

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MAY 3, 2012
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, and Tom Swolgaard.

ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA: Add to Unfinished Business: Shoreline Management Plan Letter. Add executive session for real estate negotiations.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Gordon Black, with Gear Grinders Mountain Bike Club, said he was back today because two weeks ago a concerned citizen, Fred Grimm, spoke about mountain biking in the Grand Forest. He knows Fred Grimm personally, and has since contacted him to learn his concerns. He quoted him as saying he has "a very emotional attachment to this piece of property". Gordon Black said he respects Fred Grimm for this, and he also is emotionally attached to these forests. He said this club is all about working with others, and being cooperative and tolerant on the trails. It is his personal goal to instill in the young people riding with the club that they earn the privilege to be on the trails by showing courtesy, friendliness, and toleration of other users. He is a big advocate of multi-use trails and encouraged the board to continue in this direction.

Kia Micaud, said her son is a Gear Grinders member, and her daughter used these trails during high school in cross country track. Both groups use the varied terrain of these trails to train their athletes and are well supervised. To prevent use conflicts, neither group practices speed on these trails or uses them for competitive races. Limiting the Gear Grinders to the North Grand Forest trails is similar to limiting the cross country team to laps around the track. The mountain bike club has highly responsible leadership, and an amazing student to adult ratio. Students ride with a leader at the beginning and end of each group; they are taught to ride responsibly and steward the trails they use. The activity provides fitness and teaches appreciation for the environment. She asked the Board to support this effort.

John Hathaway, a Gear Grinders member who grew up on the island, said it means a lot to be able to use these trails and experience nature. As a team, they learn to share the trails and respect the rights of all trail users. In return, they would like to be able to continue using the trails.

Julie Karter, spoke to the importance mountain biking and the Gear Grinders holds for her family, saying a dear friend was once hit by a car and killed while biking on the road. After this, the roads did not seem safe, and her family began mountain biking through the woods. It is an activity that her husband and son can share together.

Herman Vroom, a Gear Grinders parent and chaperone, understands why the District could be concerned when faced with a newspaper article in March that talked about a team of bikes racing through the Grand Forest. He urged the Board to be clear about what is going on before taking action. He noted the club has been riding in the Grand Forest since December, but it was not until March when the article came out that people knew this was going on. He said no one has heard anything about the activity because there has never been a problem. He said these kids provide an example for how multi-use trails can be used and invited the Board to watch them ride to see how pleasant they are.

Anika Vroom, has been biking since she was five and discovered mountain biking this year. The group is very safe, they ride along and when someone stops, they all stop. She said it's nice to be able to use the trails and if confined to one mile, they won't be able to practice the skills that are learned from riding different types of terrain.

Chara D'Angelo Patricio, a Gear Grinders club member, spoke to the importance of mountain biking in her life. She said the team is sensitive to the environment and noted their participation in working to maintain the trails in a sustainable way. She said they are a disciplined, well led group of young people who want equal access to trails, and

noted other sports have areas designated for their use. The team members are responsible and know how to behave responsibly on the trails. They have systems worked out so there are no problems. They stop to let people pass, ride at a slow rate to build endurance, and practice their speed elsewhere. She asked that they not be limited in where they can ride since the varied terrain is enjoyable and important in building their skill levels.

Lydia Weyand, a Gear Grinders club member, noted one reason it's important for the trails to remain open for multi-use is because as a team they like to be conscientious of other people and this allows them to develop skills they wouldn't learn if other users were not using the trails. A few items the multi-use trails teach them is courtesy and being aware of what might be around the corner.

Kathleen Weyand, a Gear Grinders parent, said she rides horses and sometimes has conflicts with dogs on trails. She emphasized the importance of being conscientious of other people using the trails, saying the issue is bigger than one item. Rather than limiting the issue to one group, the Gear Grinders, she encouraged the discussion to occur at a broader level with the larger community.

