

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT  
 REGULAR BOARD MEETING APRIL 15, 2021  
 ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING**

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

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

**ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA:** Add item 50.4 Bristle Ridge Easement Transfer and an executive session for real estate for 20 minutes.

**BOARD CONSENT**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Upon making the following revisions to the minutes of the April 1, 2021 regular board meeting, Chair Janow stated the minutes stand approved as corrected: On page six under Budget Forecast on the second line change “council” to “counsel.”

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

<b>Batch Date</b>	<b>Fund Number &amp; Name</b>	<b>Warrant Numbers</b>	<b>Total Batch Amt</b>	<b>Pre-Approved</b>
03/16/21	001 General Fund 300 Capital Improvement Fund	21136-21147	5,898.69	03/16/21
03/30/21	001 General Fund 300 Capital Improvement Fund	EFT & 21148-21190	63,840.40	03/30/21
04/06/21	001 General Fund 300 Capital Improvement Fund 310 Land Acquisition Fund	21191-21211	109,056.71	04/06/21
	001 General Fund (March Payroll)	EFT & 2796-2804	374,582.54	

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**PRESENTATION FROM INTEREST GROUP REGARDING PROPOSED TENNIS COURTS AT SAKAI PARK:** Park Services Division Director Dan Hamlin introduced Loanne Harmeling who will be presenting tonight on behalf of the interest group proposing that two tennis courts be built at Sakai Park. Loanne Harmeling said Bainbridge Island has a lot to be proud of and the Park District has been instrumental in making it a great place to live. The tennis community proposes continuing with the development of Sakai Park as the “Central Park” of Winslow with the addition of two tennis courts to compliment the trails that have been completed. Bainbridge Island voters have consistently supported local public agencies on the island through the approval of taxation policies and levies. The Park District is fundamental to the way of life on Bainbridge Island, people use and love the trails, beaches, courts, and fields. Through both Park District and community foresight, when the Sakai Park property became available the citizens were able to acquire it. Citizens voted for the Sakai Park bond because there is no other piece of undeveloped land that could be used for a park in the Winslow area. It has now been six years since the bond was passed to acquire Sakai Park and the interest group would like to see the development process begin. There is a need from the tennis community to build two tennis courts at Sakai Park to provide a recreation opportunity in a central location, additional courts for a growing population, and to support an improved quality of play.

Construction of new homes continues to happen in Winslow and the demand for housing will be related to the area’s ability to maintain and enhance an active and attractive physical setting. City of Bainbridge Island planning policies seek to create a core that is active, pedestrian oriented, filled with new housing choices to reduce sprawl, and to encourage multi-modal

transportation. While there are numerous parks and recreational open spaces both inside and outside of Winslow that are used by residents, visitors, shoppers, and office workers, it is often necessary to drive to make use of active recreational facilities; hence the importance of the development of an active physical setting at Sakai Park which is available by foot and by bike as well as by multi-task trips to Winslow. Sakai Park is a perfect location for development and for additional tennis courts to meet population growth.

National findings and local tallies both indicate increased tennis participation. Data that was self-reported by players showing steady use of the tennis courts at Bainbridge High School was shared and there is a spreadsheet which further documents the steady use of all the public tennis courts on the island. Due to the coronavirus pandemic the tennis courts at BHS were available most of the year for community use. The level of use documented at the BHS tennis courts would have maxed out the Park District's tennis courts had the BHS tennis courts not been available. The hypothesis is that the BHS tennis courts are used by tennis players both due to their location and condition. This hypothesis supports building new tennis courts at Sakai Park. The Park District tennis courts at Eagledale Park, Strawberry Hill Park and Battle Point Park are also used, as is reflected in the data collected. COVID-19 has only increased the demand for outdoor tennis opportunities. Many residents who once played inside are now finding that playing outside is enjoyable, even in the winter. If new tennis courts are built even more people will be able to play as many people arrive to find the tennis courts full and must drive around the island hoping to find an open one. Sakai Park is in Winslow with trail access from both the east and west sides and would offer a public place for all ages to play. The Park District's 2020 Comprehensive Plan recommends and supports more tennis courts in the central core of the island. Tennis court usage is related to both location and availability. If someone drives from Winslow to Battle Point Park to play tennis it is 10 miles roundtrip. The BHS tennis courts have many restrictions due to being closed during school hours, BHS team play after school, and reservations. Restrictions on Park District tennis courts are related to court conditions and players often bring equipment such as leaf blowers, towels, and brooms to clear debris from the courts; there are also cracks and gaps and uneven surfaces making play less enjoyable. However, Park District tennis courts are still used extensively. On a drive around the island on April 10 to see if the tennis courts were being used, it was found that all the tennis courts on the island were being used and two groups were waiting.

