

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MARCH 17, 2016  
STRAWBERRY HILL CENTER**

**CALL TO ORDER** A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Chair Swolgaard.

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

**ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA:** No executive session for real estate and personnel.

**BOARD CONSENT**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Upon making the following revisions to the minutes of the March 3, 2016 regular board meeting, Chair Swolgaard stated the minutes stand approved as corrected: p. 1 & 2: Change spelling of "Jon Benjes" to "John Benjes"; p. 2: change "and" to "any"; p. 4: change "scout pack" to "scout troop".

**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:**

<b>Batch Dated</b>	<b>Batch Amt</b>	<b>Fund No.</b>	<b>Fund Name</b>	<b>Fund Amt</b>	<b>Pre-Approved</b>
3/3/16	56,999.74	001	General	31,734.72	3/4/16
		300	Capital	25,265.02	
Feb. Payroll	343,580.36	001	General	343,580.36	

**RESOLUTION 2016-02: HONORING JEANETTE FRANKS:** Park Services Director Dan Hamlin commended Jeanette Franks for the work she has done on behalf of the Park District and Bainbridge Island community to educate people about the importance of removing invasive species and replacing them with native plants. The resolution was read aloud and applause followed. Jeanette Franks expressed thanks and spoke enthusiastically of her profession in gerontology and her passion on the side for invasive species removal. The Park Board and members of the community thanked Jeanette Franks for all she has done. **MSC: Robinson/Cross: That Resolution 2016-02, honoring Jeanette Franks for her years of service as a volunteer on the island and an employee and volunteer of the Park District, be adopted.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**SOUND TO OLYMPICS TRAIL UPDATE:** Senior Planner Perry Barrett introduced Mark Epstein, Engineering Project Manager for the City of Bainbridge Island, who spoke about the portion of the Sound to Olympics Trail directly north of the SR305/High School Road intersection. Mark Epstein said a requirement for the Visconsi Development is to develop a paved, shared use trail along the frontage of their property. Currently the City is discussing with them the possibility of moving this trail from the east side of the highway to the west side so it can tie into the Sound to Olympics Trail. This change would entail some additional costs such as wetlands considerations, so to offset this the City has agreed to do some of the preliminary work. He noted that a good portion of the trail will run along the Park District's newly acquired Sakai property, but that it is not expected to run on park property. He also noted the trail could be routed between wetlands making mitigation unnecessary. The City is working on getting preliminary costs together to discuss this option with Visconsi. Mark Epstein responded to several questions from the board and staff saying it will cost approximately \$2 million for the trail to run from Winslow Way to High School Road, along the east side of SR305. He also confirmed that the Park District will be able to tie into the STO trail from the Sakai property.

Mark Epstein asked for board input on the alignment and location of the trail north of High School Road as presented this evening. The Board indicated their support.

**BLAKELY HARBOR PARK PROJECTS UPDATE:** Park Services Director Dan Hamlin reviewed the concept plan as revised in 2013 to include a jetty bridge, a several phase vegetation plan, and the relocation of restrooms, trails and the Mac's Dam bridge. He said this year's vegetation plan includes the area around Mac's Dam Creek, and the removal of blackberries along the roadside edge of the meadow with interior blackberry bushes and fruit trees remaining.

Senior Planner Perry Barrett provided an update on the jetty bridge project. He indicated that the jetties have been found this past year to have archeological significance emblematic of the mill town era, and that the archeologist recommends this be applied in some way to the bridge's design or interpretation. He confirmed the board's action at the December 18, 2014 board meeting approving the pursuit of a permanent jetty crossing with a temporary bridge that could be modified in the future. Perry Barrett said a natural cap of woody debris has developed over the years that is about 6 feet deep. Disturbance of this cap could trigger a requirement for a State clean-up of the site, so it is critical that it not be damaged. Any committee formed in the future to study the impact of jetty removal would have to consider this carefully.

