

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT
 REGULAR BOARD MEETING June 15, 2023
 BAINBRIDGE ISLAND RECREATION CENTER**

CALL TO ORDER: A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by Chair Kinney.

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

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE: Commissioner Kinney said that he plays pickleball and he will recuse himself if there is a vote on agenda item 40.1, Presentation Regarding Tennis and Pickleball Court Locations.

MISSION STATEMENT: Chair 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.

BOARD CONSENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon hearing there were no corrections to the minutes of the June 1, 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
05/18/23	001 General Fund 300 Capital Improvement Fund	25604-25673	54,900.78	05/18/23
05/22/23	001 General Fund	25674-25688	37,737.27	05/22/23
05/26/23	001 General Fund 300 Capital Improvement Fund	25689-25759	54,096.25	05/26/23

GENERAL BUSINESS

PRESENTATION REGARDING TENNIS AND PICKLEBALL COURT LOCATIONS: Park Services Division Director Dan Hamlin said in 2008 the Bainbridge Community Tennis Association approached the board with a request for 4-6 additional tennis courts at Battle Point Park. They were directed by the board to develop more of a plan. The board also expressed a concern regarding preparations for a master plan update for Battle Point Park. In 2009 BCTA proposed three additional tennis courts. The board decided to wait for the Battle Point Park master plan to be updated and encouraged BCTA to work with the Bainbridge Island School District and to participate in the master plan update process. In 2010 the master plan update process concluded and the BCTA proposal was reduced to two additional tennis courts at Battle Point Park. The board passed a motion to wait to add anything at Battle Point Park until it was decided if the maintenance facility would remain in the park or not. Outdoor public tennis court availability was impacted in 2015 when the School District closed the high school campus during school hours, a policy which the Park District supports. There have been conversations about making the tennis courts available to the public during school hours because they are fenced, but there has been no change in policy. In 2016 pickleball got a footprint on the tennis courts at Battle Point Park, impacting the availability of those courts for tennis. Tennis expressed concern about the pickleball lines at that time as well as the condition of the courts and the lack of courts. There was a claim that the tennis courts were heavily used and not available when people showed up to play. Staff did a condition assessment and determined they were safe for functional play, although they have been resurfaced a couple of times since then. A use study was conducted by staff that found at the time that the courts were used for tennis

42 out of 308 available hours between 9:00 am and 8:00 pm. Both courts were occupied by tennis players for four of the 308 hours. Therefore, it was determined at that time that there was no need for additional tennis courts. In 2016 tennis courts made the top ten list for potential uses for Sakai Park. Tennis courts were also noted as a possibility for Sakai Park in the Park District's 2020 comprehensive plan.

The big impact on the shared tennis courts at Battle Point Park has been the growth of pickleball. The pickleball group approached the Park District in 2017 with a plan for three additional pickleball courts. They were directed to contact BCTA to see if they could collaborate. In 2018 the pickleball groups reported that tennis was not interested in working with them. Tennis was also continuing to build an interest in having tennis courts at Sakai Park. In 2019 pickleball use on the shared tennis courts had increased to a point where staff saw evidence that pickleball was impacting the ability for tennis players to use the courts. The pickleball group requested to convert the Battle Point Park shared tennis courts to pickleball courts. Staff suggested a solution by offering to build two tennis courts at Strawberry Hill Park in addition to the one already there so that there would be a total of three tennis courts together. At that time BCTA said they wanted to maintain the use of the shared tennis courts at Battle Point Park and continue to work towards building tennis courts at Sakai Park. In 2019 staff conducted another use study which showed that tennis use was consistent with the original study in 2016 while there was a large increase in pickleball use with courts being used by pickleball more than 40% of the available hours which was more than double the use by tennis. Staff recommended working with the pickleball group to build dedicated pickleball courts at Battle Point Park. In 2020 six pickleball courts were built at Battle Point Park.

The tennis courts at Battle Point Park have remained multi-use with tennis having priority. Since 2021 BCTA officially requested tennis courts be built at Sakai Park and the Bainbridge Island Recreation Center was purchased by the Park District. The Strawberry Hill Park concept plan was also completed which determined that on the existing footprint, building tennis courts would require the removal of many high value trees and impact parking needs. A study was conducted that found that tennis courts would be appropriate at Battle Point Park, Sakai Park, and Strawberry Hill Park. Since that time Strawberry Hill Park has been removed from the list due to the need to remove high value trees to build multiple courts. There is a need to limit additional impervious surface at Battle Point Park due to stormwater concerns. It was recently decided by the board to build two tennis courts at Sakai Park which helps the Park District meet the Recreation and Conservation Office's grant conditions and staff believes it is the best location for two new tennis courts at this time. The School District's restrictions and pickleball use have impacted the hours for tennis on outdoor public courts. While pickleball play has increased exponentially and tennis play has remained consistent, conflicts on the shared tennis courts have increased. There is an issue because both user groups want to play on the courts at the same time and a solution is needed. A no net loss scenario for tennis courts is a priority for the Park District.

