

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING JUNE 7, 2012
STRAWBERRY HILL CENTER**

CALL TO ORDER A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by Chair DeWitt.

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

ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA: Add Res 2012-16: Schel Chelb Property Transfer

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Stephanie Farwell arrived late, said she was unable to attend the public meeting on Battle Point Park dog sites, and asked to give her input. She said the problem with the identified sites is that they are both wet areas. She hated to see money spent in these areas since she questions whether they will ever be used. She proposed that the northwest corner of Battle Point Park be considered as an alternative since it is dry and easily accessible.

BOARD CONSENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon making the following revisions to the minutes of the May 17, 2012 regular board meeting, Chair DeWitt stated the minutes stand approved as corrected: p. 2, Resolution 2012-14: insert "to" before "eliminate".

Upon hearing there were no corrections to the minutes of the May 24, 2012 public hearing, Chair DeWitt stated the minutes stand approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS: MSC: Kinney/Swolgaard: 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
053012	5/30/12	11,996.54	94952	General	11,996.54	5/25/12
060512	6/5/12	12,890.12	94952	General	10,275.44	
			94955	Capital Improvemt	2,614.68	6/1/12
061212	6/12/12	39,230.57	94952	General	31,604.31	
			94955	Capital Improvemt	7,626.26	

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING RECAP: DOG PARK AT BATTLE POINT PARK: Chair DeWitt asked the Board to recap the public hearing held on May 24, 2012 during which public comments were given on two potential dog park sites at Battle Point Park. Since then the Board has also reviewed a number of public comments submitted in writing. Executive Director Terry Lande provided information on the cost of fencing for either of the two sites at Battle Point Park, saying chain link fencing is likely to cost over \$30,000 for a two acre area. Commissioner Cross said she questions the feasibility of having an off leash dog area at Battle Point Park. She had thought a dog area at Battle Point Park would provide a place where people at Battle Point Park could be directed to go with their off leash dogs. After listening to the comments, it is clear they will not use the area. She believes the funds would be better spent on improving the off leash area already at Eagledale Park. Commissioner Kinney agreed, saying it would be a waste of time and money to

put a dog park at Battle Point Park. Based on the public's input, he does not anticipate many people will use an off leash dog area at Battle Point Park and thinks it would be better to find a larger area (or areas) someplace else. Commissioner Swolgaard said that while not opposed to having a dog area at Battle Point Park, he questions whether it will work. He senses no one is very excited about the proposed sites. Commissioner DeWitt said that Battle Point Park is not as big as one might think, especially when considering how many areas in the park are wet. Executive Director Lande said Battle Point Park was brought to the Board because it was one of three parks recommended by the Park District's DAWG Committee back in 2010. The other two parks were Eagledale Park (expansion to current dog area) and Strawberry Hill Park. A year later, the transfer station at Vincent Road became a possibility. He expressed concerns about having a dog park at Battle Point Park saying it will require more fencing in the District's only open, flat and grass covered park. He noted that many of the public comments addressed three possibilities: 1) Designating specific times in parks for off leash dogs; 2) Issuing certificates that would allow dogs to be off leash in parks if they have passed a citizenship test; 3) Leaving Pritchard Park as it is, a park people currently use as an off leash dog park. He noted that many of these comments came in response to a notice sent out by someone in the community advocating for these options. They are not recommendations from staff or from the Park District's two dog committees (i.e. the 2010 DAWG committee or this year's dog committee charged with addressing education). Terry Lande said size is an issue for any prospective dog park, saying if it is too small it will not be used. He recently met with Park Services Managers Dan Hamlin and Mike Mejia to look again at Eagledale Park and the transfer station site. Terry Lande said the transfer station site could involve 12-15 acres including open meadows, wooded areas with trails, and designated areas for large and small dogs. It is a large enough to give areas a chance to rest and be refurbished. The site is owned by the City and has a legal issue regarding access that would need to be addressed and resolved. He said these two sites could accomplish the District's goals and asked the Board to reverse their direction, put Battle Point Park on the back burner, and direct staff to focus on expanding the dog area at Eagledale Park since this can be done right away, and to work with the City in determining whether the transfer station site is a viable option. The Board was in agreement with this, and directed staff to: 1) to investigate the costs of expanding the dog area at Eagledale Park; and 2) continue working with the City to see if it is feasible to move ahead with the Vincent Road transfer station site. The Board also agreed to have staff compile the hard costs for a dog park at Battle Point Park as a basis for comparison. Executive Director Lande said staff will compile this information and bring it back to the next board meeting.

2012 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW: Finance Manager Amy Swenson presented a brief report on the status of each 2012 budget to date. Everything is as it might be expected for this time of year.

COBI PROPERTY TRANSFER: SCHEL CHELB: This discussion was held under General Business, Resolution 2012-16, which was added as an agenda item.

GENERAL BUSINESS

RESOLUTION 2012-15: AMENDED 2012 GENERAL FUND BUDGET: Finance Manager Amy Swenson reviewed changes needed in the 2012 General Fund Budget. Adjustments have been made to reflect an overall increase in program revenues despite a decrease in aquatic revenues. It was noted that aquatics revenues began going down a year ago when the new YMCA opened in Silverdale. With the YMCA's big push for membership and offer of free classes, the off-island revenue generated through the Aquatics Center open swims has declined significantly. While staff is working hard to reduce extra costs, it is difficult to maintain program revenue when expenses are being pared down. In addition to fixed costs that cannot be reduced, a prime time for generating aquatics revenue is committed to the School District's team sports. Park Services budget adjustments are also needed to reflect how the division is being re-organized with the retirement of Park Services Director Arlan Elms. Funds are being re-allocated among line

items with no net change to the division. Adjustments are also being made to the administrative budget which include decreases in some line items that have more funds budgeted than will be needed, and an increase in credit card bank fees which reflects the increase in online program registration.

