



Communicator

February 2013

President's Message

By Mike Limbaugh

Getting it Together

Happy New Year !!! As with anything new we, for the most part, look toward optimistic perspectives. For now our great State has a new budget, we have new calendars on our walls or computers, and we are looking forward to the upcoming days in 2013. However rosy the days ahead may look, buyer beware, remember that when you spend more than you collect the difference has got to come from somewhere. For several years now California has had deepening financial problems, everyone pointed fingers, every policy reflected party lines, and government flip-flop continued to be the mainstream safe ground. We are now faced with a one party majority in control of California's Policy and Practices. Some serious questions must be interjected in the mix. Are we going to spend within our means? Is there true financial reform in the making? Can we move forward with governance that improves our quality of life in California? California Special Districts should continue to play a leadership role in the shaping of a more functional, fiscally responsible, and responsive government. If there is one constant in Special Districts let us continue to be Special and set the example to others that we always have, and will continue to serve the people of California, putting our best effort forward. CARPD encourages all of our members to remain active and continue your involvement with our State government. With our positive outlook and caring attitude we too can demonstrate how getting it together works in making parks and recreation in our state better.

Hey, CARPD has started the New Year off with some rewrites to their Mission Statement and Association Goals. For the newly elected Board Directors it would be worth a look and, while you're at it, check out CARPD's new formatted website which should be up and running in the next few months. Pat and his group have made great strides in updating CARPD's format and info on the web.

The CARPD Conference is going to be held in South Lake Tahoe this year from May 16th-18th. If you haven't already, please mark your new calendars with CARPD Conference dates. Additionally, if you plan on submitting an application for an award, get your info in on time (March 8). CARPD would like to welcome new Board member Steve Fraher, Arcade Creek PR, he joined us at our January meeting. Also, we would like to welcome Joe Donofrio, Monterey Peninsula, General Manager Consultant. Joe will be providing our members agencies with assistance in all aspects of district management and practices.

Ok, let's not forget to contact your newly elected State Reps, or reconnect with the incumbent and share Parks and Recreation Special District details. Working together and communicating with the other elected officials in your area really helps make it easy to GET IT TOGETHER.

2013 ? Let's make it another productive and positive year for California Park and Recreation Special Districts.

Henry Agonia passing

On a sad note, we were notified that Henry Agonia passed away on January 18, 2013. We want to express our deepest condolences to the Agonia family. Henry was a great man who dedicated many years to the Recreation and Park Districts of California. Henry was the Executive Director of CARPD for many years and he will be sorely missed.

Legislative Report

By Ralph Heim

LEGISLATIVE SESSION FULLY UNDERWAY

Legislators returned to Sacramento on January 7th to begin the 2013-14 legislative session in earnest. The Assembly Speaker and Senate President have announced all committee chairs and committee memberships and with this year's February 22nd bill introduction deadline still a ways off, while the pace of bill introductions have been slow as of this writing, introductions will increase markedly over the next few weeks.

GOVERNOR BROWN RELEASES HIS PROPOSED 2013-14 STATE BUDGET

As required by the state constitution, on January 10th Governor Brown unveiled his proposed 2013-14 state budget. Due to the passage of the Governor's Proposition 30 and Proposition 39 last November, his proposed budget is structurally balanced, the first time in many years. Both the Governor and Legislative Analyst have, however, cautioned legislators to adhere to the Governor's charge to "live within our means," and not go on a spending spree that could result in future year's deficits.

The positive impact of the passage of Proposition 30 and Proposition 39 was evidenced this month with the Legislative Analyst reporting the state is ahead of projections for January by approximately \$4 billion, the biggest one-month overage that state fiscal experts can recall in recent memory.

Finally, also in the good news category, there is nothing in the Governor's proposed budget of concern to recreation and park districts. Additionally, the Governor's budget contains the revenues to repay those districts that did not securitize their 2009 Proposition 1A property tax shift and those districts will receive their payments, plus interest, on or before June 30th.

LEGISLATION OF INTEREST

As stated above, this year's bill introduction deadline is February 22nd, and to date only a few bills of interest to recreation and park districts have been introduced. They are:

Assembly Bill 5(Ammiano): A very troubling bill for recreation and park districts and the whole of local governments is Assembly Bill 5 by Assembly Member Ammiano from San Francisco relating to homelessness. AB 5 would establish the Homeless Person's Bill of Rights and Fairness Act, which would provide that no person's rights, privileges, or access to public services may be denied or abridged because he/she is homeless. Among other things, the bill would provide that every person has the right **to access public property and public restrooms**, among other stated rights. AB 5 is so far reaching, yet well intentioned, that a recent Sacramento Bee editorial referred to the bill as an "embarrassment."

Assembly Bill 25(Campos): This bill relates to employment/social media, the provisions of which were enacted into law last year for private sector employers. AB 25 would apply these same provision to public employers, which would prohibit a public employer from requiring or requesting an employee or applicant for employment to disclose a username or password for the purpose of accessing personal social media. The bill also prohibits public employers from discharging, disciplining, threatening to discharge or discipline or otherwise retaliating against an employee or applicant for not complying with a request or demand for a username or password.

Finally, there have been a number of constitutional amendments introduced to lower the 2/3rds local vote to 55% to pass parcel taxes. There is discussions underway within the legislative leadership to provide these same provisions to all local governments, and we are involved in those discussions.