Senior Planner Perry Barrett said the original proposal for the bridge would have raised it up 10-1/2 feet above the regulatory clearance level. Because the waters of Blakely Harbor show up on federal maps as navigable water, the Coast Guard has had to weigh in on this project. Coast Guard requirements stipulate that the bridge go up another 4-1/2 feet to allow motorboats access to the mill pond. For this new design to be ADA accessible, gangways of approximately 70' would be needed on each side of the bridge. The additional bridge height creates two problems: 1) Increased cost due in part to the need for more extensive engineering; 2) Overall look of the project. The original design spanned primarily the water between the two jetties. The design that would meet Coast Guard and ADA standards would require a structure that spans not only the water but the jetties as well due to the long gangways needed. Staff has appealed the Coast Guard's decision to Washington DC, and been informed that the national standards will not be changed for this small jetty bridge. The Coast Guard has indicated they will most likely approve the project with the increased height, but tribal concerns must still be considered. The donor for the bridge is still interested in pursuing more information. It is not clear how the community will weigh in on the new design. Donor representative, Frank Stowell, thanked the Park District for all it is doing related to this project which he indicated is very complex. He said the generosity of someone wanting to benefit their community has made this bridge a possibility, and expressed frustration with federal regulations being applied to waters that do not seem to apply. Discussion took place over possible options that could be pursued at a legislative level. Staff asked the Board how to proceed. The Board authorized staff to continue with the project until more answers have been obtained.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Park Services Manager:** Bre Ganne introduced two people new to Park Services: 1) Travis Heiple, intern from Oregon State University, will be here for three months helping with the turf program and auditing the irrigation system at Sands Avenue Ballfield; 2) Emily Helgeson, new volunteer coordinator, comes with extensive interests, experience, and credentials in the areas of land, conservation, stewardship and education, including the 2013 IslandWood Graduate Program, and Masters and BA degrees from the University of Washington.

**Recreation Services Superintendent:** Mark Benishek: Sue Barrington, program manager for the Senior Center, received the honor of being selected as one out of ten to speak at a conference this week in Seattle on the Senior to Senior program; new Facility Maintenance Technician David Wallace has been busy coordinating the on demand water system and addressing power outages at the Aquatics Center; youth swim teams did well in recent competitions. Migration to

the upgraded registration program will begin Sunday evening and new equipment approved by the board at the last board meeting will be integrated into the new system. Staff training has been underway and will continue next week.

Recreation Services Superintendent: Bryan Garoutte: staff is busy lining up programs for the summer catalog; improvements at the Eagledale Pottery Studio are underway; Outdoor Program Manager Jeff Ozimek is reviewing his staff positions to ensure the appropriate certifications and training are being done; the WA Men's State Championships will be hosted by the Gymnastics Department here on the island this weekend.

Park Services Director: Dan Hamlin: interviews are underway for the recently vacated maintenance position; the concrete at Rotary Park will be done soon and fencing is underway; the ballfields are not playable due to all the rain; the Suquamish Tribe has been monitoring their bark stripping project and has indicated that the trees have sealed up and are healthy; lots of storm damage clean-up is underway; work on Owen's playground is coming along.

Senior Planner: Perry Barrett: there is a new Fish & Wildlife grant requirement that stipulates a marine survey must be done for the Hidden Cove dock project; once done negotiations with DNR on the tidelands lease will begin; grant season has begun and discussion is underway regarding what grants should be pursued by the District.

Executive Director: Terry Lande: the big egg hunt is coming up a week from Saturday. Because of an error by the title company, there are some delinquent taxes the Park District must pay but the title company will pay for their portion of the error. A letter was received from the City that said the existing public use of Pritchard Park would allow for hourly or timed use of the park by off-leash dogs. However, fencing an area for off leash dogs would trigger a conditional use permit.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS:** 4/23/16: Second public meeting for planning the Sakai property (10:00am-1:00pm at the Nakata Meeting Room in the Aquatic Center).

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

- Commissioner Cross attended the recent Senior Center retreat and indicated the new non-profit board is clearer now about their role and the role of the Park District.
- Commissioner Robinson wrote a letter to the City concerning the IslandWood trail easement and getting the trail built.
- Commissioner DeWitt attended a recent Trails Committee meeting and updated the board on the priorities concerning which trail will be built next.
- Commissioner Swolgaard brought up the Suzuki property and it was noted that the proposal to give the property to the Park District for use as a park is out of the picture now. The City Council has decided to develop the property. Executive Director Lande expressed concern about several items, including a comment from a city council member about having enough parks on the island, and the development proposal that would allow a private club to have public land for free in order to build a full community center with gymnasium on it. He said if the property is going to be developed, the City and Park District should work together to ensure some acreage in the development is set aside for a public park that the District would manage.
- Commissioner DeWitt said he will be gone for the April 21 board meeting and April 23 public meeting for the Sakai property.
- Commissioner Cross said she will be gone for the May 5 board meeting.

**MEETING ADJOURNED** at 8:00 pm.

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

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

John Thomas Swolgaard

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

Kenneth R. DeWitt

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

Lee Cross

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

Kirk B. Robinson

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

Jay C. Kinney