Ross Hathaway, a Gear Grinders parent, said there are many barriers to youth getting into bicycling these days, and encouraged the Board to do what they can to advocate for the Gear Grinders.

BOARD CONSENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Upon hearing there were no corrections to the minutes of the April 19, 2012 regular board meeting, Chair DeWitt stated the minutes stand approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS: MSC: Kinney/Robinson: 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	Batch Date	Batch Amt	Fund No.	Fund Name	Fund Amt	Pre-Approved
040912	4/9/12	628.58	94952	General	628.58	
041712	4/17/12	39,685.98	94952	General	12,338.86	4/13/12
			94955	Capital Improvemt	15,269.62	4/13/12
			94956	Land Acquisition	12,077.50	4/13/12
042412	4/24/12	44,117.27	94952	General	40,372.20	4/19/12
			94955	Capital Improvemt	3,745.07	4/19/12
050112	5/1/12	19,116.23	94952	General	19,116.23	4/25/12

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ROTARY PARK RENOVATION AGREEMENT: Senior Planner Perry Barrett introduced as a first reading the agreement for the Rotary Park renovation project, saying the District's attorney is still reviewing it and Little League would like some minor clarifications. Roberto Gurza with Little League said aside from these small details, the full Little League board is in concert with the project. Perry Barrett said the WA State RCO grant application has been launched, and the project will be presented in the near future. He said the agreement contains a cost break-down of three options. The option selected will depend on whether the project is awarded grant funds. Park staff Dan Hamlin walked the Board through the District's portion of the pricing for the three options, with each option including three phases. Board members indicated general support of the agreement and asked for several minor revisions.

SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN LETTER: Chair DeWitt said the Board authorized him to write a letter at the last board meeting to the City expressing the Board's opposition to the Planning Commission's decision to change the designation for Blakely Harbor Park's meadow area from "island conservancy" to "natural". The draft letter was sent to the Board with one change requested by Commissioner Cross. Once revised, Chair DeWitt will sign the letter.

GENERAL BUSINESS

RESOLUTION 2012-11: AMENDED 2012 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND BUDGET: Finance Manager Amy Swenson reviewed adjustments needed for the 2012 Capital Improvement Fund Budget some of which included: carry forward amounts from 2011 and the allocation of these funds among various projects, and an additional line item needed to allocate excess funds raised by "Keep Gazzam Wild" for parking at Gazzam Lake. Commissioner Robinson questioned the large carry forward amounts and asked if too much is being allocated for the Capital Improvement Fund. He also suggested that to provide greater flexibility, funds be allocated for trails in one overall trails category. Executive Director Lande said these items will be considered in the next budget cycle. **MSC: Robinson/Cross: That Resolution 2012-11, amending the 2012 Capital Improvement Fund Budget, be adopted.**

RESOLUTION 2012-12: AMENDED 2012 LAND ACQUISITION FUND BUDGET: Finance Manager Amy Swenson reviewed several adjustments needed for the 2012 Land Acquisition Fund Budget some of which included: adjustments needed to address land purchases made in 2012 instead of 2011 as expected, an interfund loan authorized by resolution at the last board meeting, and grant funds that have been or will be received in 2012. **MSC: Swolgaard/Robinson: That Resolution 2012-12, amending the 2012 Land Acquisition Fund Budget, be adopted.**

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Park Services Director: John DeMeyer: He and staff attended the WRPA conference today which is underway in Bellevue this week. The Senior Center is ready for demolition with a project finish date slated for November 12, 2012. The Teen Center's 20th birthday celebration will be held tomorrow night with cake and ice cream from 3:00-7:00 pm. Summer registration began last week and went smoothly with approximately \$106,000 generated in the first six to seven hours. Installation of energy saving measures are underway at the both the Aquatics Center and other facilities.

