

SPOKANE PARK BOARD

Regular Monthly Meeting – 1:30 P.M. – July 12, 2012 – City Council Chambers

Minutes

1. Roll Call: *Jacki Faught*

Park Board Members Present: Randy Cameron, President; Jim Quigley, Vice President; Leroy Eadie, Park Board Secretary/Parks Director; Andy Dunau (1:32 p.m.); Ross Kelley; Jim Santorsola (1:32 p.m.); Sam Selinger; Susan Traver; Ken VanVoorhis; Martha Lou Wheatley-Billeter; Chris Wright; Mike Allen, Council Liaison

Staff Present: Mike Aho, Rebecca Madany, Nancy Goodspeed, Steve Nittolo; Craig Butz, Tony Madunich, Taylor Bressler, Jacki Faught, Garrett Jones, Carl Strong, Angel Spell

2. **Motion No 1:** Jim Quigley moved to approve the Minutes of the June 14, 2012 Regular Park Board meeting.

Sam Selinger seconded.

Motion carried.

Motion No. 2: Jim Quigley moved to approve the notes of the June 14, 2012 Study Session. Martha Lou Wheatley Billeter seconded.

Motion carried.

3. Additions or deletions to the agenda: None.

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

A. The Gaiser Conservatory Centennial Celebration was held on June 16th.

B. The 23rd Annual Hoopfest event was held June 30-July 1 with 7,056 teams participating and an estimated 225,000 people in downtown Spokane.

C. 4th of July activities provided good old fashioned fireworks, entertainment, music, food and safe fun. Thanks was given to sponsors, Larry H. Miller and Numerica Credit Union, and to staff.

D. Riverfront Park July featured specials include \$16.95 day passes, Tuesday specials on IMAX showings, and the historic Loeff Carrousel.

E. Summer camps are being offered for all ages and abilities.

F. Aquatics has had more than 2,241 visits by season pass holders, 20,156 paid admissions, 3,252 program participant visits, and 270 passes sold to date with revenue over \$25,000.

G. Esmeralda Golf Course had nearly 200 golfers on the 4th of July. The First Tee program started on June 21st.

H. Downriver Golf Course will host the final day of the City Championship this year. Adult and Junior lessons are having a very successful season. The course is in wonderful shape.

I. At Qualchan First Tee classes have overfilled with 330 kids, The Greater Spokane Golf Tournament was a huge success, and the City Championship will be held August 24-26.

J. Indian Canyon is hosting the Rosauers Open Golf Tournament July 11-15, The First Tee Tournament was hosted on July 29th and the course is in the best condition it has been in several years.

K. Three old growth Douglas Fir trees recently designated "Heritage Trees" can be found growing near the creek at Indian Canyon Park.

L. Arborists will be working on trees in the median of the Riverside-Cedar Parkway removing one dead tree and pruning 41 others.

- M. Three well attended community meetings have been held, one in each Council District.
- N. The Rotary Fountain in Riverfront Park is open.

5. **VISITORS**

- A. Spokane Youth and Senior Centers Association Update – Curt Connolly, President, expressed appreciation to the volunteers on the Board. He made the suggestion that the department hire contractors for the removal of snow and other Parks maintenance activities that use large equipment. SYSCA is working on the 2013 statewide meeting of the Washington Association of Senior Centers that will be held in Spokane. The Southside Senior Center has a volunteer professional fundraiser that is helping them with the hopes of helping solve some of the Center's funding issues in the long term.
- B. Friends of Manito Update Eagle Scout Project – Eberhart Schmidt, TFM President, reported that the Plant Sale raised \$46,000. The next plant sale will be September 9th. Plants are also being sold Wednesday mornings through the month of July. TFM provided financial support for the Gaiser Conservatory Centennial Celebration. The Mirror Pond renovation project is looking for major funding. Dominic Breitenbach completed his Eagle Scout project, reconstruction of the Eleanor Shenk Sivyer Garden House in Manito Park. Project costs were \$5,000 and in excess of 500 labor hours. TFM provided financial support while Troop 288, 8 families, a total of over 40 people offered their volunteer labor support. Many local Spokane area businesses provided supplies at a discount. Steve Nittolo presented Mr. Breitenbach with a certificate of appreciation from the Department.

