

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT
PUBLIC MEETING: PLANNING THE SAKAI PROPERTY
JANUARY 23, 2016
BAINBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL COMMONS**

INTRODUCTION

The meeting started at 10:00 am with the public invited to participate in basic "Getting to Know One Another" exercises as they arrived. Once people had gathered, Facilitator Bob Linz, under contract with the Park District to conduct this public process on the Sakai property, introduced himself and his co-facilitators Neil Baker and Christina Hulet. He said the Sakai property was purchased by the public through a bond measure and encouraged everyone to participate in this process. He said there is no agenda on the part of the Park District or preconceived notion on what will be done with the property. The purpose of this meeting is engage the community and gather input into what they would like to see at the new park. The immediate task at hand is for the public through this process to deliver to the Park District a list of recommended 10-12 uses for the property. Subsequent meetings could follow if needed to accomplish this task. After receiving the list of recommended uses from the community, the Park District will take it from there.

Bob Linz said the members of the Park Board were here today to help harvest the information as observers/participants. (The following board members were present: Lee Cross, Ken DeWitt, Jay Kinney, Kirk Robinson, and Tom Swolgaard). Staff members were there to help as needed throughout the process.

Bob Linz reviewed basic information about the property that will assist participants in this process. This included facts about the property including its size of 23 acres with approximately 9 acres available for development. The property contains wetlands, a 2.2 acre pond, and stream corridors. It has 661 linear feet of street frontage on Madison Avenue North. In addition, several tables were displayed outlining island and park amenities on Bainbridge Island. An aerial photo of the property was also displayed showing property lines and wetland delineation.

Co-facilitator Neil Baker said this is a widely used process built around simple guidelines for participation; it is structured to welcome all ideas. The more ideas, the more opportunity for creative outcome.

Co-facilitator Christina Hulet said this is a very different planning process than what is traditionally done. Usually a government entity presents a proposal and the community gives input on the proposal. In this process, the community generates the proposal. Depending on how much work the community wants to do determines how informed the list of uses will be that is given to the Park District at the end of this process. She reiterated that the central purpose of this public process is for the community to develop a list of recommended uses for the District.

Christina went on to outline two goals for the day: 1) Develop a list of potential uses; 2) Ask what work needs to be done to research these uses in order to learn whether they are feasible options to recommend. To engage participants, exercises were done individually and then in small groups. Out of this, the following was developed: 1) A list of possible uses for the Sakai property; 2) A list of values that were important to the participants. Use ideas ranged from sport and art facilities to trails to a multi-generational community recreation center. (For use list, see Attachment 1 "Idea List"). Values ranged from safe gathering place for all ages to environmental appreciation to physical activity. (For values list, see Attachment 2 "Value Cards").

Break for lunch at 11:45 am. Meeting reconvened at 12:20 pm.

Bob Linz said the goal of the next exercise was to identify specifications. These are the issues that must be considered to determine whether the proposed uses are feasible. Examples of these could include items such as zoning, size, bond or funding needs, legal implications, or traffic impact. Following this exercise, participants identified a number of items

that should be considered such as adequate demand for use, available space, building codes, impact to habitat, and capital cost. (For specifications list, see Attachment 3 "Issues for Consideration").

Bob Linz prefaced the next exercise with the need for commitment on the part of participants. He encouraged people to participate only if they were willing to be involved in the next step and do the actual work that would be needed. He said the considerations raised on the specifications list just generated are crucial for creating the smaller list of recommended uses that will eventually be presented to the Park District. The next exercise posed the question: What is the next step?

Each participant answered this question according to what they thought the next step should be. The answers were written down on cards. The cards were exchanged among participants numerous times and ranked for priority. Those answers that ranked the highest provided the basis for the work groups that were formed.

Once the different work groups were identified, participants were asked to join the ones they were interested in working on. The work groups were formed and the responsibility was turned over to the members of each group to do the work needed to further research their area. (Anyone unable to attend today's meeting can join a work group by going to the Park District's website where all the attached lists have been published).

After the work groups have completed their research, a second public meeting will be held in approximately one month at which time the work groups will present what they have learned. (For list of work groups, see Attachment 4 "Work Groups").

In conclusion, Bob Linz thanked all participants for coming and reminded them that the goal is to present the Park District with a list of 10-12 recommended uses at the conclusion of this entire public process.

