

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT  
 REGULAR BOARD MEETING January 19, 2023  
 BAINBRIDGE ISLAND RECREATION CENTER**

**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, Tom Swolgaard.

**MISSION STATEMENT:** Commissioner Kinney read the Park District’s mission statement: The mission of the Bainbridge Island Metropolitan Park & Recreation District is to build a healthy community through effective, sustainable stewardship of the District’s parks and open space, and through the development and delivery of innovative cultural and recreation opportunities.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Clay Roberts spoke in support of repurposing the shared tennis courts at Battle Point Park to pickleball courts and building an additional tennis court at Strawberry Hill Park so the tennis community will still have two adjacent courts.

Emma Cameron spoke in support of expanding the days and hours for Kids Club at Bainbridge Island Recreation Center.

Nikos Spiliopoulos spoke with concern about the location of the restroom being installed at the Marshall Road entrance to Gazzam Lake Nature Preserve.

Theodore Saloutos spoke about the access agreement with the neighbors at the Marshall Road entrance to Gazzam Lake Nature Preserve.

Gina Weibel requested that the Park District be respectful of the neighbors of Gazzam Lake Nature Preserve.

Scott Lawrence said his concern is that the Park District work with the City of Bainbridge Island to have the end of Marshall Road paved.

Dale Spoor said he is in support of working out a solution for where the restroom at Gazzam Lake Nature Preserve is going to be located and to address the problem of people leaving bags of dog waste along the trail.

Terry Resnik said that the two locations marked for the restroom at Gazzam Lake Nature Preserve are not good.

Executive Director Terry Lande said the restroom that will be put in at the Marshall Road entrance to Gazzam Lake Nature Preserve will be placed within park boundaries and that there may be constraints with where the restroom can be located due to the conservation easement.

**BOARD CONSENT**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Upon hearing there were no corrections to the minutes of the January 5, 2023 regular board meeting, Chair Kinney stated the minutes stand approved as submitted.

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

Batch Date	Fund Number & Name	Warrant Numbers	Total Batch Amt	Pre-Approved
01/05/23	001 General Fund 300 Capital Improvement Fund	24314	56,629.97	01/05/23
01/11/23	001 General Fund 300 Capital Improvement Fund	24315-24329	19,587.22	01/11/23

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

**BATTLE POINT PARK CELL TOWER LEASE TO UNISON:** Park Services Division Director Dan Hamlin said several offers have been received over the years to buy out the AT&T cell tower lease on the Battle Point Park water tower. Unison has proposed to lease the cell tower from the Park District for one lump sum payment or 10 equal installments over either 15- or 30-year periods. Unison would increase the lease footprint below the water tower by 300 square feet and add their own apparatus and the Park District would receive 65% of the profits of any new customers Unison brings on. Park District Attorney Hayes Gori has vetted the documents and the AT&T lease allows the Park District to do this. Commissioner Janow asked how the 300-foot easement expansion at the bottom of the tower would affect the public. Park Services Superintendent David Harry said staff can confirm, but there is probably no desire to move the easement out from the area underneath the water tower. Commissioner Janow said it would be important to know how much additional revenue would be earned. Commissioner Kinney said the only reason to do it would be to fund a Capital Improvement Fund project and that it is no different than getting a loan. Executive Director Terry Lande said staff has more work to do before making a recommendation and noted that this offer is not going to go away. The board agreed to have staff continue to evaluate the offer.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Administrative Division:** Administrative Division Director Amy Swenson said the 2020-2021 audit entrance conference was held today. The auditor's office made staff aware that they received a hotline complaint about Park District employees receiving a free pass to Bainbridge Island Recreation Center and they will investigate it as a gift of public funds. They said the other hotline complaint they received about the purchase of intangible property in regard to the purchase of BIRC is not within their jurisdiction.

**Recreation Division:** Recreation Superintendent Bryan Garoutte said that staff will be hiring a floor monitor for busy times at Bainbridge Island Recreation Center. The transition to the new Tennis Bookings software is going well. Exercise and fitness classes at BIRC are very full and more are being offered. Spring soccer league will begin March 11. The gymnastics department has been able to hire new staff and therefore able to move patrons off the waitlists and into classes. Outdoor Program Manager Stacey Stoner earned her wilderness first responder certification. The first middle school dance since the pandemic will be February 4. Recreation Division Director Mark Benishek said that staff opened two additional classes in response to demand for after school robotics. He commended all the recreation staff for their work to move as many patrons as possible off waitlists and into programs by expanding class sizes or adding sections.

**Park Services Division:** Park Services Division Director Dan Hamlin said they are meeting weekly with the consultant for the Strawberry Hill Park plan. The Martin Luther King Jr Day of Service event had about 175 participants and was well received. Staff continues communication with City of Bainbridge Island staff regarding playground permits. Denise Stoughton has met with the Bainbridge Island Historical Society which has agreed to archive the letters received by the proposed Kindred Spirit Mailbox and there is a volunteer to build the structure. Location will be the next discussion if the board decides to move forward with the proposed project. Senior Planner Perry Barrett has been working on the Williams-Olson Park permitting process.

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS:**

The board agreed to reschedule the board retreat to Thursday, March 23 from 5:00-8:00 pm.

## **BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:**

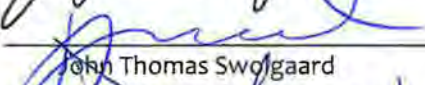
- Commissioner Janow recommended withdrawing from the troll project due to increased demands from the builder and the board agreed.

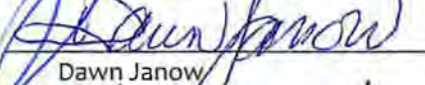
- Commissioner Swolgaard said the Trails Advisory Committee has changed their meeting time to one that does not work with his schedule so he would like to withdraw as a board liaison to that committee. **MSC: Janow/ Swolgaard: Remove Commissioner Swolgaard from the Trails Advisory Committee and add Commissioner DeWitt for 2023.**
- Commissioner Swolgaard said he has two grandsons participating in the Park District's basketball league.
- Commissioner DeWitt asked about the status of the Grand Forest West restroom. Executive Director Terry Lande said it will be installed Tuesday morning.


MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:35 pm.

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

BY:   
 Jay C. Kinney

BY:   
 John Thomas Swolgaard

BY:   
 Dawn Janow

BY:   
 Kenneth R. DeWitt

ATTEST:   
 Tom Goodlin