BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING JANUARY 18, 2018
STRAWBERRY HILL CENTER

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

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Lee Cross, Ken DeWitt, Jay Kinney, Tom Swolgaard. Absent: Michael Pollock

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:
Kristoffer Anderson, BI Little League President, asked on behalf of BI Little League, Bainbridge Mavericks Baseball, and Bainbridge Roots Basketball to consider a petition to name the ball fields at Rotary Park after Troy and Baden Biddle, a father and son who were lost last Thanksgiving to a drunk driver. Troy was a significant member of the community, and very active in sports with his thirteen year old son Baden who was loved by all. This would be a way to memorialize two wonderful people.

Edith Hartmann, island resident, spoke about two items: 1) She is concerned about the relationship between the Senior Center and the Park District, saying there are still hard feelings about the way the two organizations parted. She said each organization plays a significant role in the community, and seniors voted. 2) She commented on the recent notice that went out about the Sakai Park concept plan, saying it was well done but there are always people who get angry because they didn’t get the word. It was noted that the notice was widely circulated through a variety of means and that while the Bainbridge Island Review received it, it was not published last week due to lack of space. It may be in tomorrow’s paper.

BOARD CONSENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Upon hearing there were no corrections to the minutes of the January 4, 2018 regular board meeting, Chair Kinney stated the minutes stand approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS: MSC: Cross/DeWitt: 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:

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PRESENTATION BY COBI MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Park Services Director Dan Hamlin introduced Demi Allen saying he is here tonight on behalf of Squeaky Wheels despite what is indicated on the agenda. He said that while the City of BI Multi-Modal Transportation Advisory Committee supports the plan being presented tonight, Demi Allen is not here as a representative of that committee. Demi Allen said as many are aware, Dana Berg was the president of Squeaky Wheels prior to her untimely death two years ago, and was a tireless advocate of providing safe routes for children to ride their bikes to school. She worked with Squeaky Wheels to develop a trail route through the central school campus. Since then, efforts to extend this trail network on both ends have been underway, with the City of Bainbridge Island talking with the School District about developing a leg to the trail system west of the central school campus. Also considered is a potential extension of the trail system east of the
central school campus through Sakai Park that would connect to the Sound to Olympics Trail at Highway 305. While there is still much to be worked out between the three public agencies that are involved, this is the basic concept of for a trail system that will provide safe routes for children to bike or walk to school. Squeaky Wheels is proposing that this entire trail system be named Dana's Campus Connector Trail as a way to recognizing Dana Berg's contributions, and would like the Park District to consider endorsing this name. This endorsement would in part make it possible to develop an integrated wayfinding signage system. Discussion followed. Several items brought up concerned responsibility for the overall maintenance of the trail system, and whether the name Dana's Campus Connector Trail is appropriate for the trail names in Sakai Park. An option considered was to have the name begin east of Madison with the trails on the school campus, and then have signs in Sakai Park pointing to where the Dana's Campus Connector Trail begins. Chair Kinney thanked Demi Moore for his presentation.

OPEN GOVERNMENT TRAINING: SESSION 2 OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT: Administrative Manager/Public Records Officer Elizabeth Shepherd introduced the second Open Government training session, Open Public Meetings Act, which was presented by watching a video on the WA State Attorney General's website. Following the video, the board discussed use of email and when it violates the Open Public Meetings Act. Action by a governing body triggers the OPMA requirements, and because action is defined broadly and can include discussion and consideration, the Park District's attorney advised that the board's emails be limited to one way communications such as receiving information without providing comment. The following were present for this second training session: Commissioners Jay Kinney, Lee Cross, Tom Swolgaard, Ken DeWitt; and staff members Terry Lande, Perry Barrett, Dan Hamlin, Mark Benishek, Lori Mejia. Commissioner Pollock was not able to attend the board meeting but contacted Chair Kinney prior to it to inform him that he had completed the training session online.

REQUEST FOR ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY VACATION IN WINSLOW: Senior Planner Perry Barrett said the City of Bainbridge Island has received a request to have the Duane Lane public road right-of-way vacated. He said it is an important east/west connection between Nakata and Madison that provides an important link in a super block. He presented a draft letter to the board for possible signature recommending that COBI maintain the public right-of-way and turn down the request to have it vacated. Because the right-of-way is already in public domain and owned by the City it will contribute to City efforts to make Winslow more walkable. MSC: Swolgaard/Cross: That the Chair be authorized to sign the letter to COBI asking that the Duane Lane road right-of-way be maintained.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Park Services Division: Division Director Dan Hamlin followed up on several items brought up in the board meeting. They include: 1) Dana's Campus Connector Trail: he will ask Demi Allen to make his presentation to the Trails Advisory Committee so they can provide their input to the board; 2) Naming Rotary Ballfields: Commissioner Kinney noted that the last field named as a memorial was the Kurt Lindsey Ballfield at Strawberry Hill Park. In this instance, he had been instrumental in renovating the field prior to passing away. Commissioner Swolgaard noted there was once discussion about naming the Rotary fields after another individual who did a lot of work on them, Don French. These comments raised questions over the criteria used when deciding when to memorialize people in parks for their community engagement.