Meeting concluded at 2:45 pm.

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

BY: 

John Thomas Swolgaard

BY: 

Kenneth R. DeWitt

BY: 

Lee Cross

BY: 

Kirk B. Robinson

ATTEST: 

Jay C. Kinney

Idea List – Sakai Property Planning Meeting

ATTACHMENT 1

- Community Gym
- Ice or Roller Rink
- Trails
- 50 Meter Pool
- Affordable Housing
- Picnic Area
- Parking
- Multi-use Park
- Equestrian Trough
- Camps
- Outdoor Pizza Oven
- Multi-purpose Meeting Space
- Mini Golf
- Outdoor Pool
- Community Center
- Volleyball
- Gazebo
- Fitness Stations along Trails
- Accessibility
- Beer Garden
- Pickle ball
- Gym Facility
- Skateboard Park
- T-ball Field
- Pool Hall
- Bowling Alley
- Tennis Court
- Covered BBQ
- Bocce ball Court
- Multi Sport
- Indoor Auditorium
- Fishing
- Swimming in Pond
- Museum honoring Sakai family
- Restored Uplands
- Boardwalk around Wetlands
- Open Space
- Bridge over Madison Ave
- Large covered park
- Covered bus stop
- Turf Field
- Rope Swing
- Teen Center
- Play Structure

- Rope Course
- Adventure Pit for Horses
- Disc Golf Course
- Park District Office
- Indoor Cafe/Play Area
- Steam Train Track
- Community Garden/Orchard/Forest
- Outdoor Basketball Court
- Unstructured Play Facility
- Disaster Preparedness Building
- Aquifer Technology Compound
- Trail Connection to Sound to Olympic Trail
- Universal Pet Warming Station
- Community Chicken Coop
- Learning Center for Environmental Education
- Non-motorized Camping
- Sound to Olympic Trail
- Sub-regional Trail
- Mountain Bike Park
- BMX or Pump Track
- Paved and unpaved trails for mountain biking
- Outdoor Amphitheater
- Don't Develop, just create nature trails
- Wading Pool
- Zip Line
- Pétanque
- Food Forest
- Continuous Asphalt Trail (multi-use and specifically roller skating)
- Plaza

updated 1/28/16

Value cards - all

Health & wellbeing of Islanders
Underdeveloped space
Stewardship
Benefits all of community
Safe location / safety
Value of alleviating overcrowded venues
Value of nature
Reflectiveness
Place to contemplate
Nature
Something affordable
Quiet in the middle of town – respite
Historical
Engaging
Educational
Learning
Minimal development
Health
Sustainable
Multi-generational
Multi-interest group
All access – children
Healthy activities
Usable energy efficient
Animal friendliness
Observation
Nature
Diversity
Recreational
Preservation
Accessibility
Wildlife
Ecological Outdoor classroom
Low impact on wetlands
Potential farmland
Historical
Community
Recreation
Year-round usage
Financial support for the Island
Recreation for all
Family recreation

Community'
Team spirit
Dedication and hard work
Available space
New opportunities
Health through walking and observing nature
Physical activity with social and mental health
Natural environment
Open spaces
Year round activities
Centralized
Organized sports
Family-oriented
Free Play
Creativity
Cooperation
Community
Joy
Bonding
Pet exercise
Outdoor parties
Fostering wildlife
As natural as possible
Fitness
Public Space
Fostering interaction
Proximity
Treasure
Safety
Centrality
Community
Year-round multi-use
Appreciation
Sharing
History and heritage
Preservation
Community activity and health
Value to youth and adults
Engagement
Diversion – keeping youth off bad activities
Hours that work for everyone
Affordability
Accessibility
Day care
Food
Finances

Funs
Community entertainment
Intergenerational activity
Low cost using what's already there
Wildlife
Adding more sports
Connection
Networking
Transportation
Safety through non-motorized connections
Freedom
Diligence
Skill-building
Fitness for kids and adults
Socialization
Opportunities
Exercise
Less driving around the Island
Quality Municipal services
To preserve natural resources
To appreciate land use
Preserve water resources
Restoring unstructured play
Active community
Connectivity
Transportation – non-motorized
Efficiency
Resources
Future improvements
Reduced health concerns
Central locations
Parks is overseeing it
Indoor bathrooms
Flexibility for future use
Quietness
Nature
Natural, least-developed
Wildlife
Available to all
Darkness at night
Better or safer gymnastics
Safety for older kids
Community meeting location
FUN
Open Space
Green Space

