BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING JANUARY 17, 2019
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND AQUATIC CENTER

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


ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA: Move board consent items to end of board meeting, and add executive session for real estate and personnel. Public comments on agenda items will be taken at the time the agenda item is discussed.

BOARD CONSENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon hearing there were no corrections to the minutes of the January 3, 2019 regular board meeting, Chair Cross stated the minutes stand approved as submitted.

While no changes to the 1/3/19 board meeting minutes were made, it was noted that a motion that was passed on page 2 of the minutes regarding the Programs Committee, is not consistent with board policy on standing committees. To correct this, the following two motions were made:

1) MSC: DeWitt/Kinney: To strike the following motion from the January 3, 2019 board meeting since it would require a revision to board policy: “That the Program Committee be removed from the list of standing board committees”.

2) MSC: DeWitt/Swolgaard: To replace the January 3, 2019 board meeting motion pertaining to the Program Committee with the following: “That the Program Committee board positions not be filled in 2019.”

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

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PRESENTATION OF AQUATIC CENTER FEASIBILITY STUDY BY COATES DESIGN ARCHITECTS: Recreation Division Director Mark Benishek introduced project lead Joe McRitchie with Coates Design Architects who was there to present the completed Aquatic Center Feasibility Study. This study was done to assess options related to the aging Ray Williamson Pool with preliminary drawings shown the board at the 9/20/18 board meeting. Mark Benishek said no board action will be taken tonight, and that a follow-up meeting will be held on February 21. Joe McRitchie reviewed each aspect of the study beginning with public outreach efforts that identified primary users, activities, and the critical components that had been identified by the users as necessary for a lap pool. A 50-meter pool is preferred and keeping the Ray Williams Pool open during construction of a new pool is a priority. City of Bainbridge Island jurisdiction requirements must be met which includes planning/permit approvals, a site assessment review, zoning and parking requirements, and landscape restrictions. Significant civil and geotechnical engineering work would be needed, and the stormwater system must be updated. The Aquatic Center sits on a portion of a 73-acre site owned by the Bainbridge Island School District and is a site within a site that is defined by its lease line with the School District.
Any development of the Aquatic Center must consider School District constraints and would require a modification of the lease line. Some of these constraints include school buildings, landmark trees, grade, campus security and line of sight issues. The School District is currently in the process of developing/revising their master plan for the campus. This is critical to the Park District since the site of the Aquatic Center will be specified in this plan, and anything done there will require School District approval. After assessing the constraints, Coates was able to identify a workable area to assess the feasibility of the following six options presented this evening: 1) New pool to east of Aquatic Center: sloping 15-foot grade is an issue. 2) Replace Ray Williamson Pool: shuts down the pool for 18 months while a new pool is being built. 3) New pool directly east of Ray Williamson Pool: encroaches onto School District field. 4) New pool to north of Aquatic Center running north/south: circulation road encroaches onto Ordway property. 5) Eliminate Ray Williamson Pool: option of repurposing Ray pool for another use is lost. 6) New pool to north of Aquatic Center running east/west: a balance between the other options. This is the option Coates Design developed more fully. It allows for a central area between the new pool and the Nakata pool and keeps the Ray Williamson pool for a possible repurposed use such as a sports court. Within the sixth option, there are three pool options, a 52, 33, or 25-meter pool facility. The 52 and 33-meter options include an upper floor mezzanine. The 25-meter option is on a single level with a smaller footprint but does not provide opportunity for much program expansion since it meets current capacity. Pricing to construct the three options included both construction and soft costs and ranged from roughly $42,250,000 for the 52-meter facility, to $37,477,000 for the 33-meter facility, to $29,700,000 for the 25-meter facility. To repurpose the Ray Williamson Pool for another use such as a sports court, is estimated at an additional $5,300,000. Operational costs were projected at an annual $899,771 for the 52-meter facility, $890,024 for the 33-meter facility, and $775,330 for the 25-meter facility. The existing operational cost for the entire Aquatic Center is approximately $671,612 per year. Several questions were asked. The material presented this evening will be posted on the Park District’s website for public viewing. An opportunity for more questions and feedback will be provided at the 2/21/19 board meeting. Executive Director Terry Lande said the numbers are large and the Park District will be looking at everything to see what could work, from looking into increased grant funds to asking what can be scaled back. The board thanked Joe McRitchie for his presentation.

MEETING ADJOURNED for a short break at 7:15 pm and RECONVENED at 7:20 pm.