Additional tennis courts should be built at Sakai Park now because additional tennis court space is recommended by Park District documents, population growth since the existing tennis courts were built continues, population location by design is intended to be in the Winslow core, local use has increased and is sustained, national statistics and standards support additional courts, and the promise of Sakai Park needs to be fulfilled. According to Park District resolution 2015-02 Sakai Park was considered ideal because it is located to facilitate several recreational uses due to its location and proximity to other public facilities. The benefits to the Park District and the citizens are to fulfill the promise to the voters of a "Central Park" at Sakai Park and to demonstrate a commitment to park development as the Park District considers a levy lid lift. The interest group proposes a public/private partnership to build two tennis courts at Sakai Park. This location would maximize use and be a location for players of all ages in the commercial and educational core of the island and it would be an environmentally friendly move, as it would limit single purpose trips to Winslow. The proposal is to add an additional tennis court to the one multipurpose court included in the current Sakai Park master plan. Other items indicated in the Sakai Park master plan may need to be relocated due to the issue of restrictions on the amount of impermeable surface allowed.

The tennis community is delighted that the existing Park District tennis courts are going to be resurfaced and refurbished. It would be great to locate additional tennis courts next to existing tennis courts in parks, but that option does not speak to the idea of a central location and reduced transportation. Other Park District parks in the Winslow area do not appear to have space for two new tennis courts and acquiring new land in the area would be a stretch. This project can only happen with a public/private partnership as the tennis community cannot afford to fully fund the plan, if they could, they could

afford private courts. Bainbridge Island voters have consistently supported park and recreation facilities and Loanne Harmeling said she believes it will continue to do so. The tennis community is willing to help with the first phase of developing Sakai Park, which is a win-win situation in the near future. They recognize the costs and have some initial contributions and are willing to raise additional funds. The Park District has capital funds and access to grants, it is a choice where to focus these funds and the tennis community would like some to be allocated to two additional tennis courts and the attending development needs at Sakai Park.

The benefits of building two tennis courts at Sakai Park are for both Winslow and Bainbridge Island residents by providing an accessible place to play tennis with less environmental impact caused by driving to other locations. Sakai Park is a beautiful place, but it was promised to be much more and the plans for the land are for active recreational use. The Bainbridge Review wrote on January 24, 2015 that Jason Shutt, co-chairman of People for Parks which spearheaded the Sakai Park bond campaign, said, "The land includes nine acres next to Madison Avenue right across from the Aquatic Center and Ordway Elementary, land that could be actively used for recreation." Jason Shutt was also quoted as saying, "It's not just more land that's going to the racoons and the deer." Sakai Park is in the right location and has the size to support both active and passive uses. The Park District's mission statement is, "...to build a healthy community through effective, sustainable stewardship of the District's parks and open space, and through development and delivery of innovative cultural and recreation opportunities." This vision can be accomplished by sharing community owned assets via operating a joint effort between the Park District and the tennis community, and prioritizing experiences of all age groups while working collaboratively to expand the level of service. The tennis community was tasked by the Park District board to show need, present a plan, and raise funds and this presentation is their response. Through a public/private partnership the promise of Sakai Park can be built on and the tennis community offers continued support.

David Chichester has lived on Bainbridge Island for about twenty years and is an avid user of Park District facilities. He lived in five other communities before moving here and compared to other places he has lived he believes the one resource Bainbridge Island is short on as far as public facilities are concerned is tennis courts. He belongs to Bainbridge Athletic Club but would like to have more opportunities to play on outdoor tennis courts, for which availability is limited. He would like to see the project move forward with a combination of public and private funding to increase the capacity and to serve the community of tennis players of all ages.

