

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING APRIL 5, 2012
STRAWBERRY HILL CENTER**

CALL TO ORDER A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chair DeWitt.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Lee Cross, Ken DeWitt, Jay Kinney, Kirk Robinson, and Tom Swolgaard.

ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA: No executive session for real estate.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Dan Hamlin, Park District staff member, introduced Gordon Black with Gear Grinders Mountain Bike Club, and said many in the club have attended work parties that were recently held to open up a mile long loop trail in Grand Forest North. Gordon Black has an interest in expanding mountain biking to Park District trails, and was here to speak to this. Gordon Black provided information about the above mountain bike club saying it started last year, is open to all ages, and has high school age students as its main emphasis right now. It works in collaboration with a league that is forming in this state, and has ties beyond this to a national level. The sport is recognized as an official Olympics sport and often appeals to young people when conventional school sports do not. It is both a competitive and recreational sport. The club is here for the long run, is on secure financial footing, and may formally incorporate in the future. The club adheres to the International Mountain Bicycling Association Code of Conduct which emphasizes courtesy to other trail users as well as trail maintenance. He thinks the District's trails are conducive to this sport, and stressed the club's priority to have its members not only use the trails but also be involved in the work efforts to maintain them.

BOARD CONSENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Upon hearing there were no corrections to the minutes of the March 15, 2012 regular board meeting, Chair DeWitt stated the minutes stand approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS: MSC: Kinney/Robinson: Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing that has been made available to the Board. As of this date, the Board, by a unanimous vote, does approve for payment those vouchers included in the above list and summarized as follows:

Batch	Batch Date	Batch Amt	Fund No.	Fund Name	Fund Amt	Pre-Approved
032712	3/27/12	54,073.11	94952	General	41,833.11	3/26/12
			94955	Capital Improvemt	5,450.00	3/26/12
			94956	Land Acquisition	6,790.00	3/26/12
041012	4/10/12	621,837.35	94956	Land Acquisition	621,837.35	See Res 2012-06

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ROTARY PARK AGREEMENT: Park District staff member Dan Hamlin provided an overview of the project, reviewing what has been done to date and where it is headed. A public meeting for the project was held on May 26, 2011 during which positive feedback was received. A request for a second meeting was made at that time so the public can review the project design and specifications after they've been more fully defined. The agreement is not ready this evening as anticipated and will be presented at an upcoming board meeting along with budgetary information. The project will be developed in three stages. 1) Upper section: includes demolition, site work, and moving the upper field. No work on the lower field will not be done during the first phase; 2) Restroom/Community building; 3) Lower field: The costs to improve the lower field will be the responsibility of Little League since the Park District does not see the

need for these improvements. A pre-application meeting with the City has been held, and it's been determined that extensive drainage work is needed. Little League will pay the civil engineering costs related to this in order to move the project towards the permitting stage. Representatives from the Park District, Little League, and the Rotary Club have met several times to discuss who will do what related to the project. Aspects of the project the Park District is willing to do include: restrooms, simple concessions stand, landscaping, playground, site work, demolition of aging infrastructure. Any costs over this, as well as the community building in Phase 2, must be assumed by Little League if the work is to be done. The next steps include: finalizing the agreement between the three parties and obtaining board approval; presentation of project budget and determination of where funds will come from; pursuit of RCO grant funds; public meeting. The target date for construction is set for January 2013, since the outcome of the grant application will be known by then, and this will determine the scope of the project.

OUTDOOR PROGRAM GRANTS: Recreation Services Director John DeMeyer said Outdoor Program Coordinator Jeff Ozimek is pursuing a number of small grants from various outdoor related outfits in order to build up equipment for the District's outdoor programs. John DeMeyer requested the Board's permission to enter into an agreement with Bainbridge Island Parks Foundation that would permit the foundation to receive these grant funds on behalf of the Park District. **MSC: Cross/Swolgaard: That approval be given recreation staff to work with the Bainbridge Island Parks Foundation in order to jointly apply for small outdoor program grants that are less than \$10,000.**

