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

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Lee Cross, Ken DeWitt, Jay Kinney, Michael Pollock, Tom Swolgaard.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:
Kathy Ellison, island resident, spoke on behalf of a fellow parent who has an 11-year old son on the autism spectrum. This child receives funds from the Department of Social & Health Services known as an IFS Waiver that is intended to give him access to community programs. The Park District has indicated to her that they can’t accept this waiver and she is asking tonight to have this decision reconsidered. They believe it is a reasonable ADA accommodation for a parks department to make. If the barriers to accepting the IFS Waiver is too great for the Park District, they’d like to advocate at a state level for changes to the program. She expressed appreciation to the Park District for the opportunities they provide.

BOARD CONSENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Upon hearing there were no corrections to the minutes of the November 15, 2018 regular board meeting, Chair Kinney stated the minutes stand approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS: MSC: Pollock/Swolfgaard: I have reviewed the following vouchers, warrants and electronic payments and move that they be approved for payment.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

KIDS UP NEXT GENERATION OF PLAY COMMITTEE PRESENTATION: Park Services Manager Doug Slingerland provided an update on the committee’s progress to the concept plan for the KidsUp playground renovation. He thanked the committee for the work they’ve done and noted their effort to include what the community would like to see added to this well-loved playground. At the center of the design will be a ferry boat with many points of access including a “boarding bridge” at the second level that can be reached from a mound curving up to it. Tricycles will be able to access the boat by pedaling onto the “car deck” and riding through it. There are also little cubby holes to give kids the feeling of hiding but which are designed so parents can still observe their children. All aspects of the playground will be accessible to everyone. Possible features include music play, a spinning globe, two sets of swings, log play, a roller slide, and islands dotted among the ferry’s seascape. Seating throughout includes clear sight lines for parents. Instead of using a fence to contain the playground, mounds, landscaping and possible boulders will be used. A likely second phase will include a covered picnic shelter that will be the same size and design as the current picnic shelter at Battle Point Park. The overall intent is to honor the feeling the first KidsUp playground created. The original towers will be kept and much of the original artwork will be incorporated into the design. Commissioner DeWitt said he’d like the picnic shelter moved out of the view corridor so the view from the south pond area to the north is
preserved. The board commented on the exciting design, and felt it will be a great addition to the park. **MSC:**

**DeWitt/Swolgaard: To approve the concept plan for the playground with the proviso that there be minimal impact on the southeast/north view corridor of the park.**

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

**Recreation Division:** Division Superintendent Bryan Garoutte said an open studio will be held at the Eagledale Pottery Studio this weekend; the after-school theater program just performed a Wizard of Oz show for parents; a little holiday elf is showing up in photos as it travels between departments; Special Olympics was held this past weekend and the District’s two competitors both won medals; a sensory class is being developed in gymnastics for children with autism; ski bus sign-ups are up this year despite little snow in the mountains; combo camps are being developed in Outdoor Programs that include different activities such as sailing, hiking, and kayaking; pickleball open gyms are packed with all ages playing; some recent statistics show the Teen Center is most popular among 9th and 10th graders and that 90% of the people signing up for Park District classes are island residents. Division Director Mark Benishek said Active Adults is developing a program sampler that will give community members an opportunity to try different activities before signing up for a full session; work is underway to line up speakers for the Dynamic Aging Conference this spring; the last swim lesson session for the year is winding up with 168 kids signed up; the youth swim team is competing in Iowa this week and placed 5th nationally in a relay event; the Aquatic Center lobby renovation is almost finished and customer service for the District is now located down there; the presentation for KPFD grant funds was made this week with formal submittal of the application due by December 31.

**Park Services:** Park Services Superintendent David Harry said the punch list for the Hawley Cove Park boardwalk is finished and landscape mitigation is beginning; all the RV sites at Fay Bainbridge Park have electricity now; mason work on the exterior of the Fort Ward bakery building is underway; Mike Omans who was hired for the Facility Maintenance Technician position is doing well.

