

# SPOKANE PARK BOARD

Regular Monthly Meeting – 1:30 P.M. – May 10, 2012 – City Council Chambers

## Minutes

1. Roll Call: *Jacki Faught*

Park Board Members Present: Randy Cameron, President; Jim Quigley, Vice President; Jim Santorsola; Ross Kelley; Susan Traver; Ken Van Voorhis; Andy Dunau; Sam Selinger; Mike Allen, Council Liaison

Park Board Members Absent Excused: Martha Lou Wheatley-Billeter; Chris Wright (joined the meeting at 3:10 p.m.)

Staff Present: Nancy Goodspeed; Taylor Bressler; Mike Aho; Carl Strong; Garrett Jones; Tony Madunich

2. **Motion No. 1:** Jim Quigley motioned to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2012 Regular Park Board meeting.  
Ross Kelley seconded.  
Motion carried.

3. Additions or deletions to the agenda: None

4. **Monthly Highlights** – *Randy Cameron, President*

- A. Three public meetings for the Riverfront Park Master Plan will be held from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. on May 24<sup>th</sup> at West Central Community Center, May 29<sup>th</sup> at Southside Senior Center and May 31 at Hillyard Senior Center.
- B. Urban Forestry and Stormwater Management have selected Davey Resource Group to conduct a complete street tree inventory for the City.
- C. Pre-season lap swim begins Monday, May 14, at Witter Aquatics center and will run Monday – Friday from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- D. Parks and Recreation is now featuring a great package promotion with a unique evening of splendid wines, a spectacular SkyRide, and incredible food, the “Wine, Ride and Dine”.
- E. Riverfront Park is again featuring live pony rides for kids on Saturdays and Sundays.
- F. Graffiti continues to be an ongoing problem for our parks facilities.
- G. With a renewed emphasis on advertising and marketing to help generate new revenue, staff has developed banner graphics to enhance and promote Parks and Recreation programs.
- H. The Park Bench Café in Manito Park will open for the season on May 18<sup>th</sup>. Daily hours of operation are 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- I. Completion of the Cliff Park Lookout Project is expected in mid-June with a ribbon-cutting and neighborhood celebration scheduled for June 14<sup>th</sup>.
- J. The public is invited to an open house for Wildfire Awareness Week tomorrow, May 11, 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at Finch Arboretum.
- K. “To the Arctic”, “Tornado Alley,” and “Rescue” will be playing in the IMAX Theatre through the summer.
- L. Downriver Golf Course held three tournaments in the last three days. Esmeralda picked up an additional tournament and was up 960 rounds from April of last year. Indian Canyon is

up in April rounds from last year.

- M. Golf adult lessons sold out for the spring. Another series has been added for June at all four courses.

5. **VISITORS**

A. Spokane Youth and Senior Centers Association Update

Bonnie McDade, Executive Director, Southside Senior Community Center noted that the current activity guide offers only 15 classes specifically for those age 50+, the fastest growing demographic in the world. In Spokane it is currently 33% of the population and will grow to 50% of the population by 2014. This prompted her to look at the offerings at Corbin, Hillyard, Mid-City Concerns, Sinto and Southside for the same quarter as the activity guide. During that same time period these five centers offered over 1,300 classes and activities. The 15 classes offered in the activity guide are ones at Corbin, Sinto and Hillyard. With Sinto and Hillyard's director's being Parks employees they consider those classes Parks and Recreation generated activities and classes. Parks and Recreation are getting over 1,300 classes offered by the centers for less than 2% of their overall budget and Bonnie feels that is a lot of "bang for your buck".

Kim Ferraro, Executive Director, West Central Community Center, spoke about the benefits of recreation for youth. Recreation promotes good health, creates good relationships with family and friends, teaches appreciation of nature, helps children develop important interpersonal and physical skills, builds self esteem, and enhances education. These are all really positive outcomes that result when young people have positive role models, live in a safe environment and aren't neglected. The other side of recreation is deterrence, and this notion is at the heart of the youth and community centers here in Spokane, West Central, East Central, Peaceful Valley & Northeast Youth Center. These centers serve the most at risk of the population, at risk youth. The children usually come from single parent households well below the poverty level with multiple children in the home and most are latchkey children. They have easy access to drugs and alcohol. Gang recruitment is ongoing. Boredom and truancy leads to other crimes and risky behavior like cigarette smoking and sexual activity. According to a recent study by the Spokane Regional Health District the West Central community ranks number one in teen pregnancies in the county. In the top 10 are Hillyard, Emerson Garfield, Browne's Addition and East Central, all communities that are served by the centers. Most of those served at the centers don't have the resources that would enable them to access the offerings in the activity guide. The centers serve hundreds of at risk youth. The centers work with the schools and collaborate with other agencies as well.

