

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING June 20, 2024
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND RECREATION CENTER**

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

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ken DeWitt, Tom Goodlin, Dawn Janow, Jay Kinney (phoned in only for executive session), Tom Swolgaard.

ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA: Add an executive session for personnel.

MISSION STATEMENT: Chair Swolgaard 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

Mark Mumm spoke in support of speeding up the timeline for the conversion of the shared tennis courts at Battle Point Park into pickleball courts as the pickleball community is paying for the conversion and suggested that the Battle Point Park project could be completed by the same contractor who builds the new tennis courts at Sakai Park directly after they are built to save time and money.

Acting Executive Director Dan Hamlin said at the August 3, 2023 board meeting a communication from the tennis community was shared in which the tennis community agreed to give up the shared tennis courts at Battle Point Park after the new tennis courts are built at Sakai Park. The agreement also included the understanding that the Battle Point Park shared tennis courts would continue to be multiuse until the new tennis courts are constructed.

Commissioner Goodlin asked if the Park District will be contracting out both projects. Dan Hamlin said yes, the bid package is out for the tennis courts at Sakai Park, and it would delay the tennis court project to try to combine the two projects in one bid. The work for the refurbishment of the courts at Battle Point Park will also be bid out. Commissioner Swolgaard said the Park District made an agreement with the tennis community to not shut down the shared tennis courts until the new courts are finished. Commissioner DeWitt said the Park District must go with the lowest responsible bidder so the two projects may or may not have the same contractor. Mark Mumm asked that staff make the effort to communicate the upcoming project to the contractor for the tennis courts.

Loanne Harmeling said that she knows no decision has been made but it seems like the winds are shifting for making the home of pickleball at Strawberry Hill Park in which case perhaps the shared tennis courts at Battle Point Park could remain as such.

BOARD CONSENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon hearing there were no corrections to the minutes of the June 6, 2024 regular board meeting, Chair Swolgaard stated the minutes stand approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS: MSC: DeWitt/Janow: 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
05/22/24	001 General Fund 300 Capital Improvement Fund	27921-27960	36,323.76	05/22/24

05/29/24	001 General Fund 300 Capital Improvement Fund	27961-27983	46,779.63	05/29/24
05/30/24	001 General Fund 300 Capital Improvement Fund	27984-28017	133,133.64	05/30/24
06/07/24	001 General Fund 300 Capital Improvement Fund	28018-28041	28,454.77	06/07/24
6/10/24	001 General Fund 300 Capital Improvement Fund	28042	55,429.27	06/10/24
06/11/24	001 General Fund 300 Capital Improvement Fund	28055-28085	100,098.77	06/11/24
	001 General Fund (May Payroll)	EFT & 3295-3303	700,449.62	

GENERAL BUSINESS

PRESENTATION REGARDING POTENTIAL USE OF BAINBRIDGE ISLAND RECREATION CENTER POOL DURING RAY

WILLIAMSON POOL RENOVATION CLOSURES: Recreation Division Director Madison Collins said this presentation explores potential impacts to Bainbridge Island Recreation Center if the BIRC pool is used temporarily to accommodate displaced swimmers during closures for the renovation of the Ray Williamson pool. Factors for which more information is needed include the construction timeline, dates of closure, off-site pool availability, and contractor needs/updates. There are currently more active BIRC memberships than there have been since the Park District took over operation of the facility. There are also people who access the facility by using a daily pass or a punch pass. BIRC also houses services including fitness classes, racquet sports, and other programs that people can pay to attend even if they do not have membership or a pass. Possible pros and cons surrounding pool use, finances, and user experience were mentioned. BIRC is a busy place and bringing in the displaced swimmers during the Ray Williamson pool renovation would alter current operations and reduce the number of non-pool offerings at the facility. Staff anticipates that if the displaced swimmers are accommodated at BIRC that there will be an overall decrease in BIRC revenue to support additional expenses associated with expanded pool offerings.

Acting Executive Director Dan Hamlin said this is a snapshot of what BIRC staff know about the facility as a baseline for a future presentation about potential plans for the aquatic community during the closures. Commissioner Goodlin said pool temperatures matter and competitive pools are generally cooler than recreation pools so maybe the BIRC pool temperature could be turned down during the Ray Williamson renovation closure. He thinks the high demand for parking at BIRC is, of the things that were mentioned, one of the hardest things to figure out.

