



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Recreation and Parks Commission Provide Input on Adoption of the “Parks Make Life Better Campaign”

Kings Beach, CA – The Recreation and Parks Commission met on April 28 at the North Tahoe Event Center and provided input to staff on a variety of topics from adoption of the statewide “Parks Make Life Better” campaign to discussion of parking fees at Tahoe Vista Recreation Area and the possible removal of the Parcourse and replacing it with a more modern “fitness circuit” as part of a grant from the North Lake Tahoe Resort Association.

The “Parks Make Life Better” campaign promoted by the California Parks and Recreation Society is a statewide program intended to provide recreation providers with a road map to branding their districts and helping to explain what it is they do. The Commission discussed the merits of the District adopting this program without having to put a branding program like this together ourselves. The Commission recommended this move forward to the Board of Directors for adoption.

The Commission was provided an overview of the Scope of Work from SCI Consulting for the District’s Needs Assessment for Recreation and Parks. The Needs Assessment will assist in updating the Recreation and Parks Master Plan and helping the District to determine the priorities of the District’s residents related to Recreation and Parks.

A discussion of ways to increase usage of the parking lot at Tahoe Vista Recreation Area, especially with the boat launch not expected to open again this summer. Ideas such as a exploring the interest and legality of a farmer’s market and reducing fees were discussed. Staff will continue to explore options available that still meet requirements of our grant.

Administrative Manager Loren Holt also requested input from the Commission on the possibility of removing the ParCourse that needs significant repair and updating and replacing it with a more modern Fitness Circuit for active adults. The District received a Capital Infrastructure Infrastructure & Transportation Grant from the North Lake Tahoe Resort Association totally \$135,000 to replace signage in the Park, upgrade and replace signage for the nature trail and if funding is still remaining, repair the ParCourse or upgrade it with more modern equipment.

In addition to those mentioned above, Administrative Manager Holt also provided an update to the Commission on projects staff is currently working on or overseeing. The adventure/ropes course is under construction and the official opening day will be announced as we get closer. The wayfinding signage project at the corner of Highway 28 and National Avenue is anticipated to be installed prior to June 1st. The restroom project that will replace the two (2) old restrooms in the North Tahoe Regional Park is out to bid and should be awarded at the May Board of Director's meeting with an anticipated installation date of this fall. It was also discussed that the Parks Map should be updated for this summer, if only to reflect the dog park and the ropes/adventure course with an eye to a more complete revision next winter.

The next meeting of the NTPUD Recreation and Parks Commission will be held on Thursday, May 26, 2016 beginning at 6:00 pm at the North Tahoe Event Center in Kings Beach. NTPUD Recreation and Parks Commission meetings are typically held on the 4th Thursday of the month and open to the public. All those interested in recreation and parks are encouraged to attend.

Information on NTPUD recreation and parks commission meetings, board meetings, including agendas and packets, may be obtained on the District's website, www.ntpud.org. For specific information on District Park facilities visit www.northtahoe parks.com and for information on the North Tahoe Event Center, visit www.northtahoe events.com.

This was the first Recreation and Parks Commission meeting that the District recorded however, there were some issues with the video recording so only the audio is available on the District's website for this meeting. In the future, the video and audio will be uploaded to the District's website as soon as possible after the meeting.

The North Tahoe Public Utility District provides sewer and water service to the residents of Kings Beach, Tahoe Vista, Carnelian Bay, Cedar Flat and Agate Bay. The North Tahoe Regional Park, Tahoe Vista Recreation Area and Boat Launch and North Tahoe Event Center are owned and operated by the District and provide recreation opportunities to residents and visitors.

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Approved By: Duane Whitelaw, General Manager/CEO, May 11, 2016