CALL TO ORDER: A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chair Kinney.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ken DeWitt, Dawn Janow, Jay Kinney, Michael Pollock, Tom Swolgaard.

ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA: Add to Unfinished Business: Bainbridge Island Little League Signage Dedication. No executive session.

BOARD CONSENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Upon making the following revisions to the minutes of the March 21, 2019 regular board meeting, Chair Kinney stated the minutes stand approved as corrected; p. 4: Add "approximately" before "$385,000" and change "revenues" to "surplus".

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS: MSC: Janow/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

PROPOSED PICKLEBALL COURTS AT BATTLE POINT PARK: Park Services Division Director Dan Hamlin distributed a memorandum providing background on the request for pickleball courts and reviewing board action taken this past month. At the 3/7/19 board meeting the board directed staff to work with the pickleball group on design/location options for pickleball courts that would not displace the two existing tennis courts at Battle Point Park, and to bring back a proposal to the 4/4/19 board meeting. At the 3/21/19 board meeting, following an assessment of possible locations, the board directed staff to further study Battle Point Park for construction of pickleball courts. Since then staff has consulted with several organizations and firms regarding design, materials and costs. Dan Hamlin presented three options for court layout at Battle Point Park with staff recommending the third option, a layout of six pickleball courts west of the tennis courts. This option does not crowd the KidsUp playground, retains trees that would otherwise have to be removed, provides the best congregating area for players, has space for a historic display, and is the preferred option by the pickleball group given in part its orientation to the sun. Dan Hamlin discussed three options for court materials: 1) Asphalt (per court cost of $24-36,000, difficult to find good asphalt, cracks over time, requires the most maintenance, difficult to level so water pools, 20 year life span); 2) Reinforced concrete (per court cost of $30-45,000, metal joints control cracking, easier to level, 50 year life span, Sequim used this material for their pickleball courts); 3) Post tensioned concrete (per court cost of over $40,000, no or minimal cracking, 50 year lifespan, recommended by professional installers). He asked for board approval tonight on court orientation and material. Beyond this the next steps include securing an engineer, launching COBI permitting, obtaining bids, rewarding the bid, agreeing to a funding plan, and if the project is approved, scheduling the work.

The following public comments were made:
Bill Walker, island resident, thanked the board for their support and voiced his support of the project. He urged the board to move forward.

Loanne Harmeling, island resident, said she likes the design and is happy for pickleball. She is also disappointed since her impression from a prior board meeting was that two new tennis courts would also be added, and this design she said precludes this. Chair Kinney said that the board had been presented with a pickleball proposal and that while there are tennis courts on the island, there are no pickleball courts. Executive Director Terry Lande noted that the comment to create a court complex that included pickleball courts and additional tennis courts was a thought brought forward during a public comment period. What the board agreed to that night at the 3/7/19 board meeting was to abandon the notion of converting the existing tennis courts at Battle Point Park to pickleball courts and to instead look at constructing new pickleball courts. He said staff talked to the USTA board chair who made the above-mentioned comment and learned their funding was not firm and that the suggested project was beyond the scope of what the Park District could do. For the board to consider additional tennis courts, a proposal from tennis would be needed.

Clay Roberts, island resident, said he has spoken with Dan Hamlin and learned the cost of the courts will be higher than anticipated. He said he informed pickleball players of this and in one week they raised another $5000 bringing their fundraised total to $44,200. He said use is still growing and the new courts will be well used.

**MSC: Swolgaard/Pollock: To select Option Three for the court orientation and locate the new pickleball courts at Battle Point Park west of the tennis courts. (Unanimous)**

**MSC: Swolgaard/Pollock: To move forward with Option Two, reinforced concrete for the court material, while also studying whether Option Three, post tensioned concrete, might be feasible. (Unanimous)**

**MSC: Swolgaard/Pollock: To authorize staff to proceed with obtaining COBI permits and acquiring engineering services, for an amount not to exceed $10,000. (Unanimous)**

Park Services Director Dan Hamlin thanked the board and said staff will return in May with additional information. Clay Roberts thanked Dan for his hard work and commented on how great he is to work with.

