BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING JULY 9, 2015
BAINBRIDGE AQUATICS CENTER

CALL TO ORDER: A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:19 pm by Vice-Chair Cross.


ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA: Add: 1) Aquatics Center tour; 2) Executive session (personnel/potential litigation).

BOARD CONSENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Upon hearing there were no corrections to the minutes of the June 18, 2015 regular board meeting, Vice-Chair Cross stated the minutes stand approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS: MSC: DeWitt/Kinney: 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:

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PRITCHARD PARK INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF BAINBRIDGE ISLAND: The Park District’s attorney, Ryan Vancil, presented a revised interlocal agreement that includes board input from the June 18, 2015 board meeting. Several months ago, the City approved timed use of off leash dogs in Pritchard Park pending the Park District’s approval. This agreement is the District’s response. It outlines how the Park District would like to see this pilot project for off leash dogs handled. MSC: DeWitt/Kinney: That the interlocal agreement with the City of Bainbridge Island regarding timed use of off leash dogs in Pritchard Park, be approved, and that the Executive Director be authorized to sign.

FIRE DANGER CONCERNS IN PARKS: Executive Director Lande commented on the dry conditions outside and the fire danger this raises for parks. After he made several recommendations, discussion followed. MSC: DeWitt/Kinney: That the Executive Director be given authority to issue a burn ban on all fires in District parks should it be determined that weather conditions make this necessary. Commissioner DeWitt was concerned about people smoking in parks as well due to the fire danger. Commissioner Kinney suggested a ban on smoking in parks until September 30. The board questioned how practical this was, noting it would be difficult to enforce, especially in areas like picnic shelters, ballfields, and the Fay Bainbridge campground. While it was noted there is fire risk in all District parks, it was agreed the greatest concern is related to forests. MSC: Kinney/DeWitt: That staff be directed to post no-smoking signs anywhere in parks where it appears necessary to avoid fires in parks. Also discussed were the
fire rings recently installed by the City in Pritchard Park. Attorney Ryan Vancil provide the board with a draft letter to the City outlining the Park District’s concerns about this. Several revisions were suggested. Msc: Kinney/DeWitt: That Ryan Vancil be authorized to sign and send the City the letter he had prepared about fire rings at Pritchard Park with the discussed amendments. Commissioner Cross noted the topic of fire rings on public beaches had been discussed at a recent IGWG meeting. She, Terry Lande, and Fire Chief Hank Teran had expressed their concerns about this at the meeting, and were surprised the fire rings had been installed anyway.

**ISLANDWOOD TRAIL EASEMENT UPDATE:** Senior Planner Perry Barrett said this easement involves a donation with a license to revoke if needed in the future. The easement will be a part of the trail corridor connecting Eagledale and Blakely Harbor Parks. Additional information and attorney review is needed before it will be ready for board approval.

**HEYDEY FARM TRAIL CORRIDOR UPDATE:** While the final easements are still pending for this trail corridor, the Bainbridge Island Parks Foundation is holding an open house on Saturday at Heydey Farm to celebrate the almost finalized trail connection between Eagledale and Blakely Harbor Parks. Senior Planner Perry Barrett said the owners of these final easements have consented verbally; these are the last of many trail easements along this route to be completed. Commissioner DeWitt said this trail corridor is similar to the Forest to Sky Trail in that it will provide a significant cross island trail that will allow people to walk all the way from Fort Ward Park to Eagledale Park.

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

**Park Services Director:** Dan Hamlin: the State has approved the water system for Battle Point Park; a construction issue has delayed the start of Owen’s Playground but will soon be resolved; a significant member of the Dog Advisory Committee Mary Lou Vibrans has had to step down; the new trails crew funded by the BI Parks Foundation is getting underway and is working on the Gazzam Veteran trail.

**Senior Planner:** Perry Barrett: the permit for the play area at Schel Chelb Park is forthcoming but the Suquamish Tribe has now requested a cultural resource study (archaeological study) as part of the permit process; the cultural resource study for the Hawley Cove boardwalk project is completed and tribal representatives are satisfied with the results; grant funds in the amount of $300,000 were awarded last week by the State Legislature for the Hidden Cove dock, with the BI Park Foundation committed to raising $100,000 of the $300,000 that the Park District must match; as part of the City’s comprehensive plan update, he has requested an amendment establishing a park zone.

**Recreation Services Superintendent:** Mark Benishek: the space once occupied by the Boys & Girls Club is now used for park programs such as lifeguard classes and a mermaid camp; to generate parking for senior programs, the City is changing parking near WPCC from four to two hours; aquatics staff are holding CPR certification courses for seniors; Puget Sound Energy wants to highlight its partnership with the Park District by participating in sponsorships.

**Recreation Services Superintendent:** Bryan Garoutte: summer programs are going well with participation up from last year despite increased competition in the community; a check for grant funds came today for the Outdoor Program storage unit; gymnastics, aquatics, and park services staff participated in the parade; open gym for volleyball has started; planning for fall programs is going on; the internship program is getting underway.

**Executive Director:** Terry Lande: met with BJAM members who are concerned about off leash dogs at the memorial; he met with Jane Stone BILT Executive Director and learned the Land Trust views the Park District as a critical partner; had a good meeting with City Manager Doug Schulze; both booths on the 4th of July were well attended, as was the first Concert in the Park; organization of the new Community Outreach Department continues with the fall program catalogue being contracted out. Regarding the Sakai bond, the Park District received an AA rating, and an interest rate of approximately 3.1% due to the District’s bond representative acting quickly during a four hour period on Wall Street when rates plummeted. This will result in a $900,000 savings in interest over the course of the bond.
UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS: 7/30, 8/13, 8/27: upcoming board meetings; 7/11: Trail Open House at Heydey Farm; 8/29: Park District Birthday Bash

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:

- Commissioner DeWitt attended a meeting of the BI Parks Foundation and learned there may be a donor for trail easements in the Lost Valley area subject to a route change and restrictions for horses. He sent a letter to the editor of The Review updating the public on the status of the Sakai bonds.

- Commissioner Kinney updated the board on storm water management fees, saying the rate structure has been finished up with properties now classified as residential or non-residential. SWM fees will not be issued for grass or packed dirt which are considered permeable. The City Council has accepted the rate structure pending a report on the revenue it will generate. If the report comes in low, the rates could be adjusted.

- Commissioner Cross attended a Non-Motorized Transportation Advisory Committee meeting and noted John Grinter is now a member. It is likely the committee will submit public comment on Hawley Cove saying the current trail is too steep for a non-motorized trail and urging the Park District and City to development a non-motorized route together. There was also talk of Lost Valley being transferred by the City to the Park District with the condition that a non-motorized trail could be put in at some point in the future. It was questioned whether this could be done due to environmental sensitivities. Commissioner DeWitt said the Park District is in the recreational business and that its trails are intended for recreational use; they are not designed for non-motorized transportation. Commissioner Cross said the open space properties purchased with bond funds were intended for passive use, and questioned whether non-motorized transportation is passive.

- Commissioner Cross will not be at the July 30 board meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED FOR TOUR OF AQUATICS CENTER at 8:05 pm.

MEETING RECONVENE at 8:30 pm and ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 8:31 pm for discussion of personnel and potential litigation, with announced time to reconvene at 9:00 pm.

MEETING RECONVENE at 9:00 pm and ADJOURNED at 9:01 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:

Thomas Swolgaard

Bainbridge Island Metropolitan Park & Recreation District
Regular Board of Commissioners Meeting
July 9, 2015