GENERAL BUSINESS

RESOLUTION 2012-06: WEST GAZZAM PROPERTY PURCHASE: Chair DeWitt said the goal to protect the west side of Gazzam Lake Nature Preserve from being bisected by a road has been pursued for many years. A group of neighbors led by Walt McGraw spearheaded these efforts and as a result of hard work and many negotiations, it has now become possible to preserve the park through the purchase of these properties. **MSC: Robinson/Swolgaard: That Resolution 2012-06, exercising the option and approving the purchase of the West Gazzam properties, and authorizing the Executive Director to sign the related documents, be adopted.** An enthusiastic round of applause was given and thanks were extended to all parties involved in making this happen, including Walt McGraw, Karen Molinari (Grow Gazzam/Keep Gazzam Wild) who led the fundraising efforts, the BI Land Trust, and the Park District. The Park District's attorney Ryan Vancil then laid out payment options for the Board to consider which included making the purchase in one or two payments. It was noted that one payment as opposed to two payments would result in interest savings for the District as well as a discount of \$10,000. **MSC: Swolgaard/Cross: That one voucher payment in the amount of \$621,837.35 be authorized for the purchase of the West Gazzam properties.** Ryan Vancil then reviewed several well easement agreements related to the properties and received the Board's input on them. Commissioner Robinson suggested including language that would also protect Walt McGraw's well in the event the property ever became something other than a park in the future. Ryan Vancil noted this would provide protection for Walt McGraw, but that the purchase of this land commits it to park use and it is unlikely this would ever become an issue. The closing date for the property purchase is scheduled for April 19.

RESOLUTION 2012-07: RCO GRANT APPLICATION WEST GAZZAM: Senior Planner Perry Barrett said this resolution authorizes the District to apply for State RCO grants funds. If awarded under a letter of retroactivity, the grant funds would go towards the reimbursement of Park District funds that were used to purchase the West Gazzam properties. The estimated grant amount is approximately \$400,000. **MSC: Robinson/Swolgaard: That Resolution 2012-07, authorizing the Park District to apply for State RCO administered grant funds for the purpose of reimbursing the Park District for the West Gazzam property purchase, be adopted.**

RESOLUTION 2012-08: RCO GRANT APPLICATION ROTARY PARK: Senior Planner Perry Barrett said this resolution authorizes the District to apply for State RCO grants funds that would be used if awarded for renovating Rotary Park,

including field renovation, restrooms, concession stand, and landscaping. The estimated grant amount is approximately \$350,000-\$375,000. **MSC: Swolgaard/Kinney: That Resolution 2012-08, authorizing the Park District to apply for State RCO administered grant funds for the purpose of renovating Rotary Park, be adopted.**

RESOLUTION 2012-09: RCO GRANT APPLICATION HIDDEN COVE PARK: Senior Planner Perry Barrett said this resolution authorizes the District to apply for State RCO grant funds that would be used if awarded for renovating the Hidden Cove Park dock. This effort assumes that permitting for the project will come together. The estimated grant amount is approximately \$250,000-320,000. **MSC: Robinson/Swolgaard: That Resolution 2012-09, authorizing the Park District to apply for State RCO administered grant funds for the purpose of renovating the Hidden Cove Park dock, be adopted.**

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Recreation Services Director: John Demeyer: Egg hunt is this weekend; the Teen Center is hosting the WRPA teen section meeting this week, and is also being nominated for the WRPA Outstanding Program Award for its 20 years of service; a successful "float" was held recently at the Aquatics Center with a record number of participants watching movies in inner tubes and enjoying root beer floats; construction of the new senior center will begin on May 7; a local summer intern has been lined up to assist the recreation departments this summer; the pool blanket is on and the fan will go up next week; prices are in for the solar project at the Aquatics Center; the summer brochure will be coming out soon with fun new programs; three movies hosted by the Park District will be shown this summer in Waterfront Park with sponsors covering all the costs.

Park Services Director: Arlan Elms: Staff will be meeting again next week with the Land Trust to discuss the lease for that portion of the Hilltop property owned by the Land Trust. He showed a drawing for Blakely Harbor Park that indicates current and future trails. In a meeting with Gordon Black this morning, he provided his viewpoint as a staff member regarding mountain bikes on District trails, and said it will take additional conversation and collaboration since they don't share the same perspective. The campgrounds at Fay Bainbridge will open this weekend, and next week a meeting is scheduled with Dave's Septic. It's been determined that the septic option selected by the Board for Fay Bainbridge is at too low an elevation, but there may be another option that could keep the system in the lower portion of the park. The concrete at upper Fort Ward Park has been removed, and the area seeded. Routine mowing is underway; the Saddle Club is doing work at Manzanita Park; a clean-up was done last week at the Japanese American Memorial; the second and final public meeting will be held for Citizens Park (former Unocal site) on April 12; he met recently with PAC members Frank Stowell and Dave Shorett regarding the trails plan.

