

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 7, 2017  
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, Tom Swolgaard.

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:** Terry Lande, Perry Barrett, Mark Benishek, Bryan Garoutte, Dan Hamlin, Lori Mejia, Elizabeth Shepherd, Amy Swenson.

**ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA:** Add to Unfinished Business: Waterfront Trail; Amendment to Moritani Project Agreement.

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

Linda Andrews, island resident, expressed concern over a notice just received about fees increasing in January for the water fitness program she attends at the Aquatic Center. She said many elders depend on this program for balance, strength and health, and the increase of over 100% is shocking and dismaying to people. She shared additional comments from a friend Joanna Blackbird, saying the Aquatic Center is a public pool that is paid for with tax dollars. It is here to serve citizens and not just those who can afford to pay the high fees. Issuing such high fees for only this program that serves a vulnerable population is discriminatory and contrary to the Park District's mission.

**BOARD CONSENT**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Upon hearing there were no corrections to the minutes of the November 16, 2017 regular board meeting, Chair DeWitt stated the minutes stand approved as submitted.

**APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS: MSC: Robinson/Cross: 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:**

<b>Batch Dated</b>	<b>Batch Amt</b>	<b>Fund No.</b>	<b>Fund Name</b>	<b>Fund Amt</b>	<b>Pre-Approved</b>
November	Payroll	001	General	372,619.85	
12/6/17	51,518.63	001	General	49,909.57	12/6/17
		300	Capital	1,609.06	
11/21/17	72,595.80	001	General	32,294.74	11/20/17
		300	Capital	32,732.27	
		310	Land Acquisiti	7,568.79	

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**WATERFRONT TRAIL:** Chair DeWitt asked that this topic be added to the agenda since the Waterfront Trail is a long-standing project that has been of interest to the Park District for many years. Charles Schmid, Chair of the Waterfront Trail Committee, said the Waterfront Trail extends from the ferry to Gowen Place, but has a missing link just south of Bjune and east of Madison. The land the missing trail link would cross is being considered for development, and City staff is looking into the feasibility of locating the trail on this property. He encouraged the board to attend the City's public meeting on 12/11/17, when the development plans will be presented. Chair DeWitt asked that the board write

a letter in support of the Waterfront Trail at this location. **MSC: Robinson/Swolgaard: That the Board Chair prepare and sign a letter encouraging this link in the Waterfront Trail.**

**SAKAI PARK - BOARD REVIEW OF CONCEPT PLAN AS RECOMMENDED BY JONES & JONES:** Senior Planner Perry Barrett said the final draft of the concept plan for Sakai Park as developed by Jones & Jones will be presented tonight. Principal Johnpaul Jones said this process began a year ago and the concept plan they are presenting tonight will be a good guide for any future development of the park. It outlines the rules and parameters for the site, while responding to the community's ten recommended uses for the park. He said that rather than provide a single figure for the entire project, estimated costs have been broken down into sections since it is likely any project would be done in phases. Project Manager Duane Dietz provided background on the park, saying the 23 acre site was once an active strawberry farm. The pond was created when peat was mined and turned into topsoil that was sold throughout the island. In 2015, a bond measure passed to acquire the property for park land that would include both active and passive uses. In 2016, a public process facilitated by Bob Linz was conducted that generated the community's ten recommended uses for the park. In 2017, Jones and Jones was asked to determine the feasibility of these recommended uses in light of the site's constraints. Following their research, they presented their findings and a number of site plan options to the board and community in three public presentations that took place in June, July, and September this past summer. A site analysis shows the property has soil with low infiltration rates, two wetland types, and a stable bluff with no landslide activity. The site is part of an extensive watershed with creek waters passing through the ravine and into Eagle Harbor. Code requirements that apply to the property involve setback requirements, wetland buffers, and stormwater thresholds. Once these requirements are met, the impervious surface available for development is approximately 93,000 square feet or just over two acres. Duane Dietz reviewed several options for increasing the available square footage for development. He went on to say that Jones & Jones prioritized the community's recommended uses based on what will accommodate the maximum number of users, stormwater impact, and parking impact. They also considered what facilities the Park District does not have anywhere else on the island. With this in mind, an indoor multi-use recreation complex is rated as the first priority. The concept plan consolidates structures on the southern part of the property which through its topography lends itself to minimizing the impact of buildings on the land. The northern portion of the site is designed for a large lawn with nature areas. The rest of the park, which consists of the majority of the park's acreage, is designated for trails and passive use. Following a pool feasibility study done last August, the board decided that any new pool (one of the ten recommended uses) would not go on the Sakai Park site but would be co-located with the existing aquatic center. The concept plan includes parking for up to 120 vehicles, preserves the existing apple orchard, and indicates a building can go on top of the bunker. Board discussion followed the presentation. It was noted that there is need to revise item 10 on page 22 to clarify the board's action on 9/7/17 regarding any new pool facility or pool renovation. The board asked that with this revision, the concept plan be posted on the District's website, and that a period of time be allowed for public comment. Following the public comment period, the concept plan will be addressed next by the board at the 2/15/18 board meeting. **MSC: Cross/Robinson: To accept the master concept plan from Jones & Jones, post it on the District's website, and ask for public comments to be submitted by January 31, 2018, subject to changing item 10 on page 22.** It was clarified that the board tonight has accepted the concept plan as presented this evening and is seeking public input on it. The board did not adopt the concept plan this evening. The board expressed thanks to Jones & Jones for all their work, saying it is a huge step forward to know the site's constraints. Executive Director Lande said it has been a pleasure working with Jones & Jones and their staff.