Julie Riely said her mother-in-law is English and when she used to visit Bainbridge Island, she would note that nobody here walked. It is a tribute to the Park District and other community-minded organizations that infrastructure for a trail system has been created on the island and that people are now getting out and walking more. During the same time, Julie Riely has been playing and coaching tennis and while she has seen the need grow, the infrastructure has shrunk. If you build the infrastructure you get people exercising more, which fits with the Park District's mission. She would like the board to think about the presentation tonight, re-read the letters of support that were sent in from the community, remember the vision for the voter approved bond that was passed to acquire Sakai Park, and to consider putting two tennis courts in a central location near other courts, schools, and in the most densely populated area.

Rick Sheppard has lived on Bainbridge Island with his family for thirty years and they play tennis on outdoor public courts. He likes the idea of having a "Central Park" like location on Bainbridge Island. Recently he has gotten his son and grandchildren to play tennis and it has been a wonderful multi-generational family activity. They most often play at Strawberry Hill Park and sometimes at Battle Point Park, they have had to wait a couple times to use the tennis courts. He has observed that tennis courts are good to have in conjunction with other amenities so the whole family has something to do, he has seen older kids play on the tennis courts while younger siblings play on the playground. Sakai Park is a good location as it is close to schools and the library and is easy to get to on foot or on a bicycle, leading to more exercise and less

carbon burning. He asked the board to consider two tennis courts at Sakai Park, which he believes are very important to the community. He feels there are not enough public access tennis courts currently to meet the needs of the growing demand.

Edith Cobourn moved to Bainbridge Island two years ago from Atlanta where she played competitive tennis for many years. She wanted to find a fun and social tennis opportunity on Bainbridge Island and when she saw an ad for Bainbridge Community Tennis Association she joined and has played with them regularly ever since. Through tennis she has met many wonderful people and formed friendships. The BHS tennis courts are unplayable in the winter due to water, except for the top two. Now in the spring they play mostly at Battle Point Park and must stand in line and wait for a tennis court. Bainbridge Community Tennis Association has made her feel like part of the community and helped her feel at home. It would be wonderful to add two more tennis courts to a central location on Bainbridge Island.

Loanne Harmeling played a short audio/video clip of part of the BHS tennis team expressing their support for more tennis courts. They are away at a match today so neither they nor their parents were able to attend this meeting.

Harvey Gilbert said that he has an active tennis playing family that moved to Bainbridge Island about twelve years ago. This last year access to tennis courts has been problematic due to the coronavirus pandemic, as interest in outdoor activities has increased and tennis accommodates for social distancing. The addition of two courts would make tennis more accessible for more people and would be greatly appreciated by the tennis community.

Charlie Hanlon and his wife are retirees who have made Bainbridge Island their permanent home as of last September. They love it here and tennis is very important to them. He has learned that Bainbridge Island is increasingly a destination for retirees. Retirees are very important to a diverse culture and the economy and he believes that the community would want to do things to attract more retirees. Being retired opens weekdays for recreation and when BHS is in session the options for tennis are extremely limited. He believes it is critical to increase the investment in tennis courts as last Tuesday at 1:00 pm there were three groups of players vying for the two tennis courts at Battle Point Park. Adding two tennis courts would be a beneficial investment for the community and help in continuing to attract retirees.

Keith Butler said that unlike a lot of court sports, tennis can be played by people of almost any age. It provides an opportunity for all ages to congregate and be active which makes what you can get from investing in a couple more tennis courts distinctive.