Accessibility
Nature
Year-round accessibility and education
Central location
Nighttime activities
Tournament play , Island economic activity
Proximity to schools
Parking close to downtown
Community use
Health benefits
Health and exercise
Appreciation of nature
Safe passage
Contemplative exercise
Health, fitness & safe indoor activities
Staying dry
Indoor space for rain
Freedom of not being tied to the school district
Safe place for kids
Dedicated place for kids
Drug-free
Friendships
Practice
A place where all can come together
Community engagement
Community participation'
Indoor locations for activities
Health of Gymnastics
Family
Winter athletic activities
Supporting high school
Central area to downtown and schools
The ability to be outside and have shelter
Thinking big and long-term
Deeper connection to a food source
Personal hand in growing food
Nourishment
Growing and cooking skills
Nourishment
All-hour access
Bettering our athletes
Success
Protecting Nature
Restoration
No labyrinth of trails
The Sacred

Creativity
Entertainment
Appreciation
Wetlands
Community
Education
Recreation
Environment
Balance
Preservation
Our Senior population
Access to nature
Multi-generational fitness
Multi-sport use
Wet weather opportunities for indoor sports
Reflection
Silence
Sharing inspired moments
Places to be in the rain
Protection
Safe and natural places to play
Water safety & it's teaching
Community gathering
Appreciating outdoors
Quality of Life
Happy, centered people
Access to benefits of nature
Sensitivity to wildlife
Clean air
Clean water, ground water
Diversity
Birds and their habitats
Beauty
Ecology
Love
Bounty
Retaining Nature
Production of local food
Low-carbon footprint
Diversity
Housing the diverse population of our Island
History
Education
Wellbeing
Learning
Contemplation

Beauty
Solitude
Conservation
Exercise
Retail
Supporting the Park District
Creativity
Central locations
Center of the Community
Public outdoor space for higher density development
Centralized park features
Fishing
Disable adults
Practice and Team sports
Safe location for students, without parent involvement
Walkability
Time
Adequate facilities for youth and teens
Safety
Accessibility of fishing
Families, children & the disabled
Athleticism
Fitness and Health
Future growth
Aquatic facilities
Old and young accessibility to Aquatics
Lack of the labyrinth
Economic development
Connection
Swimming is Life.
Water safety for all
Community and exercise
Multi-generational
Advantages from proximity to schools
Proximity to schools
Year-round use
A Place for kids
Physical activity
Social interaction
Walking
Jogging
Swimming
Trout
Trails and Nature
Bird watching
In town

Fresh water pond
The Arts
Creativity in the sun
Art in the Winter
Learning
Career
Connection with Nature
Accessibility for wheelchairs and strollers
Athletics
Community Programming
Toddlers
Seniors
Having somewhere to gather
Youth development and engagements
Activities for kids
Attraction
Hobby
Enjoying Nature
Retaining nature
Low-impact
Natural hub to community
Low-costs
Community participation
Healthy lifestyle
Water safety
Mental health
Keeping kids off the streets
Accessibility to water, specifically the pool
Meeting needs
Providing public exercise
Youth and adult athletics
Unstructured play
Safe for non-drivers
Year-round multi-use
Outdoor access in the density of Winslow
Growth for sport teams that are currently restricted
Great exercise
Keeping kids off the street
Team sports for kids specifically gymnastics and swimming
Sanity
Preservation
Our Japanese-American history
The watershed
Parks
Walking distance to the library
Exercise

A veiwscap

The vacation in a dense core

Parking accessibility

Walking on something other than concrete

Observing Nature

Gathering Place

Community Recreation

Environmental recreation

Healthy activity

Nature experience

Exercise

Community for Teens

Fresh food

Longevity

Diversity

Art

Horticultural knowledge

Ecological approaches

All body types exercising

Active lifestyle

Water sports

Youth

Exercise for walking running, training, swimming, gymnastics, Middle-School, cross-country & track