**Administrative:** Senior Planner Perry Barrett said approval to extend the State RCO grant for Hidden Cove Park has been approved allowing for the installation of a restroom at the park; the Corps of Engineers is looking at re-designing the road in Pritchard Park that leads down to the Superfund site since the current surface is not wide or thick enough to handle the trucks; a potential liability letter has been received from the Department of Ecology concerning Blakely Harbor Park and indicating the need for clean-up efforts; the Park District will send a response letter within 30 days following the receipt of attorney input. Executive Director Terry Lande said a recent meeting with City Manager Morgan Smith went well; he commended staff at the Aquatic Center for their good work especially in the area of working with people who have special needs; Winter Wonderland is coming up this Saturday at 4pm with a lighting ceremony, reindeer, music, an ice sculpture and more; the Park District’s holiday party this year will be on December 15 at the Lande residence.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS:** December 15: holiday party.

**BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:**

- Commissioner Swolgaard noted that the auditor entrance exam will be held tomorrow morning. He and Commissioner Cross will attend.

- Commissioner Swolgaard asked about the progress of the Pritchard Park transfer. Executive Director Lande said the City has signed all the transfer documents and NOAA has indicated they will approve the transfer once the exhibits from the City have been received.

- Commissioner Swolgaard attended the work party last Saturday at the Moritani Nature Preserve and said it was a lot of fun.
• Commissioner Swolgaard asked what the issue is with the ISF Waiver mentioned during the public comment period this evening. Recreation Division Director Benishek said staff has looked into this State program and noted there are challenges related to the amount of administrative paperwork, reimbursement process, and other requirements. It was also noted that those park districts which accept the waivers may have a staff person dedicated specifically to the program. Executive Director Lande said staff will check into the ISF Waiver program more thoroughly. Both Commissioners Swolgaard and Kinney noted the importance of doing this and then following up with a response to Kathy Ellison.

• Commissioner Swolgaard asked if the Hawley Cove boardwalk has been completed. Staff responded saying it is done with the exception of landscape mitigation and the section connecting the completed boardwalk to the parking area. This additional section for ADA accessibility is still in the permitting process. Executive Director Lande said the City is requiring a boardwalk there along the road as opposed to a gravel trail since it is in a wetlands area. Commissioner Pollock questioned why a gravel trail would not be allowed at the site given it is not a wetland proper. The trail would be going on top of fill placed in the wetland by the City over a sewer line. He said there is a process for making these decisions and suggested getting something from the City in writing explaining the basis of their decision.

• Commissioner Cross attended both a BI Parks Foundation board meeting and a parks project committee meeting during which discussions were held regarding several projects and it was noted they are close to reaching their fundraising goal for the Moritani Preserve. She noted Glen Haber will be resigning from his position as a BI Parks Foundation board member but will continue to work on several committees.

• Commissioner Pollock mentioned the concern of his constituents over global warming and asked if there is something that can be done by the Park District. Staff mentioned items already done to lessen Park District energy consumption, some of which include solar heat at the pool, getting a PSE grant for upgrading lights to LED and switching out florescent light bulbs. Also noted was the impact of the park’s forests on the island as carbon fixers.

• Commissioner DeWitt noted that there are several power poles in the pavement at the edge of the right-of-way along Miller Road and asked if the Park District as landowner of property adjacent to much of the road shoulder project had been asked by the City to provide an easement so the power poles could be moved. It was indicated that the Park District had been asked and that staff had told the City to put the poles where they needed to make them safe. Executive Director Lande said the District is still willing provide whatever easement is necessary to make the placement of the poles safe.

• Commissioner DeWitt asked if the permits are in place for the jetty bridge at Blakely Harbor Park. Staff indicated everything will be in place once some calculations have been provided to the City. The project is expected to go out to bid soon. Installation of the bridge will depend on the results of the fish study.

• Commissioner Kinney asked about operational costs for the pool options being studied. Staff informed him that these costs will be included in the upcoming presentation by Coates Design Architects at the 12/20/18 board meeting when the feasibility study they have been doing will be completed.

MEETING ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 7:33 pm for discussion of personnel, with announced time to reconvene at 7:55 pm. MEETING RECONV ред at 8:10 pm and ADJOURNED at 8:11 pm.

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

John Thomas Swolgaard

BY: Jay C. Kinney

BY: Lee Gross

BY: Michael Pellock

BY: Kenneth R. DeWitt