6. **Motion No. 3:** Andy Dunau moved to approved claims for the month of June 2012 in the amount of \$1,727,175.54.

Martha Lou Wheatley-Billeter seconded.

Motion carried.

7. Financial Report – *Rebecca Madany*

- A. The Park Fund is at 76% of year to date budget. Expenditures are at 94% of year to date budget.
- B. Golf fund revenue is at 109% of year to date budget. Expenditures are at 90% of year to date budget.

8. **SPECIAL DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS** – None

9. **FOUNDATION REPORT** – *Marilyn Thordarson, Interim Executive Director*

- A. The Foundation has found a good candidate for the Executive Director position pending Foundation Board and Board of Trustees approval. The Executive Director's focus will be on fundraising. Connie will continue as office manager through the end of the year and may continue depending on budget.
- B. The Marilyn is working on streamlining their office processes and working on e-banking with Washington Trust.
- C. Summer programs are progressing well with 2,150 swimsuits provided, an additional number were recently stolen, a generous donation of \$600 received after a news story, with the General Store giving a huge discount, selling 150 quality swimsuits to the Foundation for only \$600. A thank you was offered to Park Board member Jim Quigley for Dr. & Mrs. Quigley's personal donation of swimsuits today.
- D. Through Make a Splash approximately 1,900 swim passes have been provided throughout the city and county. 100 swim lessons were provided to the county, 75 to the Boys and

Girls Club, 94 to the City's "Learn to Swim" program, and approximately 100 to the City of Cheney through grants.

- E. The operational budget continues to suffer with difficulty raising funds for the endowment. The Foundation is considering ways to be able to raise money for projects and building in fees to cover the costs of raising money. They are looking into doing grant writing. Grants tend to provide administrative fees.
- F. The Foundation worked with Steve Nittolo on a major donation for the water remediation project for the Mirror Pond.

10. **COMMITTEE REPORTS** – Park Board Action Items

FINANCE COMMITTEE – July 10, 2012 – *Andy Dunau*

- A. The Financial Report was presented to the committee and reviewed.
- B. The 2013 Budget Summary was provided to the committee, reviewed and discussed.
- C. 2012 Budget Savings report was provided to the committee and reviewed. Budget savings are tracking as expected.

GOLF COMMITTEE – June 20, 2012 – *Ross Kelley*

- A. The committee discussed the Spokanimal Hole in One proposal.
- B. The committee discussed the potential partnership and investment opportunity at Indian Canyon Golf Course.
- C. An update on the Golf Strategic Plan and a Financial update were received by the committee.
- D. The courses are still getting good turnouts even with the hot weather.
- E. The Rosauers Open, the largest PGA sectional in the United States, is currently in progress at Indian Canyon.
- F. The Corbin Senior Center fundraiser tournament went well with a combined Park Board member and Parks staff team participating.
- G. Jeff Beaudry will talk about PGA Growth and golf course health at the next committee meeting at Qualchan Golf Course.

LAND COMMITTEE – July 9, 2012 – *Jim Santorsola*

- A. **Motion No. 4:** Jim Santorsola moved to approve the purchase of replacement 'wide area' mower for \$81,842.
Martha Lou Wheatley Billeter seconded.
Motion carried.
- B. The committee discussed the Ben Burr Trail. Engineering services is working on a project to connect the Ben Burr Trail and Centennial Trails through Liberty Park. The use of federal funds and Parks property requires opportunity for public testimony. The scope of the project was reviewed. Leroy Eadie confirmed that this is would complete the Ben Burr Trail as some of the right-of-way has been sold over time.
- C. The committee received an update regarding the water issue and other area concerns at Camp Sekani.
- D. The committee discussed the Zehm Memorial Request from Mayor. Parks staff will confirm plaque language with Legal staff; obtain Logan Neighborhood input; and submit a detailed proposal at the August Land Committee meeting.