Commissioner Janow said the courts at Sakai Park will be dedicated for tennis and will not be multipurpose. Commissioner DeWitt asked about the status for permitting and planning those courts. Dan Hamlin said staff has had communication with the City of Bainbridge Island and the request for qualifications will be launched soon for a stormwater engineer which is the first step to getting the permitting started. Commissioner Swolgaard asked Dan Hamlin to elaborate on the stormwater management issues at Battle Point Park. Dan Hamlin said when the six pickleball courts were built staff utilized the south pond for stormwater and staff oversized the capacity of it at that time. However, since then the neighbors south of the park have had stormwater issues due to the heavier winter rains that have been happening. The City of Bainbridge Island has made the Park District aware that if Battle Point Park goes through a review process for additional impervious surface that they will be looking for more expensive stormwater solutions. Commissioner Swolgaard asked what the price range for the solutions would be. Dan Hamlin said the Park District would have to keep the water on site. The cost for the stormwater management plan for Strawberry Hill Park is in the hundreds of thousands. Commissioner Janow asked about parking at Battle Point Park during peak racquet sport hours. Dan Hamlin said parking is at a premium and staff have put in an

overflow parking area and there are some ideas to increase parking. Commissioner DeWitt asked if permanent parking at Battle Point Park would open stormwater management issues as well. Dan Hamlin said if permanent parking was installed it would trigger stormwater management.

Paul Sullivan, Bainbridge Community Tennis Association board president, spoke in support of maintaining the status of the shared tennis courts at Battle Point Park.

Charles Hanlon spoke in support of maintaining the status of the shared tennis courts at Battle Point Park.

Harvey Gilbert spoke in support of an online court reservation system.

Melissa Bang-Knudsen spoke in support of turning over the shared tennis courts at Battle Point Park to pickleball on July 1.

Steve Jensen spoke in support of converting the shared tennis courts at Battle Point Park into pickleball only courts.

Krysta Barton spoke in support of more space for pickleball on Bainbridge Island.

Clay Roberts spoke in support of more quality pickleball courts.

John Shae spoke in support of converting the shared tennis courts at Battle Point Park into pickleball courts.

Dawn Snider spoke in support of maintaining the shared tennis courts at Battle Point Park, at least until the tennis courts are built at Sakai Park.

Loanne Harmeling spoke in support of tennis.

Susan Oblak spoke in support of maintaining the status of the shared tennis courts at Battle Point Park.

Edith Cobourn spoke in support of maintaining the status of the shared tennis courts at Battle Point Park.

Kathleen Dassel spoke in support of maintaining the status of the shared tennis courts at Battle Point Park.

Erin Phillips spoke in support of sport specific sites and in support of pickleball.

Jennifer Friedrichwood spoke in support of maintaining the status of the shared tennis courts at Battle Point Park.

Youth George Vaughan spoke in support of pickleball.

Bill Walker spoke in support of painting pickleball lines and putting pickleball nets on all the tennis courts on the island.

David Starkman spoke in support of pickleball.

Mark Mumm spoke in support of pickleball court access.

Pete Prekeges spoke in support of tennis courts.

Youth Briar Grappone spoke in support of tennis courts.

Scott Bailey spoke in support of recreational opportunities for both tennis and pickleball.

Therese Caouette spoke in support of pickleball.

Paul Simpson spoke in support of tennis.

Connie Ballou spoke in support of building additional tennis courts at Battle Point Park instead of Sakai Park.

Marc Garcia spoke in support of maintaining the status of the shared tennis courts at Battle Point Park.

Lise Newman spoke in support of turning the shared tennis courts over to pickleball by July 1.

Nancy Nolan said the board got rid of the two tennis courts at Waterfront Park and spoke in support of tennis courts.