Dan Hamlin went on to say staff met with the Housing Resources Board who has asked that the Park District take over their Ferncliff development playground since it sits alongside a public trail. He told them no, but that the District would be willing to provide advice. The question has been raised over whether the Sound to Olympics Trail can tie into the John Nelson Linear Trail, and there is some board recollection that this was the intent at one time. The recent work party on the Martin Luther King Jr holiday weekend was a great success. Held at Blakely Harbor Park, Volunteer Coordinator Emily Helgeson recruited 134 volunteers and a tremendous amount of work was done.
Recreation Division: Division Director Mark Benishek said the new ADA van has arrived and thanked the board for authorizing the purchase last year. It has an ADA lift, can accommodate two wheelchairs, and does not require someone with a CDL license to drive it. The American Red Cross Academy that will be hosted in several months by the Aquatic Center has filled up with participants coming from all over the country; three Park District staff members will attend as well. The sound system upgrade at the pool is finished; this project was funded through the Rosemary Hawk Foundation. The Bainbridge Boogie is kicking off again this weekend, and the number of active adult courses are doubling. An after school sewing class has been a big hit for both boys and girls with parents wishing they could attend too. Basketball has kicked off and the gymnastics competitive season is underway. There are fifteen applicants for summer internships. Mark Benishek and Jeff Ozimek are attending a WRPA Risk Management School next week and were involved this past year in planning it.

Administrative Division: Senior Planner Perry Barrett said the pre-construction meeting was held at Hidden Cove Park today for the new dock with the start date subject to the forage fish survey results. If foraging fish are found, the project must wait until August. Community Outreach Manager Lori Mejia said a new recreation coordinator position has been filled with former summer intern, Ashley Miller who will among other programs run all day camps during school and summer breaks. Executive Director Terry Lande said Administrative Division Director Amy Swenson is on vacation for two weeks. Use of the Springer house for boating programs on Hidden Cove is being discussed as an option again this summer. The shoulder is being expanded on Miller Road from Tolo to Peterson Hill; this will have a major impact on the Grand Forest since a tremendous number of trees will have to come out. As a major property owner along Miller, he would like the Park District to explore alternatives with the City for saving trees. He will be on vacation a week from tomorrow, and may not be here next week due to a family emergency that has come up.

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:

- Commissioner Cross said she attended her first Multi-Modal Transportation Committee. Joe Deets is now the City Council’s liaison to the committee and he explained that the reason he changed his vote on the pedestrian bridge across Highway 305 is because he felt the new council acted too quickly and more discussion about the issues is needed.
- Commissioner Cross suggested using BI Broadcasting to get information out to the community since the local paper is not getting out the news. Commissioner DeWitt mentioned the Sakai notice hit the Facebook site, Bainbridge Islanders. It was noted that social media sites like this often do not reflect comments that have an understanding of the actual process conducted by the Park District.
- Commissioner DeWitt said the annual BI Land Trust’s annual meeting is coming up next week.
- Commissioner Swolgaard commented on the need to expand parking areas at the Grand Forest off Miller.
- Commissioner Kinney said he spoke at the City Council meeting last week about the proposed Critical Areas Ordinance and requested a different category for public agencies.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Chair Kinney said Commissioner Pollock contacted him to let him know he planned to review tonight’s Open Public Meetings Act training session online as provided on the Attorney General website since he could not attend tonight’s board meeting. Commissioner Pollock later confirmed with a phone call that he had completed it.

MEETING ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 8:20 pm for discussion of real estate, with announced time to reconvene at 8:50 pm.

MEETING RECONVENED at 8:50 pm and ADJOURNED at 8:51 pm.
Elizabeth R. Shepherd  
Terry M. Lande  
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN  
PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT  
BY:  
Jay C. Kinney  
BY:  
Lee Gross  
BY:  
Michael Pollock  
BY:  
Kenneth R. DeWitt  

ATTEST:  
John Thomas Swolgaard