- B. Nancy McKerrow, Founder, gave a brief history of The Susie Forest which was created in memory of her daughter Susie Stephens, a bicycle and pedestrian safety advocate who was killed in 2002 while walking across the street. Over 300 The Susie Forest trees have been planted locally, nationally and internationally with 204 of these trees have been planted in the Spokane area. Many of the trees have been planted in Riverfront Park. A.M. Cannon, Downriver Park, Elliot Drive, Indian Canyon Park, Peaceful Valley Conservation Area, Underhill Park, Glover Field, and Ruth Park all celebrate their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. Nancy would like to see a tree planted in each of these parks to celebrate. In the past trees have been planted in honor of the City's employee of the month and Nancy would like to see that program begin again. She also suggested that a tree be planted in honor of Park Board members after they have served their terms and are no longer on the Board. Susan Traver noted that most of the trees in the City's historic districts were planted in the

early 1900's as part of the City Beautiful movement that was sweeping across the nation in response to industrialization of parts of the cities. It was a way of trying to get back to nature. A lot of cities, including Spokane, invested hundreds of thousands of dollars in planting the trees. Many of them are still around today, outliving what would be their normal lifespan.

- C. Bridget Piper, President, Friends of the Moore-Turner Heritage Gardens (FMT), gave the 2011-2012 report. FMT is dedicated to supporting the continued preservation and on-going maintenance of the Moore-Turner Heritage Gardens (MTHG) and the Corbin Art Center (CAC) through community education, volunteer organization and fundraising events. FMT provided \$12,175.99, which included a Spokane Preservation Advocates grant of \$4,500, toward the \$30,925.69 cost of re-roofing the D.C. Corbin House. In the gardens, FMT gave \$1,458 for a timber structure stain project and approximately \$500 for seeds and plants. They hosted a reception for the dedication of the signs renaming Pioneer Park to Edwidge Woldson Park. FMT held the Put the Garden to Bed event in early October to encourage new membership. In February the FMT Board gave a retirement reception for Corbin Art Center Director, Lynn Mandyke in honor of Lynn's extra role overseeing the MTHG research, reconstruction and a new "Friends" group. On Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, "Sunday Afternoon in the Gardens", a friend-raiser to celebrate the opening of the gardens will be held. The board is working on media such as rack cards for hotels, their heritagegardens.org website and other networking to share the amazing story of the gardens.

6. **Motion No. 2:** Andy Dunau motioned to approve claims for the month of April 2012 in the amount of \$1,105,353.69.
7. Financial Report – *Rebecca Madany*
- A. Park Fund Revenue is at 82% of the year to date budget. Expenditures are at 83% of year to date budget.
- B. Golf Fund revenue is at 98% of year to date budget. Expenditures are at 100% of year to date budget. This is the second highest April in the past 5 years.
8. **SPECIAL DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS** – None
9. **FOUNDATION REPORT** – Marilyn Thordarson, Interim Executive Director, reported that the Foundation has been involved with many of the projects mentioned by Nancy McKerrow and Bridget Piper. The Foundation is celebrating their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. There will be an article in the Spokesman Review tomorrow on the Foundations history and current role. The current appeal at \$20K has received \$6K with a portion of the funds restricted and most of the funds unrestricted. The Grants Committee finished its work. Letters will be mailed today. \$36,305 was awarded this year, with many receiving 100% of the amount requested. The trustees and the board are looking at the Foundation's role, processes and location. They are looking at fiscal sponsorships and would like to close some no longer active small scholarships. The endowment campaign has been moving very slow.
10. **COMMITTEE REPORTS** – Park Board Action Items
- FINANCE COMMITTEE** – May 8, 2012 – *Andy Dunau*
- A. **Motion No. 3:** Andy Dunau motioned for approval of the red-lined version of the contract

with Davey Resource Group as presented at Finance Committee to provide professional services for a street tree inventory.

Ken Van Voorhis seconded.

Motion carried.