WILLIAMS-OLSON PARK CONCEPT PLAN: Prior to presenting the concept plan for Williams-Olson Park, Park Services Division Director Dan Hamlin asked that some history be provided by a member of the family that owned the property prior to it being sold for park land. He introduced Francie Ringold who said she is the great-granddaughter of the couple who came to the land in 1890. They became chicken farmers and rowed their boat once a week to the head of the bay to sell chickens. Her great-grandmother lived on the property until 1950, her grandparents retired on the property and her grandmother lived on it into her 90’s. In 1958, her parents purchased that portion of the property from her grandparents where the park is now. Her parents built a house for their family to spend summers there and it provided them with a wonderful childhood. When her father passed the property on to them, her brother Carl and his wife Lydia moved into the house and lived there with their two children for 12 years. In 2007, they decided they could no longer afford it, and in their desire to share the beauty of the property, sold it for use as a park. Now approximately 10 years later, they want to add a few facilities to enhance the park property that over six generations of their family have enjoyed.

Park Services Division Director Dan Hamlin said the family notified the Park District some time ago about their interest in raising funds for the park as a memorial. This initiated a partnership with the BI Parks Foundation and a planning effort was launched. Neighbors and the community were invited to attend an informational meeting last March to hear initial ideas about the project and learn about joining a citizens committee to assist with project planning and
fundraising. A committee was formed, and given the access limitations, other restrictions, and community feedback, efforts were directed towards developing a neighborhood park with enhancement of its current uses. He introduced committee members, and Committee Chair Geoff Maron who said the committee created the following mission for the park: “To maintain and preserve the peaceful beauty of the neighborhood park while enhancing opportunities for water access, recreation, and education about the park and family history”. Every improvement considered for the park was evaluated through this lens. Senior Planner Perry Barrett reviewed the existing elements of the park and introduced the new elements that have been proposed. Some of the new elements include a picnic shelter, 10 parking spaces, a play area, an improved pickleball court, kayak storage, and a seasonal restroom. A potential swimming platform would trigger regulatory requirements but would help divert use away from private docks. Dan Hamlin noted that this is a conceptual plan only and this is the first time it has been presented. Several people offered their comments, as follows.

Dennis Reynolds, attorney representing the neighboring Dubach family, commended the committee and Park District staff for their planning process during which many of his client’s concerns were addressed. A remaining concern is that of the proposed trail through the ravine. He asked the board to consider the conservation purposes it serves and related compliance regulations.

Teresa Costa, park neighbor, said she sent the board a letter addressing her family’s concerns about the plan. Some of these include increased use of the park resulting in more traffic that will cause safety issues and decrease the value of their home. She also objected to the proposed trail in the ravine saying it will take people into untouched habitat and could be a liability to the Park District.

Lydia Williams, island resident, said her family raised the initial funds for the project to commemorate her husband Carl who grew up on the property during the summers and has since passed away. She commented on how wonderful this process has been working with everyone on the committee and getting to know the neighbors. She commented on the ravine, saying it’s overgrown with ivy and needs to be cleaned up. The proposed trail used to go up to the barn where the chickens were kept and is close to the road. She said reinstating it would allow parents to bring their kids to the park without having to drive a car.

Mark Dassel, park neighbor, expressed appreciation for Dan Hamlin saying he is an excellent park representative, and that it’s been pleasant to be part of such a civil discourse.

Commissioner Cross said there will be a two-week public comment period for written comments and following this there will be additional discussion at a future board meeting.

**MEETING ADJOURNED** for a short break at 8:00 pm and **RECONVENED** at 8:03 pm.

**KITSAP HUMANE SOCIETY ANIMAL CONTROL AGREEMENT:** Park Services Division Director Dan Hamlin said the arrangement with Kitsap Humane Society Animal Control is continuing to work well and that since it began, there has been a significant reduction in dog related complaints. While annual agreements have been signed with them in the past, it is recommended that this year a two-year agreement be signed with a 3% increase each year. In response to questions from the board, Dan Hamlin said Animal Control is flexible, responsive, and works very well with the Park District. He said the officers are very courteous and professional, and that there have been no complaints about them.

**MSC: DeWitt/Kinney: To approve the two-year agreement with Kitsap Humane Society Animal Control and authorize the Executive Director to sign.**

**LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT WITH BI FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Park Services Division Director Dan Hamlin said the Bainbridge Island Fire Department is in need of landscape maintenance for their facilities and was initially
going to put this work out to bid. Instead, an agreement between the Fire Department and Park District has been made. The BI Fire Department will pay the Park District to do their landscape work at a rate which will provide enough funds to do the Fire Department’s work as well as increase Park District staffing levels. Each agency benefits from the arrangement. Executive Director Terry Lande said this is an example of the kind of interagency cooperation the Park District likes to do. It results in a more efficient use of taxpayer dollars. **MSC: Kinney/DeWitt: To approve the landscape maintenance agreement with the BI Fire Department and authorize the Executive Director to sign.**