Senior Planner: Perry Barrett: firmed up matters related to District bouys in several parks; launched three RCO grants this past week; submitted a request for archeological review and analysis services required as part of the RCO grant requirements for the Hilltop trail site. Executive Director Lande complimented Perry Barrett for his grant efforts.

Park Services: Dan Hamlin: flowers have been purchased for planting around the park entry signs; work on the ballfields is underway with all soils lined up perfectly according to a recent soil test; mowing season is in full swing.

Executive Director: Terry Lande noted a public meeting will be held on May 24 to gain input into possible dog park locations. He mentioned the earlier Gear Grinder comments, saying they were prompted by his recent request that the club limit its trail use to North Grand Forest. He had heard rumors the club was using more Grand Forest trails than he thought, and wanted the Board to discuss the matter before the club expanded its use any further into District parks.

He was pleased with the club member's courtesy that evening. Commissioner DeWitt noted there could be a conflict if mountain biking is viewed as an active sport, yet is permitted in The Grand Forest which is a passive use park. The Board wanted more discussion in the future about mountain bikes in parks since there are many issues related to multi-use trails, such as expense and impact on the budget. Terry Lande also commented on the transfer station site as a possible location for a dog park, saying when it came before the City Council recently, the conversation stopped after the City attorney said there is potential litigation on the site regarding the property's ownership.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS: May 17 board meeting start time: 7:00 pm. May 21: IGWG Meeting; May 24: Public Hearing Dog Park Locations

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:

- Commissioner Kinney said he received a request from John Grinter for the Park District to support a grant application to the City for a trail that would run both behind and in front of the Woodward/Sakai schools and on down to Highway 305. John Grinter's request asked that the Board direct the Executive Director to sign an agreement stating the District's partnership in this project. The Board discussed their concerns about the project. The proposed trail is not on park land, the District does not have resources to contribute to the project, and placement of an unsupervised wooded path behind the two schools is questionable from the standpoint of student safety. Due to these issues and the lack of time provided to consider the project, the Board agreed that the agreement would not be signed by the Park District.
- Commissioner Cross said she's heard some agencies on the island may go out for bonds in the near future and felt it important that IGWG address the coordination of these bonds at its next meeting.
- Commissioner Cross said she and Commissioner DeWitt met with Council Member Steve Bonkowski (liaison to the Planning Commission) to discuss the Board's concerns about the Shoreline Management Plan. She said he was very receptive and urged the Board to write a letter to the City Council with specific requests that are realistic and accompanied by clear explanations. She and Commissioner DeWitt are drafting the letter.

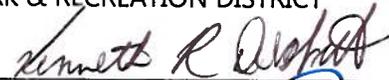
BOARD MEMBER COMMITTEE REPORTS

CAPITAL FACILITIES: Commissioner Robinson said the committee met recently with the Artisans Group, former Woodworking Group, to continue discussing the Suzuki site as a possible location for a joint community center/artisan facility. The possibilities for this site have now expanded to also include Housing Resources Board affordable housing units which was a use considered for the site in the past. The Artisans Group has spoken individually to city council members and found them to be relatively supportive of the concept. Each group involved has been tasked to come back with their proposal. He said the meeting went well and noted this is all a very preliminary discussion.

MEETING ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 7:53 pm for discussion of real estate negotiations with announced time to reconvene at 8:30 pm. **MEETING RECONVENED** at 8:30 pm and **ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 8:31 pm for continued discussion of the above items, with announced time to reconvene at 8:40 pm.

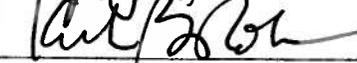
MEETING RECONVENED at 8:40 pm and **ADJOURNED** at 8:41 pm.

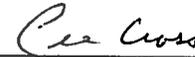
Elizabeth R. Shepherd
Terry M. Lande
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN
PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT

BY: 
Kenneth R. DeWitt

BY: 
John Thomas Swolgaard

BY: 
Jay C. Kinney

BY: 
Kirk B. Robinson

ATTEST: 
Lee Cross