance arch. Louie is planning to start the footings soon. The arch will be dedicated to veterans. Chairman Lindsen noted that he thought Louie had set a dedication date. Ms. Crispin asked about a possible gap in their funding for the arch, and if the park would cover the gap. The hope is that the foundation will continue to raise funds for the arch. Chairman Lindsen would be okay with using some of the park lighting donation, perhaps \$500 - \$1000, for the arch if necessary. The anonymous donor stated that not all of the \$3000 donation needed to be used for lighting if it is needed elsewhere. Ms. Crispin stated that the foundation could replenish the lighting funds through flea markets.
- 10) d. Chairman Lindsen began by advising that he, Chairman Lindsen and Director Eck had met two weeks ago. He has been attempting to get information from the county on the ballot measure process but has not had much luck in terms of response. He spoke with Sam Goepf, who volunteered as a resource. He is trying to reach Armondo on the Board of Registration as he needs to know how many registered voters in the district. We might need two thirds majority for the measure. There is a way to propose for a 51% vote; he is in the process of deciphering Prop 218 to determine the process. He is also questioning if the vote is two-thirds of election voters or two-thirds of registered voters. Director Towne believes it is two-thirds of the election voters. Mr. Goepf advised that we might get county counsel to write the referendum vs. hiring an attorney. He will be trying to confirm this at the county level. We need to come up with an amount and the justification for the amount. The local attorney quote ten hours but later suggested it might not take that many hours, lowering the attorney cost. Director Towne suggested first determining how many votes will be needed to pass the measure. He further suggested involving Supervisor Sue Hoek to assist with the process. Chairman Lindsen advised what Resolution 26-001 does not include an amount but states the approval to move forward with a parcel fee increase. The By Laws need to be updated to include the parcel fee process. Director Towne moved and Vice Chair Lewis seconded the motion to approve Resolution 26-001 as presented. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Ettlin stated he is currently focusing on the legal aspect of getting the measure on the ballot and the funding needed. He will reach out to county counsel. Director Towne reiterated the importance of obtaining Supervisor Sue Hoek's assistance and support. Mr. Ettlin cautioned that if the measure was not worded correctly the park could lose the current parcel fee. Director Eck advised that the role of legal counsel is highly advisable for writing the measure, also suggesting that legal services might be used to review and rewrite the measure as necessary.

- 6) **Correspondence** – Nevada County Planning Dept, regarding permanent RV dwellings
- 7) **Board Minutes** – Director Towne moved and Vice Chair seconded to accept the January minutes as presented. Unanimously approved.
- 8) **Financial Report** – Chairman Lindsen reviewed the December/Year to Date financial reports. He stated he had met with Freschi Construction to obtain a quote for the shade structure. We will need two more bids. Mr. Ettlin recommended Len Stevens. Chairman Lindsen will also reach out to Tony Prescott. Director Towne moved and Vice Chair seconded to accept the financial reports as presented.
- 9) **Old Business**
 - a. Pollinator Garden – Planning to start soon. Getting plant donations. They will complete volunteer waivers before they begin.
 - b. Pickleball Courts – The club is looking for a storage shed. Chairman Lindsen suggested a Conex shipping container. They may gravel a dirt section to provide additional parking. Moving the Pickleball Courts from Old Business to Advisory Group.
 - c. Fiscal Audits – Bound copies available for the Fiscal Reviews and Audit for 22/23, 23/24 and 24/25.
 - d. Rural Recreation & Tourism Grant – We have requested the balance of the county gap loan. The state has approved the revised project, and the first reimbursement submission is being processed.
 - e. YBONC – *Jet Low could not attend due to the snowstorm.* Bike Park workdays are in play, the second Sunday of each month.
 - f. Park Lighting – Still need to find out when crane can be on site to install new light for main parking lot and determine who will do the install.
- 10) **New Business**
 - a. Bike Park Sign – YBONC proposed two dirt trail entrance signs increase visibility. Chairman Lindsen noted that the county is working on consistent signage, but this is still pending. The board preferred the 24" x 19" sign. Director Towne moved to approve the 24x19 sign and Vice Chair Lewis seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.
 - b. Creekside Village - *see above.*
 - c. Dog Park Sign –The Dog Park proposed for a sign structure to enhance street visibility. Director Towne would like to see the mockup for the sign. The board would prefer a sign consistent with existing signs.
 - d. Resolution to Increase Parcel Fees – *see above*
 - e. By Laws Amendment – *Tabled: by laws amended with the inclusion of parcel fee increase process.*
- 11) **Advisory Groups - Presentations**
 - a. Buildings and Grounds.
 - i. General Park Maintenance – Chairman Lindsen advised we had obtained a pump quote from Peter's and are waiting for a quote sourced by Jon Cosbie. Plumbing issues being addressed at main restrooms and stage restrooms, lights at main stage restrooms.
 - ii. Farmers Market and CRV Program – applications being received for Farmer's Market. No recent CRV runs.
 - b. Upcoming events and reservations report
 - i. Upcoming Events Report – Great Outdoors event being moved to September. The Chamber has reserved the cottage for three bingo games in April, August and October. Director Towne advised that the Rodeo has approved his May 17th Johnny Cash event; those with Rodeo tickets will be able to attend the Johnny Cash tribute for \$15, with proceeds split between the Rodeo and the WGP Foundation. Director Towne is hoping to include local dancers.
 - c. WGP Foundation Update – *see above*

12) Director Comments

Director Eck noted that the parcel tax meetings would be held on the first Wednesday of month going forward. He has reached out to Tony Prescott, and he would like to bid on the shade structure. He has also reached out to Peter's regarding a discounted quote for the pump.

13) Adjournment meeting adjourned at 8:01 PM