

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT  
 REGULAR BOARD MEETING APRIL 16, 2015  
 STRAWBERRY HILL CENTER**

**CALL TO ORDER** A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:04 pm by Chair Robinson.

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

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

Linda Sohlberg, island resident, addressed the parking spots proposed by the City of Bainbridge Island for the upland portion of COBI open space property on Manitou Beach Drive. She said it is the understanding of the neighborhood that the Park District will accept the tidelands portion from the City as a property transfer, but will not accept the uplands parking unless there is 1-2 parking places on it. The City's design includes 4 parking spots and she is asking the Park District on behalf of the neighborhood to consider a less intrusive design. She said the property is part of a long established residential community and as a functional wetlands provides flood water retention and wildlife habitat. While the neighborhood supports zero parking spaces, it would not challenge the following: 1) One or two parking spaces on Manitou Drive; 2) Bike rack; 3) Language in deed limiting parking to the above. Executive Lande confirmed with the Board that the District has not indicated a specific number of parking spots for the property. Chair Robinson confirmed that the Park District is requiring parking on the upland portion as a condition to accepting the property in order to provide access to a public park.

**BOARD CONSENT**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Upon making the following revisions to the minutes of the April 2, 2015 regular board meeting, Chair Robinson stated the minutes stand approved as corrected: p. 1: add "s" to "year"; change "Matt" to "Mac"; change "April 2" to "March 19"; p. 2: change "Vineland" to "Vineyard"; p. 3: remove "be";

**APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS: MSC: DeWitt/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:**

Batch Dated	Batch Amt	Fund No.	Fund Name	Fund Amt	Pre-Approved
04/07/15	107,955.80	001	General	97,274.25	4/6/15
		300	Capital	10,681.55	
04/14/15	63,204.79	001	General	62,411.40	4/9/15
		300	Capital	793.39	

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION 2015-09: AMENDED 2015 GENERAL FUND BUDGET:** Finance Officer Amy Swenson said the 2015 General Fund Budget needs amending in order to include: 1) a \$100,000 transfer to the 2015 Land Acquisition Fund related to the Boys & Girls Club terminating their lease of premises at the Aquatics Center; 2) \$21,000 in professional fees (appraisal, etc.) related to assessing the McNabb property that is under consideration for purchase. These funds will come out of District reserves. **MSC: DeWitt/Cross: That Resolution 2015-09, amending the 2015 General Fund Budget, be adopted.**

**RESOLUTION 2015-10: AMENDED 2015 LAND ACQUISITION FUND BUDGET:** Finance Officer Amy Swenson said the 2015 Land Acquisition Fund Budget needs amending to accept the above \$100,000 transfer. **MSC: DeWitt/Cross: That Resolution 2015-10, amending the 2015 Land Acquisition Fund Budget, be adopted.**

**RESOLUTION 2015-11: HONORING JOHN DEMEYER:** At the request of Executive Director Terry Lande, Administrative Manager Elizabeth Shepherd read aloud a resolution prepared in honor of Recreation Services Division Director John DeMeyer who is retiring from the Park District on May 1 after thirty plus years of employment. **MSC: Cross/Swolgaard: That Resolution 2015-11, honoring John DeMeyer and his thirty plus years of service to the Park District, be adopted.** Park District employees applauded John and gave him a standing ovation. In response to a board question, he said he began working for the Park District as a part-time employee in January 1983, and moved into a full-time position in 1986. Prior to this he worked in several government jobs and the Park District with its single focus on parks and recreation has been by far the best in its responsiveness to the local community. He commended the Board for their tremendous volunteer commitment, Terry Lande for rewarding people for forward thinking and not putting up with divisiveness, and staff members for being great to work with.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Senior Planner: Perry Barrett: Distributed copies to the Board of a memo prepared by Floyd Snider addressing concerns raised by Melanie Keenan over their Sakai Property Environmental Assessment; the appraisal of the McNabb property is moving along; the permit has been submitted for the Hawley Cove Park boardwalk project.

Park Services Superintendent: Dan Hamlin:

BI Parks Foundation Executive Director Barb Trafton asked Dan Hamlin to run by the board a trail route the Foundation is working on near The Waypoint. It will require no funds from the District and will include extensive removal of invasive species. The board expressed general support for the project. Commissioner Robinson suggested there be trail access closer to the Waypoint.

Dan Hamlin provided background information on the new Hawley Cove Park trail route that will connect the park with the Hawley Cove neighborhood. In 2006, a citizen proposed a commuter trail bike route through the park that this citizen continues to want today. The board did not endorse this route for a number of reasons, some of which include: 1) The board considers the route across the berm to be a better option given the Park District's emphasis on recreational trails versus commuter routes; 2) A commuter route for bicycles has different trail standards than a recreational trail such as greater trail width; 3) Bicycles would have a large impact on the site as well as the environment which includes wetlands; 4) The City is improving Wing Point Way making it more feasible for bicycle use; 5) The park will be dark during the hours many commuters are biking. In addition, Dan Hamlin said, the property owners who sold the land to the City wanted to see the site used for recreational and educational use. He asked the board for confirmation that the trail route across the berm is how they want to move forward. The board reiterated their consent for the trail route across the berm.