Commissioner Janow thanked Loanne Harmeling and the other speakers and asked for input from commissioners. Commissioner DeWitt inquired as to if the interest group has a good estimate for what the cost of the tennis courts would be. Loanne Harmeling said that would depend on the kind of courts and how much work needs to be done to prepare the ground for building the tennis courts. The low estimate is \$175,000 for two asphalt type tennis courts. Until the interest group gets some direction from the board to move forward it does not make sense to get specific bids. Commissioner DeWitt said that he recalls the board being told that once active development of Sakai Park begins that all the ground drainage infrastructure would have to be put in. That will need to be considered, as it would affect the scope of the commitment and therefore the decision. Executive Director Terry Lande said once development starts all the infrastructure such as parking, sewer, bathrooms, and entrance must be put in place and that be determined by what the entire plan for Sakai Park is. Commissioner Kinney said if the City of Bainbridge Island requires a lot of infrastructure including a bathroom the interest group should think about if they want to wait and still move forward at Sakai Park or if they would prefer to move forward more quickly at a different location. Loanne Harmeling said they were hoping to get started on building two tennis courts at Sakai Park without an obligation to infrastructure and asked where another location would be. Commissioner Kinney said Battle Point Park is an option or perhaps Strawberry Hill Park. Commissioner Janow suggested looking at Gideon Park. Loanne Harmeling said that Battle Point Park is great and there should have been more tennis courts built there years ago, Gideon Park is too small, and trees would have to be removed at Strawberry Hill Park. She said

the issue is that most of the population in the future is planned to be in Winslow; when you put tennis courts in other locations it requires people to drive and does not allow for kids to play. She thinks the board needs to consider what makes sense as far as providing courts in a location that reduces the need to drive and makes public facilities available to the public. Commissioner Janow said that she hears and supports the need for tennis courts but there will not even be a Sakai Park Advisory Committee until this fall. In the current master plan for Sakai Park the multi-purpose court indicated is scheduled to be the last thing developed. It is not a bad idea for the interest group to keep their minds open to other potential tennis court sites. Commissioner Swolgaard suggested that staff find out exactly what the City will require regarding infrastructure. Terry Lande said staff will check with the City regarding infrastructure requirements and with some contractors regarding costs for excavation, building two tennis courts, and installing required infrastructure. Commissioner Swolgaard said that the City took out the two tennis courts that used to be in Waterfront Park and asked if the interest group has thought to ask the City to put them back.

Anthony Gibbons said Waterfront Park was purchased with open space funds and is therefore deed restricted which may make it difficult to add tennis courts.

There was consensus from the board to look further into building tennis courts at Sakai Park and staff was directed to follow up with the City regarding infrastructure requirements. Loanne Harmeling was asked by Commissioner Janow to consider other potential sites for tennis courts as a back-up plan.

**CITY OF BAINBRIDGE ISLAND SHORELINE MASTER PROGRAM REVIEW PROCESS WITH COBI SENIOR PLANNER PETER BEST:** Senior Planner Perry Barrett introduced City of Bainbridge Island Senior Planner Peter Best who is overseeing the review process for the City's Shoreline Master Program. Peter Best presented an overview of the scope of and process for the state mandated eight-year SMP review process and how it intersects with and has already begun to be coordinated with the Park District. The SMP review process is much more limited and focused than the comprehensive update that happened in 2014. The SMP is a comprehensive and broad management program for shorelines with goals and policies that are formally part of the City's comprehensive plan, it also serves to implement regulations, and to implement programs such as the Shoreline Stewardship Program. The SMP is not just a City document, it is jointly adopted and administered by the Washington State Department of Ecology. Public participation is foundational, and goals include providing objective information, opportunities to contribute ideas and provide feedback, and to make the review process accessible and engaging. There is an interactive online project center which provides relevant documents, history, policy white papers on aquaculture and flood risk from sea level rise, and opportunities for engagement via surveys. Anticipated revisions for the SMP include clarifying and reorganizing, substantive revisions consistent with existing policy or law, and new substantive revisions. New substantive revisions include aquaculture, flood risk due to sea level rise, and updates to aquatic shoreline designations. Flood risk due to sea level rise is an urgent issue as it will increasingly manifest impacts over time and accelerate. Early steps in addressing this issue will likely be policy objectives and mechanisms for dealing with the objectives such as early adaptation planning for and long-term transition out of at-risk neighborhoods. Regarding aquaculture the City is working with state law, policies, and regulations to achieve compliance. There is a potential for conversation with the Park District regarding one emerging idea to increase interest in recreational shellfish harvesting, as the Park District owns a substantial number of tidelands. Another idea is to use aquaculture techniques to reestablish and enhance native species. The City is currently in the early policy input phase in which Perry Barrett is participating. With the input gathered there will be a technical writing phase, then they will seek City Council support, have a public hearing, a comment period, and a review process. Following that process there will be a joint review between the planning commission, City Council and Ecology before the SMP is adopted by the City Council and Ecology. City staff will continue to meet with Perry Barrett and Park Services Division Director Dan Hamlin and the inter-agency group to avoid any inconsistencies between how different agencies manage shorelines. Formal input from the Park District will be accepted in the comment period, the earliest that

