

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING NOVEMBER 21, 2013
STRAWBERRY HILL CENTER**

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

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

BOARD CONSENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Upon hearing there were no corrections to the minutes of the November 7, 2013 regular board meeting, Chair Swolgaard stated the minutes stand approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS: MSC: Cross/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
110513	11/15/13	46,171.21	94952	General	30,878.41	10/31/13
			94955	Capital Improvemt	15,292.80	
111913	11/19/13	24,463.00	94952	General	18,529.88	11/15/13
			94955	Capital Improvemt	5,933.12	
112613	11/26/13	57,849.79	94952	General	55,300.37	
			94955	Capital Improvemt	2,549.42	

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

CENTURY LINK LEASE: Executive Director Lande said that as discussed at the November 7, 2013 board meeting, this is the second reading of a lease agreement with Century Link related to equipment at the Grand Forest. **MSC: Robinson/DeWitt: That the Executive Director be authorized to sign the lease agreement with Century Link.**

PUGET SOUND ENERGY PROPOSAL FOR BAKER HILL ROAD: Park Services Superintendent Mike Mejia said he invited Tom Brobst from Puget Sound Energy to address the Board's questions about PSE's proposed project on Baker Hill Road that would require some trees to come down on Gazzam park property. Tom Brobst said currently there is no loop feed that serves the Crystal Springs area and this project would allow for this connection. He said initially, PSE approached the neighbors across the street, but they were concerned about the impact the project would have on their vegetation and property, and urged PSE to consider an alternative. PSE then came up with an alternate design and approached the Park District. Tom Brobst explained that the power poles would be in the PSE right-of-way. The City of Bainbridge Island has given PSE consent to remove trees as needed in the right-of-way. Some trees would also need to be removed from park property to prevent them from falling on the power lines. He answered the Board's questions about the project and following discussion, the Board approved the project. Commissioner DeWitt asked that the trees be cut in a manner that would leave them tall enough for wildlife to utilize, such as woodpeckers. In addition, it was requested that the fallen trees be left so they can be used for firewood at Fay Bainbridge Park. Tom Brobst agreed to both these requests. **MSC: Robinson/DeWitt: That the PSE request to take down trees necessary for its project on Gazzam park property along Baker Hill Road, be approved.**

FAY BAINBRIDGE PARK TIDELANDS AGREEMENT WITH DNR: Senior Planner Perry Barrett said the lease agreement with the State Dept. of Natural Resources for the Fay Bainbridge Park tidelands was prepared by DNR and

reviewed by the District's attorney Ryan Vancil. It authorizes the Park District to lease the park's tidelands for twelve years. There is no lease payment. Some conditions apply including: live-a-boards and haul out facilities are prohibited; the aquatic habitat area must be preserved. This agreement is for Fay Bainbridge Park tidelands only and was allowed under the deed as a separate negotiation when the property was transferred from WA State. The tidelands at Fort Ward Park will be addressed under a separate lease agreement. **MSC: DeWitt/Cross: That the lease agreement with DNR for the Fay Bainbridge Park tidelands be approved, and the Executive Director be authorized to sign.**

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Park Services Superintendent: Mike Mejia: has submitted an application for \$16,900 in funds from the City's hotel/motel tax fund to augment costs related to operating the Fay Bainbridge Park campground such as: staff time to manage and operate it, cleaning supplies, and marketing for yurts as a future possibility. While he had initially planned to apply for funds to acquire the yurts, he has since learned the grant funds cannot be used for this purpose.

WA State Fish and Wildlife is in support of closing Fay Bainbridge Park to clamming and is awaiting final confirmation from their commission who will vote on this December 15, 2013. It was noted conversations have been held regarding this with both Maradel Gale and Robert Dashiell who brought this issue to the Board's attention last September. They are both pleased with the outcome. Hearing that the beach will be closed to clamming resolves their concerns, and they do not feel there is any need to pursue designating the beach at Fay Bainbridge Park as a marine reserve.

