

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT
 REGULAR BOARD MEETING February 2, 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, Tom Goodlin, Dawn Janow, Jay Kinney, Tom Swolgaard.

ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA: Move item 40.2 the 2022 Integrated Pest Management Review to the beginning of General Business. Insert an executive session for real estate and legal for thirty minutes before item 40.1 Resolution 2023-02 for the Comcast Property.

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

Edith Cobourn spoke in support of retaining the tennis courts at Battle Point Park for tennis because they dry faster than the tennis courts at Strawberry Hill Park.

BOARD CONSENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon hearing there were no corrections to the minutes of the January 19, 2023 regular board meeting, Chair Kinney stated the minutes stand approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS: MSC: Janow/Swolgaard: 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
01/23/23	001 General Fund 300 Capital Improvement Fund 310 Land Acquisition Fund	24417-24480	147,862.43	01/23/23
01/31/23	001 General Fund 300 Capital Improvement Fund 310 Land Acquisition Fund	24481-24571	161,934.52	01/31/23
	001 General Fund (January Payroll)	EFT & 3072-3080	556,566.36	

GENERAL BUSINESS

2022 INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT REVIEW: Natural Resources Manager Lydia Roush shared the ways that invasive weeds were managed in 2022 and how staff plans to manage them in 2023. She reviewed ways to manage invasive species such as cultural, mechanical, biological, and chemical controls. Chemical controls are used when the other methods are not working, when they are not economical or effective, or when the invasive populations are just too big. Last year staff asked for an expanded capacity to treat invasive species with herbicides because Kitsap County’s noxious weed coordinator position was vacant. That position is still vacant and therefore Park District staff will need to continue to manage invasive species in parks at a more elevated level than in the past. All the natural resources staff are now licensed pesticide applicators. She recapped the ways staff addressed invasive species in parks in 2022. Herbicide was applied to less than 0.006% of Park District land to control invasive and broadleaf vegetation in eleven parks. Using manual labor, more than half

of which was done by volunteers, more than 340 yards of invasive species were removed. Staff mowed about 34 acres of Park District land in both the summer and fall. Staff and volunteers spread over 130 yards of mulch. Staff provided education information about invasive and native plant species at over 50 events. In 2023, because the noxious weed coordinator position is still vacant, staff will again be looking to have an expanded capacity to use chemical applications on invasive species in parks. Staff has received a grant from the Bainbridge Island Parks & Trails Foundation to pay to bring goats in again at Blakely Harbor Park to help manage invasive species. Another grant received from BIPTF will fund boot brush stations at several trail heads so that hikers can remove any seeds they may have picked up before traveling to another location. Park Services Division Director Dan Hamlin said it is important to note that what staff has and will be asking for permission to treat is just to keep up with the work that was being done by Kitsap County's vacant noxious weed coordinator position.

MEETING ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 6:20 pm for discussion of real estate and legal with announced time to reconvene at 6:50 pm.

MEETING RECONVENED at 6:50 pm and **ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 6:50 pm for continued discussion of the above items, with announced time to reconvene at 7:10 pm.

MEETING RECONVENED at 7:10 pm.

RESOLUTION 2023-02: COMCAST PROPERTY: Park District Attorney Hayes Gori said before the board is a resolution for consideration as to whether to initiate formal condemnation proceedings for an approximately 10-acre property on High School Road adjacent to Strawberry Hill Park. The appropriate notices have been published in the Bainbridge Island Review and the Seattle Times. A few days ago, a third-party reached out to Hayes Gori to express an interest in purchasing part of the property for their private use and negotiating a deal for the Park District to receive the remainder of the property which would be about 8-9-acres. The third-party wants 1-2 acres including the existing building on the property. He asked the board to consider whether there was any interest in condemning less than the entirety of the property. Commissioner Kinney said the Park District wants the entire property as there is great public need for the entire parcel and is not willing to entertain the third-party request. Commissioner Goodlin said it would diminish the utility of the property if a piece was broken off of it. Commissioner Janow said there is great public need for additional facilities and this property is right in the center of town. Commissioner Goodlin said Strawberry Hill Park's planned usages are being evaluated right now and there is a lot of need in the center of the island for public facilities, and it is important to have the whole thing. Hayes Gori noted that the Park District's Condemnation Attorney Jeff Taraday is on speakerphone, but not physically present at this meeting.