- B. Financial reports were provided and reviewed at committee.
- C. The 2013 proposed budget summary was provided and reviewed by the committee.
- D. The committee's action item regarding asphalt repair in Riverfront Park needs to be re-bid and was pulled from today's full Park Board agenda.

**GOLF COMMITTEE** – April 18, 2012 – *Ross Kelley*

A. **Motion No 4:** Ross Kelley motioned to approve the new Corporate Pass as presented. Sam Selinger seconded.

Motion carried.

B. **Motion No 5:** Ross Kelley motioned to approve of the new Unlimited Play Pass as presented.

Sam Selinger seconded.

Motion carried.

C. An announcement was made regarding the upcoming Corbin Senior Center Golf Scramble on Wednesday, June 27<sup>th</sup>.

D. The committee discussed the Golf Master plan.

E. The committee requested to change their meeting locations from the Manito Meeting Room to the four golf courses, rotating in alphabetical order throughout the season and returning to their regular location at the end of the season.

F. The committee received a financial update.

**LAND COMMITTEE** – May 2, 2012 – *Jim Santorsola*

A. **Motion No. 6:** Jim Santorsola motioned to accept the bid and approve the contract with NBI/Atlas Boiler for replacement of boiler for Manito Greenhouse heat system in the sum of \$96,301 plus Washington State Sales Tax.

Ross Kelley seconded.

Speaking to the motion:

Leroy Eadie confirmed that the funds are coming out of capital funds.

Andy Dunau requested that an updated 2012 capital projects list.

Motion carried.

B. No action was taken on the Stanek's Nursery/Thornton Murphy Park Easement Agreement. Staff will determine the value of the involved property for a ten year lease easement.

C. Staff will develop lease documentation regarding the Evergreen Archery Club's request for a lease to allow them to operate a club archery range on Parks property in Palisades Park.

D. Responses again exceeded project budget for Manito Park irrigation. The project will be reissued in fall 2012.

E. Development ideas at Camp Sekani were discussed at Committee.

**RECREATION COMMITTEE** – May 3, 2012 – *Ross Kelley*

A. **Motion No. 7:** Ross Kelley motioned to approve a contract with Town & Country Builders in the sum of \$51,608 plus Washington State Sales Tax for storage facility at Merkel.

Jim Santorsola seconded.

Speaking to the motion:

Carl Strong noted that the facility will contain storage, insulation, electrical, plumbing,

insulated doors and building. Right now the building will be used for equipment storage and will have the capability for additional uses in the future, including housing of staff.

Motion carried.

- B. The Price Setting Policy was discussed at committee.
- C. The committee received a presentation on Parker, the new mascot.

**RIVERFRONT PARK COMMITTEE** – April 30, 2012 – *Susan Traver*

- A. An update was given to the committee on the Fountain building. A master schedule has been built, survey is underway, and a restaurant equipment list is being compiled. A formal estimate of the project, at a cost of about \$1,500 will be developed.
- B. There will be one more stakeholder and three public meetings scheduled for the Riverfront Park Master Plan.
- C. Previously presented information regarding the IMAX Theatre was recapped. Options and concerns were discussed by the committee. Evaluation will be made in a month, followed by appropriate planning and action.
- D. A written Financial Report was distributed to the committee.
- E. Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office determined the proposed Tribal Cultural Center would be a change of use for the property, making a conversion necessary. Discussion included conversion requirements and recommendations made to the Tribe.
- F. Letter of support for the Sister Cities Garden and Courtyard project has been sent. The committee discussed possible vandalism to the site.
- G. Exhibit A documentation for the Hoopfest MOU is being developed.
- H. The work in the Boeing Amphitheater area is nearly completed.

**URBAN FORESTRY TREE COMMITTEE** – May 1, 2012 – *Ken VanVoorhis*

- A. A Heritage tree Nomination was approved by the committee: a Horsechestnut at Grant Park.
- B. The Street Tree Inventory Contract was discussed by the committee. The draft contract was delivered to Davey Resource Group after the RFP selection committee unanimously chose them as the apparent successful proposal.
- C. The Urban Forestry Interdepartmental Committee met and is working on clarify a number of the codes and standards.
- D. The Citizen Advisory Committee Report was received by the committee.
- E. The Urban Forestry Staff Report was reviewed by the committee.
- F. Wildfire Awareness Week events Friday, May 11, workshop at Finch Arboretum; Saturday, May 12, Volunteer clean up and hike, Finch Arboretum; and Volunteers-in-Pruning training, May 18.
- G. Several awards were granted at the Tree City USA regional celebration last Friday here in Spokane.