comment period might happen would be in July, with final adoption likely to happen in May of 2022. Commissioner DeWitt said that regarding the emerging idea to increase interest in recreation shellfish harvesting that shellfish harvesting was banned at Fay Bainbridge Park due to major eel grass bed damage, and he is concerned about the Park District's ability to protect its shorelines. Peter Best said it would be up to a land holder, who has the rights and responsibilities, to make that decision however the policy could support the option. The relationship of education and the cultural significance of being able to access the shoreline and resources like shellfish was the topic of a lot of discussion in the citizen stakeholder focus group. Commissioner Swolgaard thanked Peter Best for his presentation.

**RESOLUTION 2021-01: 2021 LEVY LID LIFT:** Administrative Division Director Amy Swenson thanked the Park District's bond counsel, Alice Ostdiek with Stradling Law Firm, for being present at the meeting tonight. Alice Ostdiek briefly reviewed how the Park District has worked over the years to have a stable and consistent tax revenue source to fund basic operations. In 2004 the Park District transferred through voter approval into a metro park district, which set the levy lid lift rate to the maximum of 75 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value. By 2008 the levy lid lift had decreased to about 58 cents due to how state law caps levy growth. The agency proposed and the voters approved for the levy lid lift to go back to the limit of 75 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value in 2008. Today the levy lid lift has fallen again and is at about 59 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value. Two options for a resolution to put another levy lid lift before the voters were discussed at the April 1 board meeting, a one-year option and a multi-year option. The multi-year option would give the Park District six years of stable funding by allowing the Park District to increase using a limit factor such as an inflationary measure over the five years following restoration in the first year of the levy lid lift to the limit of 75 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value. The direction from the board was to pursue the multi-year option linked to the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) as the inflationary factor, with a limited purpose for renovations, maintenance, and operations, and exempting qualified low-income senior citizens and persons with disabilities. In the board packet this week is the levy lid lift resolution which was drafted and would be put before the voters as a ballot measure to allow the restoration of the levy lid lift back up to 75 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value that was originally approved in 2004 and again in 2008. The maximum levy lid lift rate for 2022 would be 75 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value. The limit factor from 2023-2027 would be set at CPI-W for the Seattle, Tacoma, Bellevue statistical area. The limited purpose on the incremental increase would be for maintenance, repair, operation, programming, and facilitating public use and access but would not be used for major expansions of existing facilities or acquisitions of new properties. In 2027 the base would be established that the Park District would use going forward which would increase in the following years at the statutory 1% plus new growth.

Commissioner Janow clarified that in section 3 sub section A of the resolution it says 17 cents and needs to be changed to 16 cents. Commissioner Swolgaard said in that case the resolution needs to be updated to say the levy lid lift would increase by approximately \$136 per year on a \$850,000 home.

Bainbridge Island Parks Foundation Project Director Barb Trafton asked if with the proposed levy lid lift the money that was going towards acquisition from the 2008 levy lid lift would no longer go towards acquisition. Alice Ostdiek said it means that the increment that is approved could not be used for acquisition, but other Park District funds could and that the restriction that was on the previous levy lid lift would be lifted. Amy Swenson said that the board could still choose to put the remaining 59 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value towards acquisition. Commissioner Swolgaard clarified that it is just the 16 cents that is limited.

Alice Ostdiek presented changes recommended by Commissioner DeWitt for the verbiage in section 1 sub section E to read, "The Board has determined that, without the restoration of this levy, the revenues that will be available to the District in the future will be insufficient to provide the level of services that the District provides and the community expects and desires. The Board has therefore determined that it is in the best interest of the District and its residents to submit this levy lid lift proposition to the voters for their approval or rejection."

