

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING May 16, 2024  
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND RECREATION CENTER**

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

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

**MISSION STATEMENT:** Vice-Chair Janow 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**

Clay Roberts said there was a recent article about a regional pickleball facility in Poulsbo and he does not want that to get confused with the goal to build covered outdoor pickleball courts on the island. He asked about the status of the tennis courts planned to be built at Sakai Park. Senior Planner Matthew Keough said the permitting process required the tennis court plans to be revised and resubmitted due to a stream buffer. There has been a preliminary review, and the project still has the potential to be out for bid this summer.

Edith Cobourn said that the tensions between the tennis and pickleball players at the shared tennis courts at Battle Point Park are down if not gone at this point and she requested that the board consider not turning the shared tennis courts into pickleball courts for at least a year after the new tennis courts at Sakai Park are built.

**BOARD CONSENT**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Upon hearing there were no corrections to the minutes of the May 2, 2024 regular board meeting, Vice-Chair Janow stated the minutes stand approved as submitted.

**APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS: MSC: DeWitt/Kinney: 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
04/25/24	001 General Fund	27786-27787	63,782.33	04/25/24
04/30/24	001 General Fund	27788-27843	87,884.62	04/30/24
05/10/24	001 General Fund	27844-27879	86,160.72	05/10/24

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**RAY WILLIAMSON POOL RENOVATION BOND DISCUSSION:** Acting Executive Director Dan Hamlin said that after the May 2 board meeting there were questions from staff and the public about the intent of the Ray Williamson pool renovation bond. Staff need clarification of the intent to hold question and answer sessions about the bond.

Dan Hamlin reviewed a brief history of the project starting with the March 7 board meeting at which a motion was passed by the board regarding how to fund Phase I and Phase II A to renovate the pool in the existing configuration. At the March 21 board meeting a motion was passed by the board to seek an 8–10-million-dollar bond to fund Phase II B of the project. At the April 4 board meeting the board learned that a campaign committee was forming, and a significant number of people showed up in support of Phase II B. Staff brought a draft resolution authorizing a bond issue to the board at the April 18 board meeting that was flexible should costs escalate due to discovered conditions. At the May 2 board meeting Resolution

2024-04 was passed by the board after being reviewed and discussed at length. The discussion about the flexibility of the language left it up in the air as to what the board's intention for the bond is. Staff are now looking for clarification regarding the goal of the bond as well as what criteria could lead to a decision to change that goal. Staff are continuing to update the frequently asked questions document and are preparing an operational impact presentation for the board as well as preparing for question-and-answer sessions with the public.

Joy Archer said that over the last several weeks many people came forward to show support for expanding the Ray Williamson pool and now the campaign committee needs clarification of the intention of the bond to support their efforts to campaign and fundraise for the project. She also asked for a public question-and-answer forum regarding Phase II B.

Ken Bennett asked for clarification of the board's intention for the Ray Williamson pool renovation since the resolution language was noncommittal and for a public forum or two detailing Phase II B with a question-and-answer period.

Commissioner Goodlin said Phase I and Phase II A will go forward with Park District funds and loans without the need for a bond measure. Pursuing Phase II B requires a bond and that was the genesis of discussion about the bond measure. The resolution was written so as not to bind the agency in case the situation evolved making it difficult for the agency to follow through. Commissioner Kinney said if the bond passes, he would interpret that to mean the public wants the Park District to add two lanes if it is possible. If the project ends up costing significantly more than 10 million dollars it may not be possible. If the tank is redone, then the entire pool will be brand-new and hopefully the Park District will get another 50 years out of it. This is the chance to make the pool bigger to serve the public for the next 50 years. Commissioner DeWitt said that one of the reasons the bond issue is worded the way it is, is due to the rush to get this project permitted under the International Building Code in effect as of March 15. He joined the board right after the bond issue for the Don Nakata Pool was passed. The estimates were way below the actual cost for that project and he is concerned about a circumstance like that. The intent is to expand the Ray Williamson pool if the bond passes but there are still unknowns related to the groundwork that could impact cost. Dan Hamlin said he reached back out to Stemper Architecture Collaborative, and they verified that the estimate remains between 10-12 million dollars for Phase I and Phase II B. The bond would only cover 10 million dollars but as of today there are 2.5 million dollars in reserves that have been committed to the project. Commissioner Janow said she understands that there is a desire and a need, but it is a huge community investment into a facility that is subsidized. She voted for Resolution 2024-04 authorizing the bond measure to be on the ballot as it is written because of the flexibility it allows for. **MSC: Goodlin/DeWitt: Move the following: should the Ray Williamson pool renovation bond measure created through Resolution 2024-04 be approved by the voters on the August 6, 2024 ballot, then the board hereby clarifies that its intent is to expand the Ray Williamson pool to an eight lane width and create an even depth of 6.5 feet so long as the construction is financially feasible. Commissioner Janow opposed the motion.**

**MEETING ADJOURNED** to a five-minute recess at 7:04 pm with announced time to reconvene at 7:09 pm. **MEETING RECONVENED** at 7:07 pm.

