

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MAY 3, 2018  
STRAWBERRY HILL CENTER**

**CALL TO ORDER** A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by Chair Kinney.

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

**ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA:** none

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:**

Edith Hartmann, island resident, commented on this evening's agenda topics and encouraged the board to make their decisions about the suggested changes around cost and whether there is a need in the community for them. She was most concerned however about the Park District's visibility in the community, saying there was a time when the local paper provided this visibility with reporters attending Park Board meetings and writing articles. With this happening less often, she encouraged the District to explore other ways to ensure the community is informed about important matters that are coming up.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:**

Melanie Keenan, island resident, said she spoke at the last board meeting about the transfer of the Wyckoff superfund site property that the board is considering. She wanted to review the amount of contamination remaining at the site and how the Record of Decision has not yet been finalized that governs the site under CERCLA federal law. Anticipated funding of the remaining clean-up has not been allotted and is estimated at approximately \$90 million. She said 100,000 yards of contamination remains in and around the point, and it extends down to the second aquifer. No sampling has been done on the beach which is closest to the wall, and the wall is degrading. She also commented on the lack of signage informing the public of contaminated beaches. She urged the board to wait on making their decision about the transfer until a legal opinion is received. Accepting the property will commit the citizens on the island to more liability. A discussion over how the Park District would have increased liability if it already co-owns the land was held. This led to clarification over which portions of the property the District would be taking on. The Park District would not be taking on ownership of the point which is the location of the Superfund site and owned solely by the City. The proposed transfer includes taking on full ownership of the parcels already owned jointly by the Park District and City plus a few uplands parcels above the Superfund site that are currently owned solely by the City. These areas have been determined by EPA to be safe for recreational use. Chair Kinney said the City is responsible for management of the park and asked Melanie Keenan if she's approached the City about shutting down the park if she is concerned it is polluted. She said she has numerous times and received little response. This is why she reached out to President Obama's office and EPA issued a directive to the City to put up signs. She said the signs have since gone away. Executive Director Lande noted they were not removed by the Park District. She went on to outline the current status of the Superfund site saying the responsibility for cleaning up the point still lies with the federal government since the remedies done to date have not worked. There was an attempt by the federal government in recent years to pass the site onto the Department of Ecology but the state was unwilling to accept it since the site was not clean. Commissioner Kinney asked if the park is safe for public use. She does not think it is. Discussion continued; there are varying opinions about this depending on what portions of the overall site are being discussed. Melanie Keenan said there is a lot of technical information concerning this and offered to meet with the board to go over it. Chair Kinney suggested putting her on the agenda of a future board meeting.

Malcolm Gander, island resident, asked about the acreage of the overall site. If estimated at 50 acres less 12 acres for the Superfund site located on the point, the Park District would have sole ownership of 38 park acres. If the Park

District already co-owns 20 acres with the City and then takes on ownership of another 15-20 acres knowing some of the property may be contaminated to varying degrees, it is increasing financial liability. He thinks it would be prudent for the Park District to wait to accept additional ownership until the Record of Decision is finalized and the work completed. Until then the nature of the EPA remedy is speculative, and the Park District won't know how what is decided upon and carried out will affect the operational and maintenance costs going forward in perpetuity for the Park District. He said the Park District is less equipped to pay these O&M costs than the City. Clean-up of the site has been far more difficult than anticipated when the property was first acquired, and much uncertainty remains.

Chair Kinney noted that at this time, the Park District is waiting to hear back from both the City (about edits to the draft transfer agreement) and legal experts about the extent of the Park District's liability. In response to a question over whether a work session might be helpful, Chair Kinney said the transfer of Pritchard Park will likely be addressed as an agenda topic at an upcoming board meeting.

**BOARD CONSENT**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Upon making the following revisions to the minutes of the April 19, 2018 regular board meeting, Chair Kinney stated the minutes stand approved as corrected: p. 1: Correct several typos: South to Sound, Olympia to Olympic, Halls to Hall; p. 4: Change Battle Point Park to Strawberry Hill Park.

**APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS: MSC: Pollock/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 the following vouchers, warrants, and electronic payments:**

<b>Batch Date</b>	<b>Fund No.</b>	<b>Fund Name</b>	<b>Warrant No.</b>	<b>Total Batch Amt</b>	<b>Pre-Approved</b>
4/17/18		For funds below:	16378-16428	117,123.97	04/16/18
	001	General Fund			
	300	Capital Improvemt Fund			
4/30/18	001	General Fund	16429-16430	42,101.35	04/30/18
5/3/18	001	General Fund	16431-16449	31,121.70	4/27/18

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**SUGGESTED PARK BOARD RETREAT:** Commissioner Pollock said he brought up having a board retreat at a previous board meeting and thought it would be helpful for setting the next year's agenda. He asked the other commissioners for feedback. Commissioner DeWitt said the board has had retreats in the past for different things. Regarding the agenda, he said this is typically done in the fall as part of the budget discussions when the board begins to look at what it wants to have done in the coming year. This involves an assessment of anticipated tax revenues, research from staff into costs and projects they recommend be done in the following year. He noted the budget process takes approximately 3-4 months and it is during this time that things get laid out for the next year. Chair Kinney said he is in favor of having a board retreat, and proposed having one that follows a first-of-the-month board meeting, for example on June 7, and keeping the board meeting short with the retreat starting at 7:00pm. He said Commissioner Pollock's term began in January and he wasn't here last fall when the priorities were laid out for this year. A retreat would provide a chance to review board policies and might be to everyone's benefit. Commissioner Cross thinks a retreat would be useful and would like to have it at the end of a regular board meeting. She said as Ken mentioned, the board spends a lot of time during the budget process and also during the comprehensive planning process

mapping out the upcoming years. Since Commissioner Pollock is new to the board she thought a retreat would be useful to bring him up to speed on what has been done. **MSC: Pollock/DeWitt: To hold a board retreat in the not too distant future.**

#### **SUGGESTED RELOCATION OF PARK BOARD MEETINGS & SUGGESTION TO FILM PARK BOARD MEETINGS:**

Commissioner Pollock noted that it would be best to combine the next two agenda items in the same discussion, relocation and filming of board meetings. He said his intent when he made these suggestions earlier this year was to provide more public access to park board meetings. He thought holding the meetings in the City Council chambers where they're already set up to film meetings might be a possible approach. Another possibility is to approach the local broadcasting company to see what they can offer. He asked for dialogue from other board members about this. Chair Kinney said because staff is located here at Strawberry Hill Park along with the Park District's administrative building, and because meetings have been held here for a very long time, he is personally not in favor of hauling everyone down to the City Hall so the meetings can be filmed. The District doesn't know what the City would charge, and it would be disruptive to staff and difficult to provide everything needed to hold the meetings. As far as filming, he said if it was free it would be one thing, but the Park District's budget is really tight and he'd hate to eliminate a position or program to pay for filming board meetings. He questions whether there would be enough interest from people in watching the meetings to justify the elimination of a staff person or program. He said the meetings are taped and minutes are taken. The community knows the Park Board meets on the first and third Thursdays of the month, and depending on the issue quite a few people show up at the meetings. Commissioner Cross said she asked some people whether they would watch the park board meetings if they were filmed, and doesn't think there is an overwhelming demand from the public for this. People show up at the meetings when something on the agenda affects them. Commissioner Swolgaard noted that of all the public agencies on the island, the City is the only one that films its meetings. The School District, Fire Department, Library and Park District do not film their meetings. He also noted that until now, no one has ever asked to have the park board meetings filmed. Kirk Robinson, a former commissioner, was present in the audience and noted holding park board meetings at City Hall could cause confusion since some people don't understand the Park District is a separate agency from the City. Commissioner DeWitt said his thoughts echo the other comments made. Commissioner Pollock said it doesn't appear that there is a lot of support for these items, but he still thinks it prudent to discuss with the local broadcasting company to see what the cost/options would be to film the meetings. He volunteered to contact them; the board agreed to him doing this. Michael Pollock summarized the discussion saying it appears that there is more opposition to moving the meeting than having it filmed, and that the main concern related to filming the meetings is related to cost. Commissioner Cross said she is opposed to filming the meetings unless the cost is extremely minimal such as less than \$5000.

**MEETING ADJOURNED** at 6:45 pm for a short break, and **RECONVENED** at 6:50 pm.

**OPEN GOVERNMENT TRAINING; SESSION 4 RECORDS MANAGEMENT:** Administrative Manager/Public Records Officer Elizabeth Shepherd introduced the fourth and final Open Government training session, Records Management, which was presented by watching a video on the WA State Archive's website. She reviewed the sessions completed to date this year: 1) Overview, 1/4/18; 2) Open Public Meetings Act, 1/18/18; 3) Public Records Act, 4/5/18. The following were present for this last training session: Commissioners Jay Kinney, Lee Cross, Tom Swolgaard, Ken DeWitt, Michael Pollock; and staff members Terry Lande, Perry Barrett, Dan Hamlin, Amy Swenson, Bryan Garoutte, Helen Stone. Elizabeth Shepherd congratulated all five board members for completing the Open Government Training required by the Open Government Trainings Act and presented them with Certificates of Training.

#### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION 2018-05: PETTY CASH FUNDS:** Administrative Division Director Amy Swenson said this resolution is needed to change several petty cash custodians since those currently listed no longer work for the Park District.

**MSC: DeWitt/Swolgaard: That Resolution 2018-05, revising the Park District's Petty Cash Funds, be adopted.**

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Recreation Division:** Division Superintendent Bryan Garoutte said Eileen Magnuson is back as a part-time fitness instructor; technology equipment has been purchased with Rotary grant funds and will be placed in several District facilities for program use; 30 people attended a water exercise certification course this past week-end at the Aquatic Center with one person coming from Hawaii to attend; several private groups such as scouts and schools are renting Egleddale Pottery Studio for pottery related activities; due to construction of the new Blakely School, facility space for the District's after school programs will be limited to the gym this fall; a WRPA award was issued this week to the District's mountain biking program; gymnastics open playtime has a new rock wall; a new softball league coordinator is being hired.

**Park Services Division:** Division Director Dan Hamlin said the Battle Point Park tennis courts are being striped for pickleball; the Dog Advisory Committee met and is focusing on an off leash dog area at Pritchard Park upon its transfer to the Park District; two hazardous poplar trees at Battle Point Park came down today with 10 more identified as needing to be removed in the next year; the third cabin at Fay Bainbridge Park is being constructed; Park Services staff member Chris Andre has taken on the ballfields this year and is doing an incredible job; April was Earth Day month and Emily Helgeson did an amazing job coordinating a number of volunteer projects.

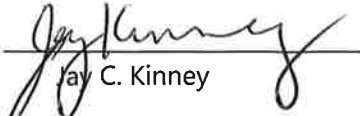
**Administrative Division:** Senior Planner Perry Barrett submitted the RCO grant applications this week; next stages in the grant process include providing letters of recommendation and a walk-through with the local park category committee; an agreement pertaining to the bakery building (Fort Ward Community Hall) is coming along and will be a follow up to the Memorandum of Understanding currently in place. Division Director Amy Swenson said several weeks ago an attorney from Seattle conducted a great training session for supervisors on personnel issues. Executive Director Terry Lande said he attended a recent Chamber of Commerce retreat and discussed what the Park District provides in the context of the business community; he also attended a clean-up of Rotary Centennial Park. Lori Quick-Mejia has sped up her retirement date to a week from tomorrow and there will be a send-off for both her and Mike Mejia on Friday evening, April 18. Among their many contributions as District staff, they were the first caretakers at Fay Bainbridge Park since it was transferred to the Park District and they set a great tone for the campground. He will be on vacation next week.

### **BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:**

- Commissioner Pollock said he got a call from a neighbor of the new trail at IslandWood; they continue to have on-going issues and are contacting their attorney. It was noted that there have been numerous attempts to work with her.
- Commissioner Cross said she attended a recent COBI Multi-Modal Transportation Advisory Committee meeting and provided an update on varying perspectives related to next steps for the Sound to Olympics Trail. Also discussed was a bond measure the City is considering for transportation safety improvements.
- Commissioner Cross also attended a BI Parks Foundation meeting where there is interest in having a letter written to the City Council encouraging the transfer of Lost Valley to the Park District.
- Commission Kinney said he attended the recent Dog Advisory Committee meeting and said Pritchard Park was the main topic discussed concerning possibilities for an off-leash dog area.


**MEETING ADJOURNED** at 8:22 pm.

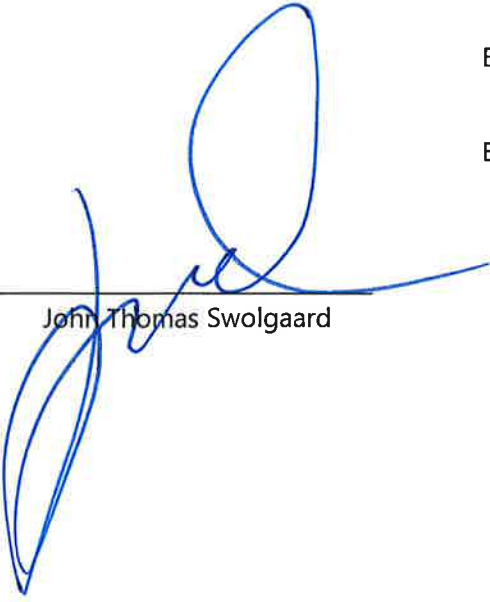
Elizabeth R. Shepherd  
Terry M. Lande  
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN  
PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT

BY:   
Jay C. Kinney

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lee Cross

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Pollock

BY:   
Kenneth R. DeWitt

ATTEST:   
John Thomas Swolgaard