**MEETING ADJOURNED** for a break at 7:40 pm. **MEETING RECONVENED** at 7:45 pm.

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND LITTLE LEAGUE SIGNAGE DEDICATION:** Chair Kinney said the design work for the plaque/signs at the batting cage and snack shack at Rotary Park is finished and Little League is asking the board to approve it. He noted this is a follow-up to a prior 9/20/18 board meeting at which time the board agreed to the signage as a way of honoring several community members who have made significant contributions to the island and sports community, Troy Biddle and his son Braden who died in a tragic automobile accident in 2017, and Louis Bond. The Biddles will be honored with signage naming the batting cage after them, and with a memorial rock. Louis Bond will be honored with signage naming the snack shack after him. The board reviewed the design work presented by staff. **MSC: DeWitt/Janow: To approve the signs for the Biddle batting cage and Louis Bond snack shack, and the memorial rock for the Biddles. (Unanimous)**

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Recreation Division: Division Director Mark Benishek said gymnastics is finishing up its championship season; Hot Shots tennis for youth 3-5 years of age has filled; grant funds were received by the Outdoor Program for a middle size sailing fleet; 325 kids attended today’s open swim with several busloads coming from off the island; registration for summer programs began last week with a very strong response; the first year of the Dynamic Aging conference last Friday had 50 attendees with tremendous speakers brought in remotely from all over the world and Master of Ceremonies Bob Linz saying the event was phenomenal.
Division Director Dan Hamlin said he met with the disc golf group who conveyed thanks to the board for the concrete tee pads, received grant funds for new baskets, and invited the board to look at the lay-out of an extended course they have in mind; mowing and trail trimming is underway; work on self-contained restrooms at Hidden Cove and Rotary Centennial Parks has started; the solar system at the pool has been fixed and is operational.

Senior Planner Perry Barrett said work to follow up on the KPFD grant presentation last week has been underway; several phone-in meetings have been held regarding the Cave property; he attended a breakfast meeting this week honoring the partnership between the Sound to Olympics Trail and Mountains to Sound Greenway; public meetings for the comprehensive plan update are slated to begin the week of May 18. Executive Director Terry Lane said he met with Cathy Nickum who is circulating a petition to lower the speed limit on Fletcher Bay Road south of Barnabee Farm and past Island Center Hall to 25 mph through the S curves. She asked the park board to endorse the petition, and he told her that while this is not generally done by the agency, he would let board members know in case they wanted to sign it individually. He also conveyed to the board appreciation from Sue Barrington to Mark Benishek for his tremendous IT work during the Dynamic Aging Conference.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS: April 18: 6pm- Joint Work Session with BI Parks Foundation Board, and 7pm-Regular Park Board Meeting.

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:

- Commissioner Janow said she’d love to bring a greater awareness of “leave no trace” into the parks. Dan Hamlin said he will bring this topic to the Trails Advisory Committee for discussion.
- Commissioner Swolgaard attended the 77th anniversary of the Japanese American internment and said it was very touching. He said staff did a great job of preparing for the event.
- Commissioner Swolgaard attended the recent work party for the Bluff Trail and it was a great success.
- Commissioner DeWitt said the bill he brought up at the last board meeting pertaining to homelessness is not likely to be moving forward.
- Commissioner DeWitt attended the Park District’s grant presentation to the Kitsap Public Facilities District for possible funding of a 50-meter pool. He commended staff, volunteers, and consultants for their work saying the presentation was well thought out and very compelling.
- Commissioner DeWitt attended a recent meeting with the BI Parks Foundation and provided an update on the work they are doing. He said the trees coming down at Waypoint Woods are part of the Olympic Drive project near the ferry and are on State property.
- Commissioner Pollock contacted Sherry Appleton’s office about the bill regarding homelessness discussed at the last board meeting. He said that while her office is pessimistic about it moving forward this year, it sets the stage for next year. He said many homeless people on the west coast are native to the area and have jobs but have lost their homes since their income is not high enough to keep them.
- Commissioner Pollock followed up on the City’s request to have a board member assigned to the COBI selection committee for a trails consultant. Chair Kinney has asked Commissioner DeWitt to serve on the committee since he is the board liaison to the City’s Multi-Modal Transportation Advisory Committee.
- Commissioner Pollock said he is following up on a board meeting from last year on 5/3/19 at which time he expressed interest in filming the park board meetings and said he would look into the cost to do this. He is in the process of getting quotes.
• Commissioner Kinney said he attended a recent Dog Advisory Committee meeting and said the idea of using lower use areas for occasional off leash dogs without designating these areas as off leash, has created concern that these parks will become known as off leash parks and will be inundated with dogs. There are also legal and insurance questions related to this. He said the committee’s focus may shift to assessing which parks should have no tolerance for off leash use and with this, stricter enforcement in these parks.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:35 pm.

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

BY:  

Jay C. Kinney

BY:  

John Thomas Swolgaard

BY:  

Kenneth R. DeWitt

BY:  

Dawn Janow

ATTEST:  

Michael Pollock