Rest

Year-round play and gathering

Supporting children and families

Summer water activities

Connecting children with Nature

Keeping kids engaged

Positivity

Year-round activity options

Keeping sports on the Island, not losing althetes off-Island

Bringing more Winter tourism

Boosting economic development year roun

School-use

Fitness

Community

Safety

Excellence

Competitiveness

Unity

Preservation

Character

Integrity

Accessible

Central
Family
Friendship
Keeping kids engaged and occupied and away from trouble
Increased opportunities for swimming and fitness
Community Pride
Increased job availability
Growth in Swimming and water-related activities
Supporting our Aquatic community
Training
Recreational swimming
Competitive swimming,
General community use
Fitness
Well-being through Aquatics activities
Self-sustaining
Confidence
Safety
Community
Health
Goals
Nutrition & Wellbeing
Self-actualization
Job opportunities
Economic development
Accommodating as many people as possible for swimming
Indoor field for year-round athletics
Positive economic impact
Central location to nature
Ties to the Community
Bringing the community together through activity
Community pride
A place of commitment to our kids for generations to come
An area for people to congregate
Health, Exercise, Nature
Off-road connection to downtown and North end of the Island
String of Pearls (trails)
Exercise, Health, and filling an underserved need
Dog exercise
Covered concert seating space
Arts appreciation
Music
Open-air play & Family time
Older kids learning about careers
History of farmland on the Island
Restoration / Development / Maintaining land as a farm

ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

ATTACHMENT 3

1. Pedestrian Access
2. Traffic congestion
3. Do we already have this need met? (facilities)
4. Public Vote
5. Geography of land feasibility
6. Future planning
7. Sustainability
8. Allow sale of part of land to fund it?
9. Costs – capital
10. Partner w/others and given use
11. Sanitation facility
12. Impact to habitat
13. Connected trail systems – integration
14. Does use serve max population on BI?
15. Will use be relevant in 10 yrs?
16. Number of jobs created
17. Will there be neighborhood objections
18. Fire district requirements
19. Public works site plan development?
20. Utilities?
21. Insurance issues?
22. Property tax status
23. Staffing needs
24. Impact on private business'
25. Volunteer activities
26. Revenue potential
27. Alternative power
28. Environment /community and neighborhood impact
29. Traffic/access
30. Operational cost
31. Demand for use
32. Health dept. regulations
33. Parking
34. Timing/needs connected
35. Precluding uses
36. Space available (% of property)
37. Tourism potential
38. Integration w/neighborhood organization
39. Stormwater/environment impact
40. Mitigation of noise
41. Safety/security
42. Carbon footprint – carbon sequestration
43. Building code (eg. Size, height)

- 44. Better location
- 45. Public transportation
- 46. Scientific/data on community demand
- 47. Historical , do not build
- 48. Phasing
- 49. Capacity (population)
- 50. Link to comprehensive plan
- 51. Private/ public money.
- 52. Aesthetic
- 53. Light pollution
- 54. Design
- 55. Detailed specs for each use for evaluation
- 56. Wetland regulations/details
- 57. Soil adequacy
- 58. Future park expansion (N + S)

Next Steps – Share-out

Highest point earners from cards

25 pts 1

24 pts 2

23 pts 6

22 pts 1

21 and fewer - all others

WORK GROUPS *as determined by card points*

1) Prioritize Projects. First select small projects that can be done quickly with little expense or with existing Park staff or equipment .

2) Public Survey. Randomly sample public to find out what uses they would like to see in our newest park. **2) Find out levels of community support for various uses.**

3) Survey demand **4) Find out the greatest need as decided by the people of Bainbridge Island...** **5) Survey to the community by needs then prioritize by number**
6) Evaluate the ideas. Which was the most value to the community? **7) Help design a user survey**

3) Demographics. Determine the percentage of Bainbridge population the proposed concepts will impact.

4) Youth Sports Interest. A meeting of various youth sports interests to discuss the needs and volume of participation.

5) Create a Table Create a table with all the uses and specifications/requirements to determine what is feasible and what isn't.

6) School & Park Collaboration. Get the School District and Park District together to unite development to preserve open space.

7) Park Values Cull down the list of values to the top three values for the park

8) Multi-age, Multi-Use Community Center. Research for a multi-age community center with a teen center, senior center, gymnastic gym and Park offices.

9) Adventure Playground Determine how many parents are interested in creating an unstructured open play area.

10) Financial Feasibility Assign cost to each use.