Battle Point Park has problems again with its water; staff is working with both the County and State to get it resolved. Last Sunday, the Student Conservation Corps and the Weed Warriors planted approximately 400 ferns at Fort Ward Park in the areas cleared of ivy last summer by the goats. Several holly trees are coming down at Pritchard Park for the holiday holly give-away that is coming up; a scout who is working on her gold award is putting in a rain garden next to the north restroom at Fay Bainbridge Park; an Eagle Scout is rebuilding the bird blinds at Fort Ward Park.

Senior Planner: Perry Barrett: Two public meetings were held last week to gain public input into the Park District's comprehensive plan update. Over 100 people attended the two meetings which he structured to follow a public participation model referred to as a charrette process. Another meeting to gain public input will be hosted by the Senior Center tomorrow morning. The Waypoint agreement has been signed by the Park District and BI Parks Foundation, and will be forwarded on to the other two parties for their signatures.

Discussion then turned to Blakely Harbor Park and the Shoreline Management Plan:

Perry Barrett said a letter was received from the City's Planning Department last Friday (11/15) saying that in order to be considered under the current Shoreline Management Plan, permitting for the second phase projects needed to be in their office by Tuesday (11/18) with some material submitted by noon on Monday (11/17). He was able to meet this deadline by working all weekend. Perry Barrett said this effort allows the maximum opportunity for the second phase projects to be considered under either the current or the proposed SMP.

Commissioner DeWitt said he spoke last night at the City Council's public hearing on the Shoreline Management Plan. He said City staff was unclear on how to proceed with the footbridges included in the Park District's permit applications for Blakely Harbor Park, and had asked the District to put this matter in front of the City Council for direction (*per 11/15/13 letter to Perry Barrett from Planning Department staff*). Commissioner DeWitt said several of the bridges were likely to be in the shoreline zone and that City staff did not feel that they would be allowed under the current SMP. In his comments to the City Council, Commissioner DeWitt pointed out that the City had allowed two other bridges to be built under the current SMP: 1) the bridge to Treasure Island; and 2) the waterfront boardwalk by the Marina. He said the current plan allows for appurtenances, and that the Blakely Harbor Park bridges could be considered appurtenances since they would connect existing trails. He said the new SMP does not address bridges

either but does allow for elevated structures. Commissioner DeWitt said he was allowed to speak even though the purpose of the public hearing was to take testimony on the Department of Ecology's changes to the SMP.

Commissioner Cross also attended the City Council's public hearing last night. She said the SMP submitted to the Department of Ecology included restrictions on aquaculture. The DOE took out these restrictions and made it clear that commercial aquaculture would be permitted. Commissioner Cross mentioned the Park District's decision to prohibit clamming at Fay Bainbridge Park. DOE representative, Barbara Nightingale, clarified that while this is certainly permissible on public land, private landowners have the right to lease their tidelands and allow commercial harvesting of shellfish, etc. on their property. This was a concern to many who attended the meeting.

Commissioner Cross said the SMP will now go back to the DOE so they can finalize the wording of their changes. It is slated to come back to the City Council the second week in December for approval.

Commissioner Cross said after the public comment period and during open session in the City Council meeting that followed the public hearing, Mayor Bonkowski brought up the question of whether the bridges at Blakely Harbor Park could be permitted. ^{Under the updated SMP} A brief discussion on this topic with City staff was held and it appears likely that the bridges could be permitted since they would provide connections to existing upland trails.

Executive Director Terry Lande said the District was informed by City staff that the permit application for Blakely Harbor Park had to be submitted by the Tuesday deadline if it was going to be processed under the current SMP. District staff was told the Friday before that anything received after Wednesday night's public meeting would be processed under the new SMP. Prior to this, the Park District understood the deadline to be sometime in December. Executive Director Lande said the two bridges that fall in the shoreline zone are the Mac's Dam and jetty bridges. Because the Board had requested that the permits for the Blakely Harbor projects be submitted under the current SMP, he asked Perry Barrett to work very hard to reach the Tuesday deadline. Because this target has been met, the District has maximized its options for getting these permits approved under either the current or new ^{Shoreline} Management Plan. Commissioner Cross said this was very important and thanked Perry Barret for his efforts.