**MEETING ADJOURNED** to a five-minute recess at 7:49 pm with announced time to reconvene at 7:54 pm. **MEETING RECONVENED** at 7:54 pm.

**MSC: Kinney/Swolgaard: Amend resolution 2021-01 consistent with two changes. The first change to section 1 sub section E so that it reads, “The Board has determined that, without the restoration of this levy, the revenues that will be available to the District in the future will be insufficient to provide the level of services that the District provides and the community expects and desires. The Board has therefore determined that it is in the best interest of the District and its residents to submit this levy lid lift proposition to the voters for their approval or rejection.” The second change to section 3 subsection A so that it reads, “Compared to the current levy rate (59¢ per \$1,000), this represents an increase of 16¢ per \$1,000 of assessed value or approximately \$136 per year on an \$850,000 home.”**

**MSC: Kinney/DeWitt: Approve resolution 2021-01 regarding the levy lid lift as amended.**

**BRISTLE RIDGE EASEMENT TRANSFER:** Senior Planner Perry Barrett said that this easement is related to the easement approved for transfer last year for the Blakely Hills trails. Originally the Bristle Ridge easement was to be part of that transfer to connect Blakely Harbor Park to the Blakely Hills trails. Bainbridge Island Parks Foundation Project Director Barb Trafton said this is another one of the trails that Kelly Sampson, through his various developments at Blakely Harbor, had planned through the permitting process to connect Blakely Harbor Park to the Blakely Hills trails but was not originally designated to the public. Barb Trafton thanked the board for continuing to be supportive of increasing trail connectivity around the island. Commissioner DeWitt asked if this completes all the easements that were being worked on in that area. Barb Trafton said this is the upper trail that goes from Blakely Hill Road to where the Blakely Hills trails come out. There is another trail from Southern Cross Road to where Blakely Hill Road and Halls Hill Road meet. While that trail is public, nobody is mandated to maintain it unless the City of Bainbridge Island feels it is not being maintained, at which point they can require the owner of the property to maintain it. At some point the owner may decide to transfer that trail rather than maintain it themselves.

**MSC: DeWitt/Swolgaard: Move to approve the transfer of the Bristle Ridge trail easement from the Bainbridge Island Parks Foundation to the Park District.**

#### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Administrative Division:** Administrative Division Director Amy Swenson said the 2018-2019 audit went well and is going to end soon. Commissioner Janow and Commissioner DeWitt are on the Finance Committee and will participate in the audit exit conference.

**Recreation Division:** Recreation Superintendent Bryan Garoutte said the spring break All-Day Explorer Camp had 14 kids enrolled which is the largest group ever enrolled in an All-Day Explorer Camp. A creative writing class returned to being held virtually due to instructor preference and was therefore able to accommodate for more participants to enroll in the class. Participation is growing for Green Kids Adventure Fridays, a program which started this winter. Pottery classes are full for the spring session; however, staff is in the process of hiring a new pottery instructor and is hoping to expand pottery programming. The mountain biking program that goes to Port Gamble is now running for the first time since the coronavirus pandemic began. The Park District may host one or two Wilderness First Aid Responder trainings with the National Outdoor Leadership School this summer and fall. A spring sailing program will start in May, this is the first time spring sailing has been offered. The Boston Whaler that was stolen from the Waterfront Park dock is now locked securely to the dock. Spring soccer will begin on Saturday. In-person fitness classes restarted this week. Three men's softball teams have signed up so far, and senior softball will most likely start late in hopes that more people will be vaccinated for COVID-19. Gymnastics spring classes are mostly full, and work is being done to accommodate people on the waitlists. Spring break gymnastics clinics were well attended, and participants had a great time. The girls' gymnastics team has a virtual

competition this weekend which is hosted in Maryland. Schedules are being reworked to accommodate the Bainbridge High School gymnastics team which will begin to meet in two weeks. Aquatic Program Administrator Megan Pleli just finished hosting a lifeguard class and will be hosting another one in a couple of weeks, she is hoping to hire five new lifeguards. She is also in the process of hiring a new head lifeguard and is hoping to fill the Aquatic Program Coordinator position sometime soon. Active Ault fitness classes are back to meeting in-person and have grown from five to ten participants. Active Adult Program Manager Sue Barrington is in the process of interviewing two new art instructors to expand programming. Community Outreach Coordinator Emily Swift has been helping at the Aquatic Center front desk and is doing research for a volunteer management system. Sponsorships for events are being sought, Puget Sound Energy has decided not to sponsor any events until they are back to being held in-person. The Passport to Parks & Trails program is getting positive feedback from participants in all age groups. Marketing Coordinator Allie Smith just finished work on the summer catalog which has been posted online.