MSC: Janow/Swolgaard: Motion to adopt Resolution 2023-02 to condemn the property on High School Road to include the following amendments: 1) section 5.1, third line, first sentence, strike the word "damages," 2) section 5.1, strike the entire second sentence, 3) section 6.2, strike the rest of the sentence after the word "errors." Commissioner Janow emphasized how much this property would enhance Strawberry Hill Park. Commissioner Goodlin said it is an opportunity that can not be passed up, especially due to the fact that it is so centrally located. Commissioner Kinney said the property is adjacent to Strawberry Hill Park which is an active use park and more space is needed. It is important to keep in mind that the Park District did not want to assert eminent domain, but Comcast was more interested in selling the property to a developer, so the board decided to do this to preserve it for the community.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Park Services Division: Park Services Division Director Dan Hamlin said that staff now has all the parts to finish reconstruction of the Blakely Harbor Park restroom which was vandalized. Staff has been working on pruning at Fort Ward Parade Grounds. There will be a preapplication meeting with City of Bainbridge Island staff regarding the Strawberry Hill Park turf field. Staff has confirmed with Bainbridge Island Football Club that there is no issue with putting up permanent fencing at Hidden Cove Ballfields as requested by Little League, so that project will move forward. Permitting is still

underway for Williams-Olson Park and is now underway for restrooms at Gazzam Lake Nature Preserve and the west Grand Forest.

Recreation Division: Recreation Division Director Mark Benishek said the new motor for the lazy river in the Don Nakata pool was installed. There will be a lifeguard instructor course at the Aquatic Center this weekend taught by the American Red Cross. Open swims have been averaging 80 to 100 participants which is the highest numbers seen since before the COVID-19 pandemic. There were two distressed swimmer rescues at the Aquatic Center meaning that young kids were too far from their parents to be properly supervised. However, lifeguards recognized the situations and jumped in before there was a medical emergency. It was noted that Aquatic Center staff is doing a great job with prevention. The weekend head lifeguard has resigned his position having been offered a full-time position closer to where he lives. Recreation Superintendent Bryan Garoutte said the first draft of the summer recreation catalog was due this week. The January fitness activity challenge winner at Bainbridge Island Recreation Center won a free session of personal training, tennis, or aerial yoga. Dodgeball open gym had twenty participants last week. About 90% of patrons placed on gymnastics waitlists got into programs due to new staff being hired. Saturday there will be a middle school dance at BIRC with 110 kids already preregistered. This is the first middle school dance since before the COVID-19 pandemic.

Administrative Division: Administrative Division Director Amy Swenson said staff is looking at new accounting software options. The Park District's 2020-2021 audit continues.


Executive Director Terry Lande said there is more going on in the agency right now and planned for in the near future than ever before.

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:

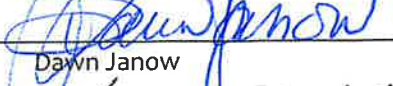
- Commissioner DeWitt said that he has some concerns about elected bodies doing a better job communicating with each other on the island. Especially the Park District's Board of Commissioners and the City Council. He and Commissioner Janow have talked about this, and they would like to move forward with increasing communication with the City Council about what the issues are and how the two agencies can work better together. It was noted that Commissioner DeWitt and Commissioner Janow are the board liaisons to the City of Bainbridge Island, and it is within their authority in that role to move forward as proposed.
- Commissioner Janow said that the affordable housing stakeholder group meeting will be at the end of February.
- Commissioner Janow said that the troll project is back on the table as an option. The Scan Design Foundation has agreed to everything Commissioner Janow asked for to allow the project to move forward on Park District property. The Scan Design Foundation will be the lead agency and the Park District will be the hosting agency for the troll. The board agreed to allow the project to proceed.
- Commissioner Goodlin said he skimmed the report about the Ray Williamson pool and is looking forward to the staff presentation regarding it at the next board meeting.
- Commissioner Kinney said the Norwegian ambassador played pickleball with Governor Jay Inslee at the Founders Courts at Battle Point Park. Ideas are being discussed with stakeholders regarding how to move forward with the issue of providing courts for both pickleball and tennis and it will probably be an agenda item.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:06 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