CFO Changes/Board of Directors Vacancy

By Pat Cabulagan

Thank You Nick Schouten

We would like to thank Nick Schouten for his dedication and service to CARPD. Nick has served on the CARPD Board of Directors for 30+ years, primarily as the CFO. Unfortunately, Nick was not re-elected to the Valley Wide Board of Directors; thus causing a vacancy on the CARPD Board of Directors in the CFO position. We will all miss Nick serving on the CARPD Board of Directors.

Al McGreehan Appointed CFO

At our last Board of Directors meeting, the Board appointed Al McGreehan of Paradise Recreation and Park District to serve as CFO for CARPD.

Board of Directors Vacancy

The CARPD Nominations Committee is seeking candidates for the vacant position on the CARPD Board of Directors—Board of Directors position (Odd # Year through May 2015).

CARPD is an organization representing special recreation and park districts throughout California. Involvement in CARPD is accomplished through the active participation of agency board and staff members.

The board of directors is made up of representatives from member park districts and meets four times per year (July, October, January and March), as well as at the annual conference in April/May.

The Board is comprised of: Current President; President Elect; Past President; Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer; and Secretary; Four Directors representing Board members from member agencies (two elected every even year and two elected every odd year for two-year terms); and Two Administrators representing General Managers from member agencies (one elected every even year and one elected every odd year for two-year terms).

Any interested candidates should submit to CARPD a letter of interest, forward a brief bio, and copy of a board resolution supporting such nomination postmarked by March 6, 2013.

Materials should be sent to:

CARPD
Attn.: Pat Cabulagan, Executive Director
6341 Auburn Blvd., Suite A
Citrus Heights, CA 95621

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Pat Cabulagan at (916) 722-5550. We thank you for your participation and support of CARPD.

New General Manager Consultant for CARPD Members

By Pat Cabulagan

As of January 1, 2013, CARPD has hired Joe Donofrio to serve as the General Manager Consultant for CARPD members.

It is the hope of CARPD and Joe Donofrio that this will assist CARPD in improving communication, outreach, networking and training opportunities. One of Joe's first tasks will be to reach out to the new General Managers of our member districts and welcome them to the association and to become a resource to new and current general managers. The General Manager Consultant, under Pat Cabulagan's direction, will provide assistance to CARPD member districts answering questions and providing direction to Administrators and governing board members. The General Manager Consultant will also direct the "new administrator training program", assist CAPRI/CARPD on tracking legislative issues/bills, assist CARPD's conference committee in planning CARPD's annual conference, and provide assistance to CAPRI's staff in administering the CARPD Executive Director contract.

In regard to Joe's background, he has been a professional in the field of parks, recreation and community services for the past 37 years with 30 years of administrative experience. He spent half of his career working in California cities (Agoura Hills and Lake Forest) and half in special districts (Conejo Rec. and Park District and Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District).

His professional experience includes administering: parks, open space, recreation, community services, human services, senior center, therapeutic recreation, police and fire services, libraries, and transportation services. He was the President of the CPRS Administrators Section and he has conducted numerous statewide training workshops on facilitating collaboration and building community consensus on potentially controversial projects. He has a great deal of expertise in the areas of contracting for service, progressive budgeting, maximizing agency cost efficiencies and staff productivity, successfully obtaining grants and increasing agency revenue generation.

New managers may be hearing from Joe soon. He is available to respond to any requests for assistance you may have. Please feel free to contact him at jddonofrio@comcast.net or at (831) 238-6900.

2013 CARPD Conference

By Pat Cabulagan

Mark your calendars!!! The 2013 California Association of Recreation and Park Districts (CARPD) conference is scheduled for May 16-18, 2013 at the Embassy Suites Lake Tahoe in South Lake Tahoe, CA.

Some of the conference topics will include: Legislation; Effects of Obamacare on Public Entities; Armed Ranger Liability; Board Norms and Guidelines; Solar World, Solar Power; Viability of Playscapes; Maximizing Revenue: Cell Tower Leasing; and Employment Law Issues. Members should be receiving the 2013 Conference Registration Form in the mail and/or via e-mail. Also, members can obtain the conference registration form at the CARPD website, www.carpd.net.

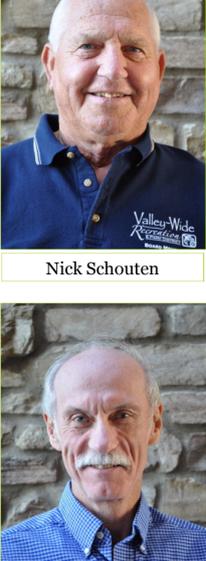
We will also be e-mailing out the 2013 Conference Sponsorship forms. If you have vendors that you work with that might be willing to sponsor and might benefit from being a sponsor of CARPD, please send them a copy of the sponsorship form, also available on the CARPD website. Sponsors are vital to the success of CARPD and the 2013 Conference.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the 2013 CARPD Conference in South Lake Tahoe, California.

2013 Awards of Distinction

By Pat Cabulagan

The 2013 Awards of Distinction form and guidelines will also be going out to the membership. Make sure you nominate your District in one or more of the various categories: Outstanding District; Outstanding Environmental Program; Outstanding Innovative Program; Outstanding Marketing and Communication; Outstanding Newspaper Coverage of District; Outstanding New Facility; Outstanding Renovated Facility; Outstanding Youth; Outstanding Senior; Outstanding Volunteer; Outstanding Professional; Outstanding Board Member; Jim Meredith Award of Excellence; and Outstanding Community Organization. All entries must be postmarked by March 8, 2013.



Nick Schouten



Al McGreehan