Commissioner Swolgaard said the Park District did not remove the tennis courts at Waterfront Park that was the City of Bainbridge Island. He thinks that the community needs to work together and make the court situation work for everyone. **MSC: Swolgaard/Janow: Motion to form a committee under the direction of staff with a member or two of the board as ad hoc to try to work out the issues to try to get them resolved. Commissioner Kinney abstained.** Commissioner Janow thanked everyone for spending time with the board making public comments. She thinks a lot of good ideas have come out of this and wants to see everyone work together as neighbors. She would like to see the board turn the issue back over to staff. Commissioner DeWitt said he has a concern about turning over the shared tennis courts to pickleball right away. He does not think it is fair to tennis. Once the new tennis courts are built, he may have a different approach. It will take time for permitting and construction of the two tennis courts at Sakai Park. He thinks there is a great opportunity for pickleball to participate in the Bainbridge Cup and he understands the growth of pickleball and that needs to be accommodated for as well. Commissioner Kinney said this seems like an operational issue which should be turned over to staff to decide. He knows that the staff have been living with the pickleball/tennis issue for fifteen years. **MSC: Janow/DeWitt: Motion to supersede the previous motion to direct Executive Director Terry Lande to meet with two representatives from pickleball and two representatives from tennis and staff to resolve the issue regarding shared courts at Battle Point Park. Commissioner Kinney abstained.** Commissioner Swolgaard asked Commissioner Janow about her concern with board members being on the committee. Commissioner Janow said that she believes it is a programming issue and that usually goes to staff and that it is not an issue that the board should necessarily be involved in. Commissioner Kinney said there is clearly a problem with Battle Point Park, it is not easy to build a lot of extra courts because it is crowded. There are parking issues, and any more impervious surfaces will create a major problem with stormwater which will be very expensive to manage. A few years ago, the problem was temporarily solved when no courts were taken away from tennis and six new pickleball courts were built. Pickleball is really growing but nobody wants to reduce the number of tennis courts. It is a very tough issue and clearly no decision will be made tonight. He asked for patience and understanding as it is not an easy issue to settle and thanked everyone for coming.

MEETING ADJOURNED to a ten-minute recess at 7:51 pm with announced time to reconvene at 8:01 pm. **MEETING RECONVENED** at 8:01 pm.

STEMPER ARCHITECTURE COLLABORATIVE UPDATE ON RAY WILLIAMSON POOL RENOVATION: Park Services Superintendent David Harry introduced Stemper Architecture Collaborative President Melody Leung and Project Manager Lalo Bello. They were hired to do the initial condition assessment, cost estimate, and to put together a preliminary schedule. Melody Leung said the comprehensive condition assessment was submitted to the Park District previously along with a general costing of the 16 critical items that need to be addressed for the Ray Williamson pool to remain open and to extend the life of systems that are in danger of shutting down and failing at an unknown point. After the 16 critical items were identified and approved, a construction schedule was developed. Costs may rise due to the current construction situation. Lalo Bello said the construction schedule is focused on 16 critical tasks. The strategy is to time the construction for the period of the year when the outdoor pool at Bainbridge Island Recreation Center is available. Pool closure is inevitable, and the schedule will be revised once a contractor is on board. The goal is to have construction start in the spring and go through late fall. Starting construction in spring of 2024 would require an aggressive schedule for design and permitting would have to go smoothly. Melody Leung said the schedule was specifically designed around the programming of the Ray Williamson pool. It is an idealistic compressed schedule, and it cannot be a committed schedule because there are some elements such as discovered conditions that are out of Stemper's control. These unforeseen elements are fully expected to come up in a 1970's pool renovation. It is critical that Stemper can move forward with the design work and coordinating so that permitting can be done as soon as possible. The design phase will allow Stemper to determine a more exact construction cost. Commissioner Kinney asked if all the tasks will be done as concurrently as possible. Lalo Bello said that would be ideal, but it is going to depend on the contractor. Melody Leung said that during the design phase Stemper can

put in special conditions for critical periods and schedules that are important to programming. When work with a general contractor begins critical path items and long lead items will be noted up front so that they can determine how their crew can come together to meet the schedule. Commissioner Janow asked if Stemper has had success with other projects working on an expedited timeline. Melody Leung said with some of the public pools that they have had experience with in Seattle conditions were discovered that did put the timeline behind schedule, but they will work with the contractor to ensure that work does not stop. Lalo Bello said that some of the pools had delays but some of the pools reopened sooner than expected. Commissioner Swolgaard asked how an eight-month shut down of the pool will work with programming. Executive Director Terry Lande said staff did identify the period when there will be the least impact on programming. However, it will still have a large impact and staff are working to see how the Don Nakata pool and the BIRC pool can help alleviate that. The alternative is to continue using it until it breaks down. Commissioner Swolgaard said he appreciates that Stemper tried to get as many tasks scheduled in the same period as possible.

CONTRACT WITH STEMPER ARCHITECTURE COLLABORATIVE: Senior Planner Matthew Keough said the Park District hired the expertise of Stemper Architecture Collaborative to do a full conditions report and facility investigation. They have positioned themselves and the Park District well for the best results possible. There is a lot of confidence in their work and their understanding of the Ray Williamson pool conditions. They went through the risk assessment and cost estimates and presented them to staff. When the request for qualifications went out in April of 2022 it spoke to needing a firm that could take the project through design and more. Stemper has proven to the Park District that they are well positioned to be able to continue the work. Before the board is an amendment to an existing contract to be able to move the project forward through design, construction administration, and oversight of the project. It is a large amendment and a large moment. With the additional work ahead of Stemper and the original \$111,000 contract, the amended total contract will come to \$591,000. The project schedule is aggressive through construction to minimize closures and get the project ahead of failure of systems and it takes a team at this contract rate based on construction costs for a big project. Staff recommend the contract amendment. **MSC: Janow/Swolgaard: Motion to approve the second amendment for professional services with Stemper Architecture Collaborative.** Commissioner Janow thanked everyone for their due diligence and work on this and said there is some community concern about the time the pool will be closed but staff understand that. She is committed to making this project work and getting the community a pool that will last for the next twenty years. Commissioner Swolgaard emphasized making every effort to get the construction done as quickly as possible.