Park Services Division: Park Services Division Director Dan Hamlin said the Trails Advisory Committee meeting focused on discussion regarding community input on the proposed mountain bike trails in the Grand Forest North in preparation for the presentation and update for the May 6 board meeting. The TAC also talked about the first project for the interlocal agreement with the City of Bainbridge Island regarding trails which will be the farm trail from Lovgren Road to Day Road, staff is hoping to get that project started this year. Staff is planning to bring the memorandum of understanding that has been developed with the Kitsap Public Utility District for work to be done in their easement in Gazzam Lake Nature Preserve to the May 6 board meeting. Earth Corps is working on the Blakely Harbor Park restoration project and will begin work on trails tomorrow. The KidsUp! Playground renovation project continues to move forward with construction of the ferry boat play feature and staff is hoping to hold some volunteer work parties for some of the elements on the ferry boat. The software program previously used by Park Services staff to manage and assign work was found to be cumbersome, a new program called Cartegraph that interacts with geographic information system software will be launched soon. The Parkland Acquisition Committee had a meeting and staff will be bringing reappointment of PAC members to the board as an agenda item by the end of May. Senior Planner Perry Barrett said the sailing float request for qualifications is delayed while staff does some additional research. He recently joined Port Blakely Tree Farms on a site investigation at Blakely Harbor Park and they will return tomorrow for further investigation of one site. He asked commissioners to let him know if they want copies of the City of Bainbridge Island's policy white papers regarding aquaculture or sea level rise. Commissioner DeWitt asked that they be placed on the Park District's website.

#### **BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:**

- Commissioner DeWitt said he attended a Bainbridge Island Parks Foundation meeting at which Executive Director Terry Lande made a presentation regarding the levy lid lift. The Parks Foundation approved a grant for about \$12,000 to use goats to help clear the City of Bainbridge Island's portion of the Sound to Olympics trail going from High School Road to the Sakai Park property line.
- Commissioner Kinney said regarding the proposal for building two tennis courts at Sakai Park that there are tremendous permitting hurdles for this project. He encouraged the interest group to think about what the community need for tennis courts will be ten years from now. If the interest group projects growth in need, he suggests looking at alternate locations to get something done sooner than later and for a lower cost than at Sakai Park.
- Commissioner Kinney said he has been enjoying all the emails the board has received from the community regarding the proposed mountain bike trails in Grand Forest North, which have been illuminating.
- Commissioner Swolgaard said he wonders if the City of Bainbridge Island would partner with the Park District to build tennis courts, as part of the problem is that two tennis courts were eliminated from Waterfront Park.



- Commissioner Janow said she is hopeful that something can be figured out regarding new tennis courts sooner than later even if does not happen at Sakai Park. She likes the idea of talking to the City of Bainbridge Island and possibly partnering with them on this project.

**MEETING ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 8:26 pm for discussion of real estate with announced time to reconvene at 8:46 pm.

**MEETING RECONVENED** at 8:46 pm and **ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 8:46 pm for continued discussion of the above items, with announced time to reconvene at 8:56 pm.

**MEETING RECONVENED** at 8:56 pm and **ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 8:56 pm for continued discussion of the above items, with announced time to reconvene at 9:06 pm.

**MEETING RECONVENED** at 9:06 pm and **ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 9:06 pm for continued discussion of the above items, with announced time to reconvene at 9:11 pm.

**MEETING RECONVENED** at 9:11 pm and **ADJOURNED** at 9:12 pm.

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

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dawn Janow

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Board Vacancy

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kenneth R. DeWitt

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
John Thomas Swolgaard

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jay C. Kinney