**OWEN'S PLAYGROUND SIGN:** Park Services Division Director provided verbiage that will be included on a bronze welcome sign/plaque for Owen's Playground. He said Stacey Marshall, the mother of Owen, the little boy who inspired the playground, is happy with the wording.

**AMENDMENT TO MORITANI PROJECT AGREEMENT:** Park Services Division Director Dan Hamlin presented an amendment to the Moritani Preserve Project Agreement with the BI Parks Foundation that was approved by the Park Board at the 10/5/17 board meeting. The amendment identifies the individuals who will serve on the committee for the project. He said that while board approval is not needed to select committee members, they did want to hear any concerns the board might have pertaining to who was selected. **MSC: Swolgaard/Cross: To accept the amended Moritani Preserve project agreement.**

**BOARD POLICY REVISION:** Chair DeWitt said the revised board policy consists of two revisions: 1) Change "Director" to "Executive Director" throughout the document; 2) Add the following sentence to Section 2416, Rules of Order: "*Board decisions involving major issues require three positive votes. Major issues are defined as policy adoption, filling a vacant position on the board, and personnel actions regarding the Executive Director*". Following discussion, the board agreed to also add "budget resolutions". Since this is the first reading, the draft policy will be revised and returned to the board for a second reading and adoption at the next board meeting.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Administrative Services:** Division Director Amy Swenson said she is preparing an amended 2017 budget that will show a larger surplus than projected. Community Outreach Manager Lori Mejia said Winter Wonderland is coming up on Saturday, and that staff has adopted a family for the holidays. The board asked to have an opportunity to contribute as well. Senior Planner Perry Barrett said all permitting documents for Hidden Cove Park are in place now, and the contractor has been given formal notice to proceed with the dock project. In regards to the jetty bridge at Blakely Harbor Park, a deadline for tribal comment has been extended by the federal government. This is the last item needed before federal approvals are granted.

**Recreation Services:** Division Superintendent Bryan Garoutte said an open house and art sale will be held next weekend featuring work from the Park District's adult art classes; a digital photography class is going to be offered; yoga instructor Carol Wallace is retiring after 25 years of teaching for the Park District; Outdoor Programs Manager Jeff Ozimek has been selected to speak at an outdoor conference this spring; the mountain bike program is one of the biggest in the state and is being nominated for a WRPA award; two Special Olympics gymnasts will be competing this weekend. Division Director Mark Benishek introduced Lisa Claesson-Gordon who will be taking over the Learn to Swim program, the winter/spring catalog is coming out next week and work has begun on the summer catalog; there are 17 new programs being offered in Active Adults with a expansion anticipated in Tai Chi offerings sometime in the future.

**Park Services:** Division Director Dan Hamlin said a gift of 55 full-grown rhododendrons has been received by the Park District, including 18 that are over 8' tall. The gracious donor is the family of Walt Berg who must sell his house and want to share with the community the rhododendrons he loved and cultivated throughout the years he lived here. The Park District is very grateful for the donation, valued conservatively at \$15,000, and has planted the rhododendrons at Fay Bainbridge Park, Battle Point Park, and Rotary Park.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS:** December 9: Winter Wonderland; December 16: Park District Holiday Party


### **BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:**

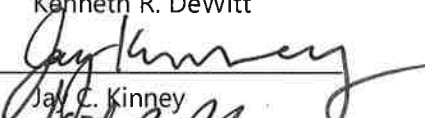
- Commissioner Robinson attended a Multi-Modal Transportation Advisory Committee (formerly Non-Motorized Transportation Advisory Committee) meeting, as well as a Bainbridge Parks Foundation projects meeting.

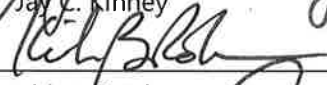
- Commissioner Robinson asked about the woman's comments at the beginning of the meeting concerning the fee increase for a water fitness class. It was noted that the pool is subsidized by taxpayers at approximately \$400,000 per year and that direction has been given staff to reduce this amount. Fee increases are in effect for other classes as well, and are in line with fees charged by other organizations in the region. The woman's concerns were just made known to staff that day, and they have not had a chance to look into it. It was suggested that the fee increase be phased in over a period of time.
- Commissioner Cross said she and staff met recently with City Planner Christy Carr about the draft Critical Areas Ordinance and the impact it will have on the Park District. The BI Parks Foundation and Bloedel also have concerns about it. They've learned that the topic has been postponed and will be handled by the new City Council after the first of the year. Commissioner Cross asked that copies of the Park District's letters concerning the CAO be sent the School District and Fire Department as well.
- Commissioner Swolgaard said he saw that stormwater management fees are going up. Administrative Division Manager Amy Swenson said this was anticipated and is included in the budget for 2018.

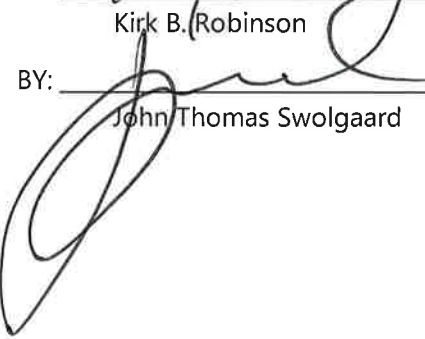
**MEETING ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 7:43 pm for discussion of real estate and potential litigation, with announced time to reconvene at 8:30 pm and **ADJOURNED** at 8:30 pm.

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

BY:   
 Kenneth R. DeWitt

BY:   
 Jay C. Kinney

BY:   
 Kirk B. Robinson

BY:   
 John Thomas Swolgaard

ATTEST:   
 Lee Cross