

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING AUGUST 16, 2012
STRAWBERRY HILL MINI GYM**

5:00-5:45 PM: EAGLEDALE PARK SITE VISIT: Board and staff viewed proposed options for expanded dog area.

CALL TO ORDER A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by Chair DeWitt.

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

ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA:

Unfinished Business items 40.3 and 40.4 postponed until lease agreements are finalized with the Astronomical Society. Litigation will be added to the executive session regarding real estate. Meeting will begin with public comments on unfinished business item 40.2 only, in order to accommodate speakers due at another meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEM 40.2:

Clarence Moriwaki, spoke to express concern about off leash dogs at the Japanese American Exclusion Memorial. The memorial is a site of reverence and is designed for contemplation of history. Off leash dogs are disruptive and there have already been issues regarding owners not picking up after their pets.

Sallie Maron, suggested signage for dog owners that explains what the memorial is about so dog owners can better understand the importance of not allowing dogs off leash in the National Historic Site area.

John Buday, a volunteer with the memorial has already been bitten by dogs running loose at the site. He agrees that signs should inform the public why leashes and enforcement are important.

DOG LEASH POLICY AT JAPANESE AMERICAN EXCLUSION MEMORIAL:

Commissioner Cross hopes that all parties can come to an agreement regarding the memorial site before the District finalizes a comprehensive plan regarding dogs. The memorial is a unique site, as it is a satellite of a National Monument. The property is co-owned by the District and the City, and even though the two agency's rules regarding dogs do not agree she would like to send a letter to the city regarding this topic. Commissioner Robinson noted the standard at National Parks of dogs being required to be on leash almost all the time. Enforcement for dogs that are off leash is going to be an issue, and this area would be a high priority for enforcement. Jay Kinney and Kirk Robinson have been appointed to the District subcommittee to work specifically with the integration of dog ordinances at the memorial site and around the island. City Council has appointed council members Blair, Ward and Blossom to work with the District. The Board agreed this site will be prioritized, and dog leash rules made a priority at the memorial, even before a comprehensive District plan is finalized.

BOARD CONSENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon making the following revisions to the minutes of the July 19, 2012 regular board meeting, Chair DeWitt stated the minutes stand approved as corrected: p. 1: change "off leash dogs at Pritchard Park" to "the need to mesh rules between City and District parks".

Upon hearing there were no corrections to the minutes of the August 2, 2012 public hearing on the Eagledale Park Dog Area, Chair DeWitt stated the minutes stand approved as submitted.

Upon making the following revisions, change "developmentally disabled" to "blind" and "West Gazzam" to "West Grand Forest" to the minutes of the August 2, 2012 regular board meeting, Chair DeWitt stated the minutes are to be tabled and then corrected and approved at the next regular board meeting.

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
	August	Payroll	94952	General	299,163.00	
072412	7/24/12	52,616.18	94952	General	52,616.18	
073112	7/31/12	43,472.70	94952	General	41,649.63	
			94955	Capital Improvemt	1,823.07	
071812b	7/18/12		94952	General	5,458.78	
081412	8/14/12	78,352.57	94952	General	66,180.28	
			94955	Capital Improvemt	11,125.43	
			94956	Land Acquisition	1,046.86	
			94957	Bond Redemption		
082112	8/21/12	208,623.34	94952	General	202,191.10	
			94955	Capital Improvemt	6,432.24	
			94956	Land Acquisition		
			94957	Bond Redemption		

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEM 40.1

Steve Olson, resident in the Eagledale Park neighborhood, would like to see the Eagledale Park off leash area as just one part of the solution regarding off leash dogs on Bainbridge. Preserving the view and natural habitat of the park is important to him. He believes if Eagledale Park becomes the island wide destination dog park, there would be parking issues and it would disrupt the already robust use of the park by the community, especially the park area neighbors. While he supports improvements to the existing off leash dog area, he feels the dialogue is happening too fast regarding the Eagledale Park proposed dog area expansion, and would like the District to slow down the process.

Don Ruffini, who attended the Board's Eagledale Park site visit prior to the board meeting, thinks that the projected costs of expansion are too high, and that the money could be spent more wisely at the site for improvements not part of any of the three options before the Board. He is frustrated that people want to take away areas he feels are well used by people.