Senior Planner: Perry Barrett: The survey required for ALTA title insurance on the West Gazzam properties is being finished up. It will cost approximately \$20,000 and provide the additional protection advised since so many properties are involved in this transaction. The Knudsen property closed on April 3, and work is underway to close on the West Gazzam property purchase. He recently walked the John Nelson trail with the owner's representative and City staff; the National Park Service would like the Park District to sign a joint agreement for Pritchard Park's Japanese American Memorial, but at this time the District is unwilling to sign because further negotiations are needed.

Executive Director: Terry Lande: Approximately \$135, 000 is needed as a loan from the General Fund reserves to the Land Acquisition Fund to cover property acquisition costs until delinquent tax revenues come in. He said he is very proud of what everyone is doing for the Park District, and expressed appreciation to the Board, staff, and volunteers. He also discussed an informal gathering/work group he recently attended that brought together people from a variety of park and metropolitan park districts throughout the region and provided an opportunity to address common issues and concerns.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS: Commissioner Robinson will not be able to attend the June 7 board meeting.

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:

- Commissioner Robinson is lining up some EPA Earth Day projects.
- Commissioner Robinson will email out a draft for 2012 District goals soon since this has not yet been done.
- Commissioner Cross provided an update on the Shoreline Management Plan. Last week the Planning Commission hosted a public meeting and presented the SMP as it currently stands. Once public input has been considered and any revisions included, the SMP will be brought back to the Planning Commission for a vote, after which it will move on to the City Council. She said the plan as it was presented that evening is better than it used to be and incorporates input received from the Park District and others. Despite this, there are still issues with the plan that the Board may want to address with the City Council. She met recently with Council Member Steve Bonkowski (City Council liaison for SMP matters) to discuss these concerns. She spoke to him about the need to weigh preservation against other policy goals such as public access and archeology. She told him that four out of five island residents live in the island's interior with access to the water only through public parks and road ends. She mentioned to the Board several policy issues that may require City Council decisions. One involves the increase in park shoreline buffers from one zone to two zones, which would change the current 50 foot buffer to 150 feet. The other involves a designation for park land that does not include the word "park". She said City staff is willing to include the word "park" only in the definition section. A major concession by City staff would allow the Park District to present to the City a standard operating procedure for how the District works with vegetation, invasive species, trail maintenance, and forest management along park shorelines. Once this was approved, the District could operate according to this procedure, and would not have to submit a separate permit every time work along the shoreline is needed. The Board was in agreement with this. As a way of making a concession for this, Commissioner Cross asked if the Board would permit a designation for the Close property that defines it as a natural area. The Board agreed to this since it would not affect the current uses and restrictions that run with the property. Board members concurred with Commissioner Cross's concerns about the increase in park shoreline buffers to 150 feet, saying this would substantially affect the island's parks. They also agreed with her concerns over how park land has been designated in the plan. It was agreed that the next step is for the Board to formalize their concerns and bring them to the attention of the City Council.

BOARD MEMBER COMMITTEE REPORTS

CAPITAL FACILITIES: Commissioners Robinson and Cross met with City Council Member Anne Blair to discuss the option of transferring Waterfront Park to the Park District and using a portion of the WSF fees to renovate the dock. Ann Blair and David Ward are on a sub-committee of the City Council that is looking into this as a possibility.

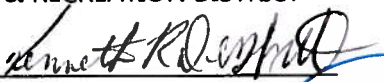
GOVERNANCE: Chair DeWitt reviewed topics discussed at a recent IGWG meeting which included: July 3rd celebration; Fire District Board of Commissioners vacancy; School Board vacancy; emergency preparedness, construction of new Wilkes grade school; celebration of library's 50th anniversary.

BUDGET & FINANCE: Committee Members Cross and Kinney met with staff to review the figures for Rotary Park. They will be presented to the full board at an upcoming board meeting.

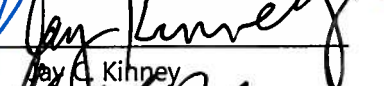
MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:40 pm.

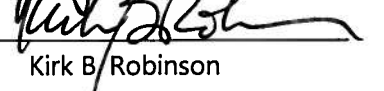
Elizabeth R. Shepherd
Terry M. Lande

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN
PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT

BY: 
Kenneth R. DeWitt

BY: 
John Thomas Swolgaard

BY: 
Jay C. Kihney

BY: 
Kirk B. Robinson

ATTEST: 
Lee Cross