RESOLUTION 2023-05: REPEALING RESOLUTION 2022-08 REGARDING COVID-19 POLICY FOR EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS: Executive Director Terry Lande said that to repeal a previous resolution, a resolution is required. The intent is to keep the Park District up to date with Washington State and the federal government regarding retreating on the COVID-19 requirements. **MSC: Janow/DeWitt: Motion to pass Resolution 2023-05 a resolution of the board of commissioners regarding the employee and volunteer COVID-19 policy.**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TERRY LANDE'S VACATION LEAVE: Commissioner Kinney said when Executive Director Terry Lande was on vacation recently, he spent a lot of time basically working remotely. It is unfair to give him vacation leave and then have him spend up to six hours a day on the phone while he is with his family. **MSC: DeWitt/Janow: Move to restore two weeks of Executive Director Terry Lande's vacation.** Commissioner Swolgaard said he appreciates Terry Lande and everything he does for the Park District. Commissioner DeWitt said it is important to restore a good part of that vacation time.

STAFF REPORT

Park Services Division: Park Services Superintendent David Harry said that the Pritchard Park memorial bench project is well on its way but is getting held up by supply chain issues. Park Services Division Director Dan Hamlin said the Williams-Olson Park permit has been received. Permits have been submitted for the Fort Ward Parade Grounds playground.

Recreation Division: Recreation Superintendent Bryan Garoutte said the fall catalog will be online July 17 and the first day of registration will be Saturday, August 12. Boaters Fair was last weekend. The Fort Ward Community Hall grand opening is this Saturday at 10:00 am. New Aquatic Program Administrator Jenette Reneau has started.

BOARD MEMBER REMARKS:

- Commissioner Swolgaard asked if the Park District will have a float in the 4th of July parade. Recreation Superintendent Bryan Garoutte said yes.
- Commissioner Swolgaard said he took three of his youngest grandsons on a hike to the Kindred Spirit Mailbox.
- Commissioner Swolgaard asked about the status of lifeguard staffing levels. Recreation Superintendent Bryan Garoutte said the Park District's lifeguard staff level is good and there is a class going on right now to train eight lifeguards.
- Commissioner DeWitt said the Great Ferry Race was Sunday.
- Commissioner DeWitt said he attended a Trails Advisory Committee meeting on Monday.
- Commissioner Kinney read Commissioner Goodlin's comments into the record:

1. Following the Stemper Architectural Collaborative presentation at the regular board meeting on February 16, 2023, members of our board requested that staff provide a prioritization of Stemper's 15 critical scope items for the Ray Williamson Pool to identify those that most urgently need to be addressed to avoid a shutdown through mechanical failures. Identifying priorities would aid our decisions on which scope items are essential to address now and which may be considered for implementation at a later date.

2. I believe the schedule circulated in our current packet, which shows a 9-month shutdown for Ray Williamson Pool repairs, is untenable to most Parks and school sports and training programs at the Aquatic Center. If we can select specific repair items from a priorities list to complete in the upcoming year, then it should be possible to shorten the planned shutdown.

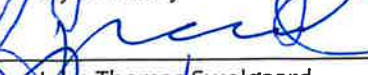
3. Our board requested staff at the regular board meeting on June 1, 2023, to proceed with a community survey that will gauge public support for larger capital projects, with results anticipated this fall. Wouldn't the results of the survey help our board to consider the appropriate balance between expenditures to repair the Ray Williamson Pool and the potential investment in a larger replacement pool? If so, then waiting on existing pool non-urgent repairs seems well advised.


- Commissioner Janow said she attended the Bainbridge Island Parks & Trails Foundation meeting on June 6.
- Commissioner Janow attended the Dog Advisory Committee meeting on Monday.
- Commissioner Janow said the Walks with the Commissioners program was rescheduled for June 25.
- Commissioner Janow said she will be at the Park District booth at the Farmers' Market this Saturday.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:41 pm.

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

BY: 
Jay C. Kinney

BY: 
John Thomas Swolgaard

BY: 
Dawn Jahow

BY: 
Kenneth R. DeWitt

ATTEST: 
Tom Goodlin