Susan Lindsay, after hearing what is going on all over the Island, is frustrated with off leash dogs in general. She believes that dogs can get sufficient exercise on a leash.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

EAGLEDALE DOG AREA PROPOSED EXPANSION:

The differences between the District and the City rules regarding off leash dogs was explained by Commissioner Cross. While the City allows dogs to be off leash under voice control in their parks, the District does not allow off leash dogs at all in its parks. Commissioner DeWitt clarified that it is not, and has never been the intention of the District to make

Eagle Dale the only place for an off leash dog park. He referenced the District's comprehensive plan which calls for three off leash dog parks, one on the south end, one on the north end and one in the middle. Director Lande, upon Commissioner Cross's request, suggested postponing the decision until staff can go back and look at some more options, such as clearing back brush to enlarge the off leash area, improving drainage and a different placement for the fence than proposed in the options presented. The Board agreed to table the decision until the staff can return with a report on the suggestions mentioned above.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Park Services Manager: Mike Mejia: Attended a recent meeting with the City regarding the Waypoint, the project is moving along smoothly; Fay Bainbridge camping has been very popular, with revenue reported to be up from last year at this point. A post Blue Grass Festival meeting was held last night, the event was financially successful; the beer garden at the festival was also successful and produced no unpleasant incidents. Upcoming events in parks include two bike events and a soccer tournament.

Park Services Manager: Dan Hamlin: Madison and Aaron tot lots are being prepared for the installation of new play grounds over the next four to six weeks; construction for the roof on the Hilltop property building is finished, with roofing materials being delivered tomorrow; the Battle Point Office windows have been replaced; the area around Nute's Pond has been cleared of brush; Gazzam parking lot has received no calls regarding the SEPA process. The District has received permits for Veterane Trail, Fort Ward Bluff Trail, removal of trees at Battle Point Park, and removal of invasive plants at two areas along the Fort Ward beach, which will be replaced with native species.

Recreation Services Director: John DeMeyer: The Fall activity catalogue has been mailed out in the new two column format, and has received a positive response so far; the Aquatic Center held a successful auction event last night of donated items to benefit the purchase of a frog slide; Movies in the Park are off to a great start as of last Friday, and will continue for the next two weeks; Senior Center Manager interviews are next week. The solar project at the Aquatic Center is running and the propane previously used for the Williamson Pool has been completely turned off; there is a slight temperature fluctuation of approximately three degrees, which has not been an issue; Douglas Slingerland was commended for his work on this project; further solar heating possibilities will be explored regarding the Nakata Pool. The Teen Center heat pump is being replaced before the cold weather sets in.

Senior Planner: Perry Barrett: District should know the results for the possible grant monies for the Little League project at Rotary Park soon, the final presentation before the granting panel was this week; he felt it was well received by the panel although it is a very competitive grant. Hilltop Vista trail easement proposal is still being worked on with the City and land owners. The City has asked for additional input on the Shoreline Management Plan.

Director's Report: Terry Lande: Has been busy catching up with District activities after being on vacation.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS: The next board meeting will be held at Strawberry Hill Center.

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:

- Commissioner Robinson will miss the September 20th meeting.
- Commissioner Cross reported that the Senior Center Non-Profit is hosting a farewell party for Jane Allan at St. Barnabas, on September 26, from 2-4 pm. The Senior Center Non-Profit is planning the Grand Opening of the newly renamed Waterfront Park Community Center, for December 4th. The name change was approved last night by the City Council. The City and the District will both be involved in the Grand Opening.

- Jay Kinney will not be able to attend the September 6th board meeting. He is impressed with all the feedback received from citizens regarding the off leash dog issues. He believes the District should start thinking about timed off leash designations in certain parks in the morning and evening. He requested an update from staff regarding enforcement options and possibilities.
- Ken DeWitt attended the City Council meeting last night, he requested that the Council direct staff to meet with the District regarding SMP concerns. He would like the District to communicate to the City how specific SMP regulations will harm the ability of the District to do its job. The District should have suggestions prepared that will meet both State guidelines and District needs.

The Board agreed it is important to show the City that the District takes the SMP very seriously. Consequently, the Board agreed to hold a Board work session to discuss the SMP with City representatives on August 23rd. Many on the Board indicated interest in attending the City Council meeting on September 5th to convey their concern about the SMP. Since there could be a quorum of Board members present at this meeting, District staff will publicize this in advance.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Public comments regarding the proposed Eagledale dog park expansion were included with the last board packet.


MEETING ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 8:04 pm for discussion of real estate and possible litigation with announced time to reconvene at 8:34 pm.

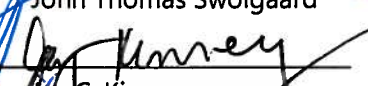
MEETING RECONVENED at 8:35 pm and **ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 8:36 pm for continued discussion of the above items, with announced time to reconvene at 9:05 pm.


MEETING RECONVENED at 9:05 pm and **ADJOURNED** at 9:07 pm.


Helen M. Stone
 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