NAMING OF PARK OR TRAIL IN HONOR OF CHUCK FIELD: Commissioner DeWitt said Chuck Field was the director of the Bainbridge Island Park & Recreation District for 18 years until 1998 when he retired. Chuck Field was the second longest serving head of the Park District and he passed away in 2023. Commissioner DeWitt thinks it would be appropriate to name a facility in his honor. Multiple options have been explored but Commissioner DeWitt supports naming something in the Grand Forest East as Chuck Field considered the Grand Forest his greatest achievement as director of the Park District. The bond issue for over 5 million dollars to purchase the Grand Forest passed with over 80% approval, the highest approval of any bond in Bainbridge Island history. The board generally agreed to direct staff to work on a resolution naming the Grand Forest East loop trail after Chuck Field.

BOARD MEETING LOCATION: Acting Executive Director Dan Hamlin said there has been conversation about moving board meetings back to Strawberry Hill Center. Administrative staff will be moving back to Strawberry Hill Park in the fall. Staff propose moving the board meetings back to Strawberry Hill Center as of September and the commissioners did not object.

STAFF REPORT

Administrative Division: Assistant Executive Director Amy Swenson said 123 employees have been onboarded or are in the process of onboarding since May 1. The Don Nakata slide staircase replacement bid came in today and is underbudget.

Park Services Division: Senior Planner Matthew Keough said State Representative Greg Nance will be visiting Sakai Park on July 1 with people from the Recreation and Conservation Office. Park Services Superintendent Lydia Roush said Earth Corps was working on trails last week thanks to a grant from Bainbridge Island Parks & Trails Foundation. Volunteers helped replant the entrance on the southwest corner of Moritani Preserve. Student Conservation Corps starts next week, and the program remains popular. Crews are busy trying to keep up with mowing grass. She met with BIPTF's membership circle last week to talk about the Park District's Integrated Pest Management program. Thanks to the forest thinning work done at Strawberry Hill Park earlier this year, light is filtering through the canopy and the understory is developing with sword fern coming up.

Recreation Division: Recreation Division Director Madison Collins said staff have been working to train the new summer recreation staff and noted that summer camps start on Monday. Commissioner Janow asked how the changes to summer camps have been received. Madison Collins said no camps have had to be canceled yet due to low enrollment and the waitlists are smaller.

Acting Executive Director Dan Hamlin said staff held the first of two informational meetings regarding the Ray Williamson pool renovation bond measure this week. Staff are updating the presentation and the frequently-asked-questions document based on feedback from the first meeting. The Friends of the New Bainbridge Pool have scheduled an open house to share their feasibility study regarding a new private pool with the community. Staff met with Port Blakely Company about the remedial investigation performed regarding the cleanup of Blakely Harbor Park. The first Sounds of Summer concert at Battle Point Park is scheduled for July 10 and the first of the summer's Movies in the Park events will be on August 2. The Don Nakata pool will be shut down July 27-September 1 for the liner replacement project.

BOARD MEMBER REMARKS:

- Commissioner Janow asked if there is an update on the Battle Point Park bathroom replacement. Acting Executive Director Dan Hamlin said staff are waiting on the septic system design and a new drain field is needed.
- Commissioner Janow said she was visiting Pia the troll at Sakai Park the other day, and she thanked staff for posting notices that tennis courts are going to be built in the park. She said the northwest trolls group is planning a birthday party for the trolls and asked if the Park District wants to participate; Acting Executive Director Dan Hamlin said he would speak to staff about that.
- Commissioner DeWitt said on Sunday, June 9 there were a lot of runners in the Grand Forest, on the Forest to Sky trail, and at Battle Point Park for the Great Ferry Race and participants he spoke with had a wonderful time.
- Commissioner DeWitt said he attended Park Services Superintendent Lydia Roush's talk about the Park District's Integrated Pest Management program with Bainbridge Island Parks & Trails Foundation's membership circle.
- Commissioner DeWitt said there was a pretty good turnout at the first informational meeting for the Ray Williamson pool renovation bond measure.
- Commissioner DeWitt said he will be at the Park District booth at the Farmers' Market on Saturday.
- Commissioner Goodlin said he had a meeting with Bainbridge Island School District Board President Mark Emerson. Mark Emerson attended the informational meeting for the Ray Williamson pool renovation bond measure and made a nice statement about public agencies working together to help the community.

MEETING ADJOURNED to a three-minute recess at 7:12 pm with announced time to reconvene at 7:15 pm. **MEETING RECONVENED** at 7:15 pm.

MEETING ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 7:15 pm for discussion of real estate and personnel with announced time to reconvene at 7:45 pm.

MEETING RECONVENED at 7:45 pm and **ADJOURNED** at 7:45 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