**PUGET SOUND ENERGY EASEMENT AT SAKAI PARK:** Park Services Superintendent David Harry said this is the same Puget Sound Energy easement for Sakai Park the board saw at the April 18 board meeting this year and staff would like the board to move forward and approve the easement. **MSC: Kinney/DeWitt: Move to approve the easement to grant to Puget Sound Energy at Sakai Park.**

**PUGET SOUND ENERGY EASEMENT AT PRITCHARD PARK:** Park Services Superintendent David Harry said that this Puget Sound Energy easement request facilitates the transmission line across Pritchard Park onto the Wyckoff site which the City of Bainbridge Island owns. The PSE easement with COBI was included in the board packet as information because the Wyckoff site will be transferred to the Park District in the future. The easement area is already in use, this is part of an effort by PSE to formalize their easements.

## **STAFF REPORT**

**Recreation Division:** Recreation Division Director Madison Collins said staff is working to accommodate people who were waitlisted for summer programs with expanded offerings while also putting together the fall recreation catalog. The men's steam room at Bainbridge Island Recreation Center was renovated and has reopened. Recreation Superintendent Bryan Garoutte said the recent middle school dance had 103 participants.

**Park Services Division:** Senior Planner Matthew Keough said the Ray Williamson pool renovation is moving forward with a bid opening for Phase I on May 21. After that there will be a schedule negotiation with the lowest bidder that meets the criteria. Staff received word today that the permit for the batting cage at Strawberry Hill Park will be issued in the morning. Staff has a strategy to comply with setback requirements for the Grand Forest West parking lot which would elongate the shape of the parking lot. Park Services Superintendent David Harry said the parking lot needs to be squeezed between a stream buffer and a right-of-way setback. Park Services Superintendent Lydia Roush said that staff are working to submit the building permit for the bike park at Strawberry Hill Park. There is a strong level of interest from students in participating in the Student Conservation Corps this summer. The City of Bainbridge Island now has all the permits for the Farm Trail and work on that will begin soon. Park Services Superintendent David Harry said staff are continuing to make progress at Williams-Olson Park and at the storage area near the new administration building. The contract has been awarded for the septic system at Hilltop. One bid was received for relining the Don Nakata pool and it came in over the budgeted amount so staff will be bringing it to the board for approval as a lower bid is not anticipated were it to be reopened.

Acting Executive Director Dan Hamlin said last Saturday was the final session of Imagine Bainbridge. It was an interesting session and good forum for networking and collaborating within the community.

## **BOARD MEMBER REMARKS:**

- Commissioner DeWitt said last Saturday he was in the Grand Forest during the Trillium Trail Run. It was fun to watch and neat to see families participating in the event.
- Commissioner DeWitt thanked Senior Planner Matthew Keough for the update on the batting cage at Strawberry Hill Park during the staff report.
- Commissioner DeWitt said he attended the work party at Moritani Preserve today and it was a lot of fun.
- Commissioner Kinney said he has also been to Moritani Preserve lately and it is quite an improvement, the same can be said for the tree thinning at Strawberry Hill Park.
- Commissioner Kinney asked if notice has been given to the Battle Point Park neighbors yet about the upcoming presentation to the board from the pickleball community for covered courts as Battle Point Park is their preferred location for covered courts. Acting Executive Director Dan Hamlin said not yet, but it will be going out.
- Commissioner Janow gave kudos to staff for the forestry work being done and said there is passion in the community for trees, and the environment.
- Commissioner Janow went to the recent Egleddale Pottery Studio sale. She said that studio produces amazing art and the breadth of what the Park District does is incredible.
- Commissioner Janow said Bouy, the Seattle Kraken mascot, is coming to the roller hockey rink at Battle Point Park on Saturday.

**MEETING ADJOURNED** at 7:49 pm.

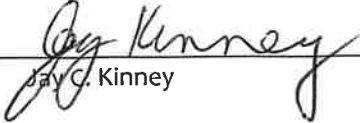
Helen Stone  
Dan Hamlin  
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN

PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT

BY:   
John Thomas Swolgaard

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

BY:   
Kenneth R. DeWitt

BY:   
Jay C. Kinney

ATTEST:   
Tom Goodlin