Dan Hamlin said Erik Stevens, Kitsap Humane Society Executive Director, will be attending Park District Dog Advisory Committee meetings to help with education. Commissioner Kinney, a board liaison to the committee, emphasized the importance of the Board providing guidelines to the Humane Society that outline parameters on when the District could most use their help in enforcing the City's new dog ordinance. This could include identifying specific areas for enforcement such as trails, whether there is a grace period with warnings given for initial violations, when tickets should be issued (such as when dogs are out of control), etc. The board agreed that the committee should develop these parameters in conjunction with other interested parties such as the Humane Society and the City of Bainbridge Island, and then present a recommendation to the Board for a decision.

Other items mentioned by Dan Hamlin included: an update of the Schel Chelb playground project will be presented to the public during the May 7 board meeting; a meeting was held recently about getting a bicycle pump track on the island; the restroom at Blakely Harbor Park is almost done.

Recreation Services Director: John DeMeyer: provided an update on the robust number of recreational programs currently underway including the successful egg hunt last weekend, a youth fly fishing event coming up at Battle Point Park; Teen Center events and efforts to form a "Friends of the Teen Center" program; the installation of an artistic phone booth at the Senior Center to be used for recording stories, and a report developed by Sue Barrington that assesses parking availability for the Senior Center and Rowing Club and is a first step towards coordinating use of parking spots between the two groups.

Executive Director: Terry Lande: He met with Jim Cutler who is now looking at alternative ways to make a tribute to his friend Mac Kennedy who recently passed away. A recent call from the State Department of Fish & Wildlife raised the possibility of them stocking the Battle Point Park Pond with fish in exchange for the Park District listing the BPP pond as a catch and release site on their website. On April 30, a partnership award will be presented by WRPA to the Park District and BI Land Trust in recognition of the two organizations working successfully together.

Terry Lande officially thanked John DeMeyer for everything he has contributed to the Park District over the years and expressed appreciation for how much he has given the community.

#### **BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:**

- Commissioner Kinney commented on a recent meeting of the COBI Utility Advisory Committee he attended with Park District attorney and staff to bring up concerns over the City's approach to storm water management fees. When there, they briefly discussed the past saying the Park District is not a commercial entity and other than several park sites that could be construed as residential, the current ordinance does not cover the Park District. Given this the fees that have been charged the District are excessive and cannot be justified. While at the meeting, they also asked the City to consider exempting the Park District from storm water fees given the contribution of park land to the overall management of storm water. In addition, they pointed out that both Park and School Districts are public entities paid for out of taxpayer dollars intended for their specific use and questioned the diversion of these taxpayer dollars to another public agency. If the City is intending to revise their storm water management ordinance, Commissioner Kinney said the District is requesting first an exemption for park land from the fee structure, and if the City is unwilling to provide this, the District's next request is for a change in how impervious surface is defined. He noted the importance of continuing to attend UAC meetings. It was agreed that a staff member(s) will be assigned to attend and that the District's attorney Ryan Vancil will be brought in at those times when his legal resources are most needed.
- Commissioner DeWitt thanked John DeMeyer for everything he has done, and especially for his willingness to serve as interim director in 2003 while the search was underway for a new director for the Park District.
- Commissioner Swolgaard asked about the Madison Avenue Tot Lot. Executive Director Lande said the easements limit what can be done with the property, and that the developer will have to work directly with the City in regards to this.
- Commissioners Swolgaard and Robinson will both be gone for the May 21 board meeting.
- Commissioner Cross said she will attend the upcoming Yama art display at Olympic College.
- Commissioner Cross attended a recent BI Parks Foundation trails committee meeting with staff members Perry Barrett and Dan Hamlin and said they updated the Foundation on how the remaining PAC funds will be used for trail connections that have been underway for a long time.

- Commissioner Robinson said Mark Epstein from COBI Public Works called him today about the Manitou Beach uplands portion. The City has reduced the six parking spots initially considered for the site to four that would be accessed directly off the street. One of these would be a handicap stall. The lot would include pervious gravel and a bike rack. He said Mark Epstein is interested in getting input from the Board on this and is also interested in suggestions for beach access. Discussion followed. It was noted that the site is at the end of a cross island trail and also a spectacular viewpoint. Given this, a minimum of four spots seems reasonable, but before committing to this it was agreed an evaluation of the site by staff is needed. Commissioner Robinson will call Mark Epstein back to let him know staff is doing an evaluation.

**WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

A letter dated April 11, 2015 was submitted by Melanie Keenan commenting on the environmental assessment done for the Sakai property.

**MEETING ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 8:13 pm for discussion of real estate with announced time to reconvene at 9:00 pm.

**MEETING RECONVENED** at 9:00 pm and **ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 9:01 pm for continued discussion of the above items, with announced time to reconvene at 9:15 pm.

**MEETING RECONVENED** at 9:15 pm and **ADJOURNED** at 9:16 pm.

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

BY:  \_\_\_\_\_

Kirk B. Robinson

BY:  \_\_\_\_\_

Lee Cross

BY:  \_\_\_\_\_

Kenneth R. DeWitt

BY:  \_\_\_\_\_

Jay C. Kinney

ATTEST:  \_\_\_\_\_

John Thomas Swolgaard