11. **REPORTS**

- A. Park Board President – Randy Cameron
  - 1. Commented that this has been one of the most positive meetings with updates from our guests and expressed a heartfelt thank you to today's visitors.
  - 2. Reiterated the importance of the 2013 and beyond budget.
  - 3. Announced that in order for the Board to cover all the business they need to cover the May 15<sup>th</sup> Park Board retreat will end at 5:00 p.m. instead of 3:00 p.m. as

- previously announced.
4. Expressed a thank you to City Risk and City Finance for working with the Board on City Interfund charges.
  5. Reminded the audience about the upcoming Riverfront Park Master Planning meetings and encouraged all Park Board members to attend any meetings they are able to.

B. Park Board Members –

1. Conservation Futures Liaison – No report
2. Parks Foundation Liaison – No report
3. Council Liaison – Councilman Mike Allen, advised that the City Council and Mayor's office are as well addressing the 2013 budget issues. A modification to the Entertainment/Cabaret Ordinance that allows outdoor entertainment in certain areas of downtown was made last week. Entertainment is now allowed until midnight instead of 10:00 p.m.
4. Center Stakeholders Committee Liaisons – Sam Selinger offered a thank you to the Mayor for an intensive set of meetings with the City. He advised that four Park Board members shared the responsibility of coming to the weekly meetings; Ross Kelley, Chris Wright, Andy Dunau and Sam Selinger. Leroy Eadie, significant other Parks and Recreation staff, and Councilman Fagan also participated. All parties recognized that we are going to see a reduction in government budget and potential funding. All of the centers, including community, youth and senior centers, were recognized by everyone as providing a service and networking activities important to their community, and to the City as a whole in co-location. The centers were recognized as having a unique service model operating systems and governing board structures that add value to the community. They have an incredible value in diversity that Parks and Recreation has participated in from the beginning. The report from these meetings will be reviewed in more depth at this afternoon's study session.
5. Park Board Rules Subcommittee – Ross Kelley advised that the committee will begin meeting later this year.

C. Director's Report - Leroy Eadie

1. Staff has sent information to the Tribe regarding the Recreation and Conservation Office's determination and change of use process for the Bosch Lot that will take approximately 6 months to a year. We cannot sign a lease at this time have offered to work with the tribe on a possible letter of intent.
2. Continuing to work with Kendall Yards developers on the Centennial Trail. They intend to use recently received state funding to complete the Centennial Trail from west of the Monroe Street Bridge to the lower crossing at the Sandifur Bridge.
3. Continuing to work with Kendall Yards on the development of a Habitat Management Plan for the Parks conservation properties adjacent to the Centennial Trail.
4. Mayor asked his cabinet members to meet with their counterparts at the county to discuss opportunities to work cross jurisdictionally on projects or programs. Leroy is working with Doug Chase, County Parks, on some ideas for partnerships.
5. Working with County and the Fish Lake Trails Association to close the gap on the Fish Lake Trail that would involve two bridge crossings.

12. **Correspondence** – None
13. **Public Comments** – None
14. Adjourn to Executive Session – None
15. **Adjournment**: 3:27 p.m.
  - A. Next Committee meeting dates:
    1. Golf Committee: May 16, 2012, 7:00 a.m., Esmeralda Golf Course, 3933 E. Courtland
    2. Riverfront Park Committee: June 4, 2012, 8:00 a.m., City Council Briefing Center
    3. Land Committee: June 6, 2012, 3:30 p.m., City Hall Conference Room 5A
    4. Recreation Committee: June 7, 2012, Southside Senior Center/Project Joy, 3151 E. 27<sup>th</sup> Ave
    5. Finance Committee: June 12, 2012, 3:00 p.m., City Hall Conference Room 5A
    6. Urban Forestry Tree Committee: June 5, 2012, 2011, 4:15 p.m., Woodland Center, Finch Arboretum
  - B. Next Regular Park Board meeting date: June 14, 2012, 1:30 p.m., City Council Chambers
  - C. Next Park Board Study Session: June 14, 2012, 3:00 p.m. or as soon as possible thereafter directly following the Regular Park Board meeting, City Hall Conference Room 5A