MSC: Swolgaard/Cross: That Resolution 2012-15, amending the 2012 General Fund Budget, be adopted.

RESOLUTION 2012-16: SCHEL CHELB PROPERTY TRANSFER: The Park District's attorney Ryan Vancil said this resolution is similar to other resolutions that have approved the transfer of property from the City of Bainbridge Island to the Park District. The Schel Chelb site consists of four parcels purchased with voter approved bonds through the City's Open Space Commission. Commissioner Cross noted that she was on the Open Space Commission when the property was purchased by the City, and that as the Lynwood Center area develops, this new park will become increasingly valuable. **MSC: Cross/Kinney: That Resolution 2012-16, accepting the transfer of the Schel Chelb properties from the City of Bainbridge Island, and authorizing the Executive Director to enter into appropriate agreements with the City affecting this transfer, be adopted.**

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Park Services Director: John DeMeyer: there is no contamination at Senior Center site so the foundation can now be poured; school is out in one week and summer classes are set to begin; people have signed up for 699 summer programs and activities; the float at Waterfront Park is being reinforced and will be finished prior to the beginning of classes. He said that while swim lessons are down this year, this is offset by overall program revenues increases in sailing, boating, and exercise classes, outdoor programs, the gymnastic team, senior trips, and sports, youth and teen activities.

Park Services Manager: Mike Mejia: National Trails Day is coming up and this year's project is to connect a major Fort Ward trail with upper Fort Ward Park where the old tennis courts were; the Student Conservation Corp will be here June 18-July 3; the goats will be back this year and will work on eliminating ivy on the Fort Ward hillside; Dan and Mike are moving their offices to the Park Services office building at Battle Point Park where Roger also has his office; an employee injured his hand recently while working a bobcat; a District safety committee is being set up.

Park Services Manager: Dan Hamlin: New entry signs will be installed this summer at the Aquatics Center and a number of other parks; work is underway to schedule the CIP projects for this summer; a toilet was recently blown up at Battle Point Park, and clean-up has been done after painting was found at Point White dock; the Strawberry Hill Park ball fields were selected for the District-wide tournament this year so work is underway with Little League to prepare the fields; prep work for painting the administrative office at Strawberry Hill Park started this week.

Senior Planner: Perry Barrett: A public hearing will be held on June 14 to gather input on recommended names for the former Unocal site in Winslow. Afterwards, the Naming Committee will choose several of the suggested names and bring them to the June 21 board meeting for the Park Board to make the final selection. Terry Lande mentioned the owner's of the Unocal site, COBI and Kitsap Transit, have deferred this matter to the Park District. In addition, Perry Barrett provided an update of the RCO grant process, mentioned an archeological firm has been selected to do an assessment of the Hilltop site in accordance with grant requirements, and reported on a meeting he had today with the Historical Society about the Yama site where work is underway assessing the property's archeological status.

Executive Director: Terry Lande: on June 15, a retirement party will be held to commemorate Park Services Director Arlan Elms who is retiring after seven and a half years at the Park District and over 40 years of public service in the field of parks and recreation. He said the Schel Chelb property transfer came about as a result of the effort made by the Park District's attorney Ryan Vancil and City staff Christine Brown and commended them for their hard work.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS: June 14: Public meeting to solicit names for former Unocal site;
June 15: Retirement Party for Park Services Division Director, Arlan Elms.

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:

- Commissioner Cross said she was encouraged by a recent meeting with Council Member David Ward and the openness he expressed in developing partnerships between the City and the Park District.
- Commissioner Kinney said the School District also has issues related to dogs since many of their ball fields are used as off leash dog areas. He suggested contacting the School District to see if they might be willing to donate any property for a dog park.
- Commissioner DeWitt mentioned Eagledale Park's view of Mount Rainier is slowly being lost as the trees grow up, and emphasized the importance of maintaining this spectacular view.

BOARD MEMBER COMMITTEE REPORTS

CAPITAL FACILITIES: Commissioner Cross said she, Commissioner Robinson, and Executive Director Lande met with the Artisan's Group (former Woodworker's Group) regarding the Suzuki property. Exploration is underway to determine whether the site can support the joint use of a recreation community center, artisan's center, and affordable housing units. At the next meeting, space requirements will be discussed to see if the 12 acre parcel can accommodate this many uses.

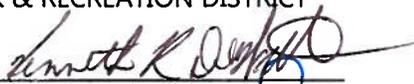
WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Chair DeWitt noted that a number of written comments have been received related to the 5/24/12 public hearing on possible Battle Point Park dog sites.

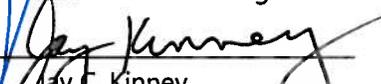
MEETING ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 7:34 pm for discussion of real estate and litigation, with announced time to reconvene at 8:10 pm.

MEETING RECONVENED at 8:10 pm and **ADJOURNED** at 8:11 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: **ABSENT**
Kirk B. Robinson

ATTEST: 
Lee Cross