Director's Report (continued):

Recreation Services Director: John DeMeyer: the Bainbridge police were a great help getting the pontoon boat out of the water for needed repairs; the ski swap was very successful; Battleship night at the pool was great fun; the Santa at the Pool event will be held on December 6; a new non-profit called Island Skaters is forming with work on bylaws and articles of incorporation underway; four high school teams are lined up for winter basketball with much of the recruitment done by high schoolers; another grant application is underway requesting \$3500 in funds for materials to build a boat trailer.

Executive Director: Terry Lande: Dan is on vacation through the end of next week; most of the first phase of the Rotary Park renovation is done, the Forest to Sky Trail kickboards are done and the board walk has been pressure washed; several meetings were held and both the BI Parks Foundation president and board are positive about a new direction for the Foundation that would work directly in conjunction with the Park District. A committee of the Foundation would continue to handle the One Call for All projects. AT&T is doing work on the Battle Point Park water tower. An IGWG meeting was held and both the Fire Department and School District will be going out for a levy in February 2014. It's been learned that the City will be forming a committee this spring to establish a new storm water management fee process that will be taken on by WA State sometime this summer.

He was contacted by the Housing Resources Board who would like once again to see the Suzuki property used for affordable housing, and was curious to know if the Park District was interested in the project. The Board reflected on issues that came up the last time this was discussed, such as concerns related to land ownership and participating in a

development project that is not consistent with the Park District's mission statement. Despite this, the Board thought it would be a good idea to talk with them, and decided to direct this topic to the Capital Facilities Committees.

Terry Lande and Dan Hamlin met recently with City staff to brainstorm about the Vincent Road dog park. The City discussed the following as possibilities: hiring a civil engineer to address retention ponds, and drainage, storm water and parking lot run-off; the Park District having to hire a structural engineer to design the fencing; a conditional use permit to process a zoning change. This approach to the project would increase the cost substantially.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS: November 22: Walk prospective park property in Winslow; December 6: Holiday party. The District will be closed November 28 and 29 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:

Note: See comments from Commissioners DeWitt and Cross under Director's Report, Senior Planner.

- Commissioner Kinney will be meeting sometime after Thanksgiving with Commissioner Robinson and Park Services Superintendent Dan Hamlin to look at additional dog park sites.
- Commissioner Swolgaard said he spoke recently with the new police chief Matt Hamner and encouraged him to meet with Executive Director Lande to better understand the City's agreement on enforcing rules in parks.
- Commissioner Swolgaard asked for an update on the COBI transfers and was told nothing new has transpired.
- Commissioner Cross asked for an update on the John Nelson trail and was told it is coming up soon.
- Commissioner Cross attended a recent Senior Center strategic planning meeting, and said the non-profit is looking to the future and seeking to clarify their vision. One thing they are considering is hiring a part-time executive director who would build a social services program that is separate from the Park District.
- Commissioner Robinson said he appreciated the PSE representative coming out tonight to address questions he had, and commented on the good connection the Veterane Trail will provide for the overall Gazzam parcel.

MEETING ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 7:38 pm for discussion of real estate with announced time to reconvene at 9:15 pm. **MEETING RECONVENED** at 9:15 pm and **ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 9:16 pm for continued discussion of the above items, with announced time to reconvene at 9:30 pm.

MEETING RECONVENED at 9:30 pm and **ADJOURNED** at 9:31pm.


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

BY: 
John Thomas Swolgaard

BY: 
Jay C. Kinney

BY: 
Lee Cross

BY: 
Kenneth R. DeWitt

ATTEST: 
Kirk B. Robinson