RECREATION COMMITTEE – July 5, 2012 – *Chris Wright*

- A. The committee tabled the action item for the 2013 Athletic Field and Facility Fees until the

August Recreation Committee meeting.

- B. The committee discussed the 2013 Recreation Budget and how to achieve the cuts in the centers budget.

RIVERFRONT PARK COMMITTEE – July 9, 2012 – *Susan Traver*

- A. **Motion No. 5:** Susan Traver moved to approve an increase the existing Value Blanket Pepsi contract to cover additional beverage sales at Riverfront Park and Merkel Sports Complex by \$65,000.

Martha Lou Wheatley-Billeter seconded.

Motion carried.

- B. **Motion No. 6:** Susan Traver moved to adopt the resolution to accept Phase 1 with the modifications including a schedule and an executive summary.

Ross Kelley seconded.

Speaking to the motion:

Chris Wright noted that he is pleased that we are moving forward. The important thing for everyone in the public to remember is that Phase II is an ambitious undertaking for next year. The idea is to have a plan that people can see and feel what the park might look like under a renovation and to have a financing mechanism for it. We need to have something for the voters to consider by the 40th anniversary of Expo 74.

Ross Kelley thanked Leroy and internal staff involved in this. They did a great, professional and thorough job and have given us something to help us protect the treasure. We have been collecting master plans for and this one will be a working document that we can go forward with. There is a lot of work to do. This is a great first step.

Mike Allen agrees with Mr. Wright. It's exciting to see Phase II and make the commitment. He agrees with the thought process that lets us bring something to the voters on the 40th anniversary. It is critical and important for our community. He really respects the work that the Parks Department has done with the leadership of Leroy and staff to get feedback and is excited to go on to the next phase instead of it going into a dust pile. It's a new start.

Andy Dunau requested that the amended version of the master plan be put on the website for public to view.

Leroy Eadie assured that it would be online soon along with the resolution. He thanked the chair of the Riverfront Park Committee, Susan Traver, for letting staff work through this process and lead the activities in Phase I. He recognized that under Dr. Quigley's leadership as the former chair of the committee to give it the push to get the work done as well. Craig was the team leader on the project and did a great job.

Susan Traver summarized the resolution noting it talks about the Phase II budget, plan and milestones. There was an executive summary put in the master plan along with clarification regarding information surveys and establishing "blue ribbon" type of committee. The resolution is a plan map for the Board to proceed and to ensure the community understands what the Board is trying to attain and what their end game is.

Randy Cameron suggested that Susan's term for the plan "Reinvesting in Our Legacy" be considered.

Jim Quigley stated that he does not want to see this plan sit around and die like other plans have in the past years. We have the blackboard and now we can spring forward with the rest.

Motion carried.

- C. **Motion No. 7:** Susan Traver moved to approve the contract with Burley Products for the Blue Bridge fencing in the sum of \$114,015 plus Washington State Sales Tax.

Ross Kelley seconded.

Speaking to the motion:

Leroy Eadie confirmed that the \$20,000 contribution from Streets towards this project was received last year. Impact to Parks budget is \$94,015.

Motion carried.

- D. The committee did not recommend Park Board award contract to NAC Architecture for the Fountain Building Design – Phase 2. There is a Special Park Board Meeting tomorrow, July 13, 2012, 1:00 p.m., City Council Briefing Center to discuss this contract further.
- E. The contract with Talisman Construction for Broadview Dairy building removal was not brought forward to the Board. The Board is anxious to get this project completed. We are moving as fast as we can but are making sure that we are meeting our fiduciary responsibilities in getting it done.
- F. A written Finance Report was distributed to the committee and reviewed.
- G. Staff expressed thanks to Riverfront Park Staff for the outstanding job performed during Hoopfest, 4th of July, and the Square Dance convention over the last couple weeks.
- H. It is anticipated that the YMCA Conservation Area will be open to the public as soon as staff resolves how to allow access into the general area while continuing to control access to the spaces that remain very fragile.

