

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING APRIL 16, 2020
ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING**

CALL TO ORDER A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Chair Swolgaard.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Kristine Cox, Ken DeWitt, Dawn Janow, Jay Kinney, Tom Swolgaard.

ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA: Remove item 20.2: Financial, under Board Consent.

BOARD CONSENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon hearing there were no corrections to the minutes of the March 19, 2020 regular board meeting, Chair Swolgaard stated the minutes stand approved as submitted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PARK DISTRICT UPDATE ON THE CORONAVIRUS:

Recreation Division: Recreation Division Director Mark Benishek said recreation managers and coordinators are working remotely. Summer registration has been postponed and programming has been canceled through May 4. A new webpage called Recreation Reimagined was launched on biparks.org, with free recreation, education and cultural resources. The inaugural issue of a weekly email newsletter called Parker's Post has been sent to patrons. Recreation managers are doing research into what programming is going to look like in the future. Recreation managers are also working to develop new virtual programming options. Bainbridge Island Swim Club is running dry land workouts and meetings via Zoom and connecting for goal setting and comradery. Gymnastics team practices are happening via Zoom 2-3 days a week. Chess and eSports classes are now happening online. Recreation Superintendent Bryan Garoutte said the Emergency Operations All-Day Camp for children of essential workers working at the City of Bainbridge Island, Bainbridge Island Fire Department, Bainbridge Island School District, Park District and grocery stores is currently running Monday through Friday. The camp has nine rotating staff members and has had between zero and six participants a day with 42 participants during the last month. Participation in this camp has begun to increase since the announcement that school will be closed for the remainder of the school year.

Administrative Division: Administrative Division Director Amy Swenson said the accounting department is working remotely and taking turns going into the Strawberry Hill office to check mail, voice mail and do deposits. She has spent time learning the Family First Coronavirus Relief Act and sent an email to all employees regarding what benefits may be available. The Employee Assistance Program has some valuable resources regarding coronavirus and has now been made available to part-time employees. Research is being done on what reimbursements for the Emergency Operations All-Day Camp may be available from the federal government. All full-time staff are still employed and about 100 part time staff have been laid off. Amy Swenson is monitoring daily where the Park District stands financially. As of the end of March cash reserves are good. The amount of tax revenue that comes in will not be known until the end of April. The amount of revenue that will be generated by programs in 2020 is uncertain at this time. Money is not coming in right now for programs; however, money is not going out at the normal rate with part-time programming staff not working and facility operational expenses at a minimum.

Park Services Division: Park Services Division Director Dan Hamlin said that high-risk staff has been doing annual training from home and using leave, some staff can and has been working remotely, and other staff has adjusted hours to earlier in the day for doing sanitation and security. In March parks were extremely busy and staff observed that recommended social distancing guidelines were not being followed which led to parking lot closures. The Park

District was on pace with other local and state agencies regarding when parking lot closures were initiated. Better overall compliance by the public with Governor Inslee's "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" order has led to the decision to bring all staff back to work. Staff will be following all Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines, be provided with personal protective equipment and following a one truck per person standard. Staff hours are being adjusted to 6:00 am-2:30 pm to help staff avoid what has been observed as higher use times in parks. Saturday and Sunday security checks will be happening for which wages will be covered by the Emergency Operations Center. There has not been an increase in vandalism reported by staff. A few incidents where people have moved barricades and entered parks have been reported to the police. Heat in facilities has been turned down to save energy. Water systems are still being monitored daily. Park Services Superintendent David Harry is serving as the Park District representative with the City of Bainbridge Island's Emergency Operations Center.

Executive Director Terry Lande said leadership staff is holding a virtual meeting every morning to talk about what is going on currently and what the future may hold. He commended Park Services Superintendent David Harry and Emergency Management Coordinator Anne LeSage at the City of Bainbridge Island for doing a great job at the Emergency Operations Center. The Park District will continue to look at options for an incremental reopening, including ways to limit access and implement safety precautions. The next board meeting will be a virtual special board meeting held on April 30.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS:

Special Board Meeting via Zoom on April 30 at 6:00 pm.

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:

- Commissioner DeWitt said he appreciates that staff is looking at ways to gradually reopen.
- Commissioner Janow said she appreciates the creative thinking that staff is doing and emphasized the importance of meeting the needs of young families and seniors.
- Commissioners Kinney and DeWitt both brought up ideas for dedicated senior and accessible only access to parks. Executive Director Terry Lande replied that implications for selectively allowing only certain members of the public into parks have not yet been vetted.
- Commissioner Janow asked about encroachment from people moving off trails to make room for other people to go by. Park Services Director Dan Hamlin replied that it is important for patrons to follow safety guidelines and indicated a preference for dealing with encroachment rather than having to close trails.
- Commissioner DeWitt thanked staff for excellent work during a trying time.

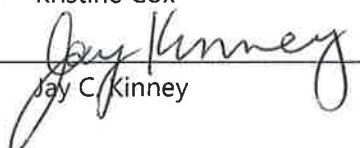
MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:01 pm.

Helen M. Stone
Terry M. Lande
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN
PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT

BY: 
John Thomas Swolgaard

BY: 
Dawn Janow

BY: 
Kristine Cox

BY: 
Jay C. Kinney

ATTEST: 
Kenneth R. DeWitt