

courts in Oak Park. She said tomorrow is a legislative meeting for special districts and that they are going to ask about the budget situation, what everyone else is doing under Prop 1A and if the State will call an emergency. Assistant General Manager reviewed an updated Project Priorities report, which was handed out at the meeting.

The Chair opened the Public Hearing at 6:46 p.m.

George Bowman asked what part of the Budget will be used for replacing or repairing the ASC portables. The General Manager indicated that funds have been allocated towards this in the proposed budget and that the District will be doing more analysis to determine if renting new facilities is more cost-effective.

As there were no further public comments, the Chair closed the Public Hearing at 6:48 p.m.

- (B) Approval of the FY 2007-08 Planning and Development Project Priorities and 10-Year Capital Improvement Program 124-07-g

ACTION: Director Freeman moved to Approve the FY 2007-08 Planning and Development Project Priorities and 10-Year Capital Improvement Program; Director Meredith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- (C) Approval of Resolution Adopting Annual Budget for FY 2007-08 124-07-h

ACTION: Director Johnson moved to Approve Resolution No. 1736 Adopting Annual Budget for FY 2007-08; Vice Chair Meredith seconded the motion. Motion carried with the following roll-call vote:

Ayes: Directors Johnson, Freeman, Meredith, O'Brien
Noes: None
Absent: Director Hostetler
Abstain: None

General Manager Peterson introduced Laura Ballantoni, the District's soon to be new full-time Recreation Coordinator, and gave a brief overview of her responsibilities, education and experience, and history with the Park District as a volunteer and part-time employee in the Recreation Department.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA:

- (A) Approval of Check Registers: 8/3/07 (payroll); 8/10/07 (payables)
- (B) Receive and File Summary of Park Dedication Fees and Summary of Projects Primarily Funded by Park Dedication Fees (Informational Only) 41-07-g
- (C) Receive and File Report on Schedule of Events for September 2007 39-07-i

ACTION: Director Freeman moved to Approve Consent Agenda Items A-C; Director Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried

VII. CONTINUED BUSINESS:

None.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

(A) Review of Planned Upgrades to Rancho Simi Community Park (Oral)

Assistant General Manager stated that citizens have expressed concerns regarding Rancho Simi Community Park and that the District is taking steps to address them. The District made some personnel changes and recommended additional staffing, directed more focus on cleaning the pond, tree trimming and other areas. He pointed out the infrastructure there has been aging and there are some additional issues that have affected the park. He gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Park and plans for its improvement, which will be done in phases. Some items covered included: planned Phase I upgrades - soccer field installation, bleachers, park paths and fencing improvements; Phase 2 upgrades – pond renovation and new lighted fields. Phil McPherson, Amanda McPherson Foundation, said he was really excited about the fields and thought it was great the Park and School Districts, along with the Foundation, were going to work together on this project. Director Freeman asked that staff provide a copy of the work schedule. This was an informational item only. No action was taken.

(B) Review and Discussion Regarding Draft Parks, Recreation, and Trails Element of the City of Simi Valley General Plan Update 26-07-d

The Assistant General Manager provided a detailed review of the draft response to the City of Simi Valley's General Plan Update, with regard to the Parks, Recreation and Trails elements. Each page of the proposed response was reviewed, with occasional changes recommended by the Board. Staff will incorporate various changes, proceed with completion of the next draft, and thereafter transmit the draft to the City for its review. This was an informational item only. No action was taken.

(C) Report on Recreation Department Summer Special Events (Informational) (Oral)

Recreation & Leisure Services Administrator Gale gave a PowerPoint presentation on various Recreation events over the summer such as the Movies in the Park, Dive-in Movies, and other events, which he reported were very successful. This was for information only. No action was taken.

(D) Selection of Candidate for CSDA Board of Directors Election 2007 23-07-c

ACTION: Director Johnson moved to Approve Nominating Kate O'Brien to Serve on the CSDA Board of Directors; Director Freeman seconded the motion. Vice Chair Meredith abstained. Motion carried.

IX. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

X. REPORTS BY BOARD MEMBERS:

Director Freeman attended a VCSDA dinner meeting along with Chair O'Brien at Conejo Recreation and Park District, and said they heard an interesting presentation on Ojai Valley Sanitary District.

Director Freeman attended a Simi Valley Historical Society committee meeting along with Chair O'Brien. She said they deferred action on the house on Royal for one month more. They are pleased with what has been happening in the museum and with the tours.

Director Freeman asked a question about marketing responsibility for Simi Hills Golf Course.

Director Johnson attended a Soccer Foundation meeting along with Director Meredith and Recreation Administrator Gale. He reported that all are very appreciative of the District's staff and their hard work getting the fields ready. He said there were some questions about why school facilities are not open on the weekends and being used.

Vice Chair Meredith mentioned that certain vehicles were allowed to park at the Cajun Festival, which was upsetting to some.

Vice Chair Meredith asked about the problem with fungus at Rancho Madera. He was informed that a program has been developed to take care of that issue, which will preserve the integrity of the turf.

Director Freeman asked for follow up on a resident's complaint regarding unpleasant incidents happening during the night near their property. She was informed that a Park Ranger met with them and assured them that more time is being put into monitoring the situation and deterring future incidences.

Chair O'Brien attended two meetings with Director Freeman, which were already discussed.

Chair O'Brien mentioned a Star reporter has a blog he uses to interview elected officials. She was interviewed in the past, and said it is the Park District's turn again to participate. Director Freeman mentioned that she was contacted about this and will participate on behalf of the District.

Chair O'Brien had questions about the District's current accounting program and whether or not Excel could be of greater benefit. Chair O'Brien was also informed that a cost figure she questioned at the recent Board Meeting in Oak Park had to do with the carpet at Strathearn, not the Sycamore Drive Community Center.

XI. REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER:

General Manager said the new transport van will be at Rancho Tapo Community Park for the Kiwanis Lobster Fest on August 18 from 2-8 p.m. and that Kiwanis is having a ribbon cutting ceremony around 4:30 pm. Chair O'Brien will be attending. Kiwanis dedicated \$20,000 towards the purchase of the van, which will be used to transport participants in our Alternative Recreation Program and other District programs. The District contributed an additional \$35,000 to ensure it is handicap accessible and more suitable for intended users. An artist is working on artwork, and a proposal will be presented to Kiwanis and the Board for approval before proceeding with it.

General Manager recommended the Chair call a Special Meeting for the Joint Meeting on October 23, 2007 regarding the Arroyo Simi Visioning Study.

ACTION: Chair O'Brien Called a Special Meeting on October 23, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. to attend a Joint Meeting Regarding the Arroyo Simi Visioning Study; Vice Chair Meredith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

XII. CLOSED SESSION

None.

XII. ADJOURNMENT: Director Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m. in memory of Florence Schemm and Bill Hill who passed away recently; Director Freeman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Larry Peterson, District Clerk