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION 2019-01: PETTY CASH FUND:** This resolution is needed to add a change fund for the Teen Center and increase the amount in the cash box at the Aquatic Center. **MSC: DeWitt/Swolgaard: That Resolution 2019-01, revising the Park District’s Petty Cash Funds, be adopted.**

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

**Recreation Division:** Division Director Mark Benishek said all swim lessons have filled with wait lists and a big increase in sign-ups for water aerobics; in active recreation, tai chi has grown tremendously and several free ads have been secured for the Dynamic Aging Conference this March; the egg hunt is on April 20 and eggs will be stuffed on March 29; a flood of applications for internships are coming in; while no grading criteria has been set by KPFD for grant applicants, the Park District has been asked to return on 2/25/19 for a second presentation of the pool project. He encouraged the board to look at the renovation of the pool lobby. Commissioner Swolgaard mentioned the board had expressed concerns about safety and had asked that there be a window in the partition wall, so staff could see into the alcove. Mark Benishek said a mirror is in place, so staff can see into it; there are also surveillance cameras. Division Superintendent Bryan Garoutte said a Teen Center dance is coming up; the government shut-down is creating issues for outdoor programs in national parks; a lot of work is being done to the Eagledale Pottery Studio and effort is underway to hire a studio tech; gymnastics classes are full, with more sessions and additional open playtime being offered.

**Park Services Division:** Division Director Dan Hamlin said a meeting has been set up so players of pickleball and tennis can talk; after walking Manzanita Park with members of the equestrian community they’ve asked that five more jumps be removed; the Park Services division is being restructured with the responsibility for trails being moved to Emily Helgeson who is already involved with trails through her work with community groups and removing invasive species; staff is encouraged by several productive meetings that have been held recently with City staff in regards to working more efficiently together. He also asked that the Capital Facilities Committee convene to revisit a request made by Kitsap Public Utilities District this past year.

**Administrative Division:** Administrative Division Director Amy Swenson said the exit interview with the State Auditor will be held on Tuesday, January 29. Senior Planner Perry Barrett said an on-site walk with City staff at Hawley Cove Park went well; staff and the Corps of Engineer walked the road down to the superfund site at Pritchard Park which needs to be realigned; a park zoning designation is being requested as an amendment to the City’s comprehensive plan. Executive Director Lande commended District staff for their tremendous work.

**BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:**

- Commissioner DeWitt reported on a recent meeting he attended with the COBI Multi-Modal Transportation Committee. He said the State will not accept a width that is anything less than 10 feet wide for the Sound to Olympic Trail, so this will likely be the width of the STO trail through Sakai Park.

- Commissioner Kinney asked when the next dog committee is and was told that an email about this will be sent out tomorrow.
• Commissioner Swolgaard said he will be attending a meeting with staff, neighbors, and the BI Park Foundation concerning a trail route to Gazzam Lake Nature Preserve. He also attended a Trails Advisory Committee where two upcoming projects to remove invasive species at Blakely Harbor Park and Grand Forest East were discussed.

• Commissioner Cross said that after the last board meeting, she began thinking about all the work coming up this year, and realized that with her health issues, it is becoming increasingly difficult for her to do things. She said she is not happy with her attendance this past year and is aware that others have had to step in for her. She thinks the public deserves a commissioner who can do the work. Because of this, she said she will be resigning from the board. However, given the need for a quorum at board meetings, she said she will continue to serve on the board until a replacement for her can be found. At that time, she would like to turn over her position as board chair to Commissioner Kinney. It was noted that she has served on the board for eleven years, and that her term is over at the end of 2019. Any new person appointed will have to run in the election this fall to continue serving in 2020. She said she has never had a job she enjoyed so much and with people who work so hard. She said serving on the Park Board provides an opportunity to get things done and make a huge difference in the community. The other commissioners expressed regret over her resignation and said she will be missed. Given that Commissioner Cross has given notification of her pending retirement, the following motion was made. **MSC:** Kinney/Swolgaard: That 1) the search for someone to replace Commissioner Cross on the board begin, and at the time a replacement is found, her resignation be accepted; and that 2) in the meantime staff be directed to notify the public that there is a board vacancy and that people interested in applying for the position should contact the Park District.

**WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

Chair Cross noted that correspondence in support of pickleball was included in this week’s board packet. Also received this week was a letter from Teresa Costa regarding the Williams-Olson concept plan.

**MEETING ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 9:15 pm for discussion of real estate and personnel, with announced time to reconvene at 9:30 pm.

**MEETING RECONVENE**d at 9:25 pm and **ADJOURNE**d at 9:27 pm.

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

BY:  
Lee Cross

BY:  
John Thomas Swolgaard

BY:  
Kenneth R. DeWitt

BY:  
Jay C. Kinney

ATTEST:  
Michael Pollock