URBAN FORESTRY TREE COMMITTEE – June 5, 2012 – *Ken VanVoorhis*

- A. There were three motions on the Heritage Tree Nominations. One nomination for three old growth Douglas Fir at Indian Canyon Park, one nomination for a single Sugar Maple and one for three London Planetrees. The London Planetrees were tabled until the next meeting.
- B. The committee received an update on the Street Tree Inventory status.
- C. The committee received the Citizen Advisory Committee report.
- D. The committee received and reviewed the Urban Forestry Staff Report.

11. **REPORTS**

A. Park Board President –

- 1. Randy Cameron commended the efforts and time that staff and Board members spent tackling the challenges of creating a sustainable budget.

B. Park Board Members –

- 1. Conservation Futures Liaison – Ken Van Voorhis reported that they will be meeting next week to talk about a couple of properties that have received naming requests.
- 2. Parks Foundation Liaison – No report.
- 3. Council Liaison – Councilman Mike Allen reported the City is continuing to work on budget concepts and policies.
- 4. Parks Department Revenue & Sponsorship Subcommittee – Councilman Mike Allen reported the committee met 1 ½ weeks ago and will meet again next Thursday. They are focusing in on potential sponsorship opportunities that fit for Parks. The committee is looking at pouring rights and how to consolidate all Parks properties and possibly City properties into one pouring right to drive some additional revenue through sponsorship agreement. A brief conversation was had regarding sponsorship policy language.
- 5. Park Board Rules Subcommittee – Ross Kelley reported that the committee has not yet met and is hoping to begin work this fall.

C. Director's Report -

1. A thank you was given to Riverfront Park staff for the quick turn around with Hoopfest and the July 4th Celebration.
2. It was exciting to see all the citizens at the public budget meetings.
3. Stephanie O'Byrne and Manito staff put on an amazing event with the Gaiser Centennial Celebration.
4. A thank you was given to Aquatics staff for the work that they have been doing during these hot days.
5. The numbers have been up in Golf. The golf superintendents have stepped up to the plate with the additional work they have had to do this year. Leesa VanZandt has done a great job picking up work that was previously done by other people.
6. Leroy is looking forward to working on Phase II of the Riverfront Park Master plan.
7. A thank you was given to Councilman Allen for working with Leroy on the Council Connections about Riverfront Park. The show will be available online.

12. **Correspondence**

- A. Marian Herzer – July 3, 2012, Budget Effort Commentary, forwarded to Board via email
- B. Marian Herzer – July 11, 2012 Budget Efforts and Decisions, forwarded to Board via email

13. **Public Comments** – None

14. Adjourn to Executive Session – None

15. **Adjournment** – 2:55 p.m.

- A. Next Committee meeting dates:
 1. Golf Committee: July 18, 2012, 7:00 a.m., The Creek at Qualchan Golf Course, 301 E. Meadow Lane Road.
 2. Riverfront Park Committee: July 30, 2012, 8:00 a.m., City Council Briefing Center
 3. Land Committee: August 1, 2012, 3:30 p.m., City Hall Conference Room 5A
 4. Recreation Committee: August 2, 2012, 3:00 p.m., City Hall Conference Room 5A
 5. Finance Committee: August 7, 2012, 3:00 p.m., City Hall Conference Room 5A
 6. Urban Forestry Tree Committee: July 31, 2012, 2011, 4:15 p.m., Woodland Center, Finch Arboretum
- B. Next Regular Park Board meeting date: August 9, 2012, 1:30 p.m., City Council Chambers
- C. Next Park Board Study Session: August 9, 2012, 3:00 p.m. or as soon as possible thereafter directly following the Regular Park Board meeting, City Hall Conference Room 5A