

SPOKANE PARK BOARD

March 14, 2013 Regular Monthly Meeting
1:30 P.M., City Council Chambers

Minutes

1. **Roll Call:** *Jacki Faught*

Park Board members present: Randy Cameron, President; Jim Quigley, Vice President; Leroy Eadie, Secretary; Martha Lou Wheatley-Billeter Ross Kelley; Jim Santorsola; Susan Traver; Ken Van Voorhis; Andy Dunau; Sam Selinger; Councilman Mike Allen

Staff present: Angel Spell; Nancy Goodspeed; Jerry Unruh; Rebecca Madany; Craig Butz; Carl Strong; Garrett Jones; Tony Madunich; Jacki Faught

2. **Thank You & Farewell to Martha Lou Wheatley-Billeter:** *Randy Cameron & Mayor Condon*

Randy Cameron acknowledged Martha Lou's amazing success in juggling career, family and time in her 12 years of service to the Board, stating that is an inspiration to all Board members. He presented Martha Lou with a plaque expressing grateful appreciation for her dedication and service to the community and to the citizens of Spokane as an outstanding Park Board member from March 2001 to March 2013. Martha Lou expressed her appreciation for the support of the Board and staff through the many personal and professional changes that have happened during her tenure as a Park Board member. She complimented the employees of the Parks and Recreation Department for their dedication to the department and the citizens of Spokane. She expressed her appreciation for the outstanding Parks and Recreation Department for everything they do, all that they have done, and all that they are going to do in the future. Each Board member individually expressed their gratitude to Martha Lou for her leadership and guidance, her vast amount of work behind the scenes, her empathy and caring for people, her insightful comments today reminding the board of the staff that helps the Board reach its goals every day, her calm demeanor during contentious issues, the past knowledge she brought to the table, her candor, for everything she has done for the Board along with volunteer work in the community, and her constant encouragement. She will be greatly missed.

3. **Motion No. 1:** Chris Wright motioned to approve the February 14, 2013 Regular Park Board Meeting Minutes and Minutes of the February 14, 2013 Special Park Board Meeting.

Sam Selinger seconded.

Motion carried.

4. **Additions or Deletions to the Agenda:** None

5. **Monthly Highlights:** *Randy Cameron, President*

- A. Spring advertising efforts co-promoting Riverfront Season Passes, Recreation programs, Summer Day Camps, and the reopening of the IMAX Theater, include four full page color ads will run in the Spokesman-Review, school flyers, and utility bill stuffers.
- B. Pavilion Rides open March 30.
- C. Special pricing on Riverfront Park Season Passes ends April 7th.
- D. The new Spring/Summer Recreation Guide and the new Spring/Summer Therapeutic Recreation guides, the Youth Summer Camps brochure, the Corbin Art Center Corbin Kids Spring Break Camps listing, Riverside State Park Summer Programs & Events brochure, and the Registration packet for the new Parks and Recreation Softball Leagues, are all available

online.

- E. The Park Board, in conjunction with Mayor David Condon, will hold a press conference Monday, March 18, 11:00 a.m. in the Fountain area near the Carrousel to announce important news regarding the chair for the new Citizens Advisory Committee for Riverfront Park Master Plan.

6. **Special Guests:** None

- 7. **Motion No. 2:** Andy Dunau motioned to approve claims for the month of February 2013 in the amount of \$924,131.91.
Ross Kelley seconded.
Motion carried.

8. **Financial Report & Budget Update:** No report this month.

9. **Special Discussion/Action Items:** None

- 10. **Foundation Report:** Heather Beebe-Stevens, Executive Director, Spokane Parks Foundation reported that they have been busy on infrastructure work. The Grant Allocation Committee met this morning to finalize the grants they want to take to the Foundation board. The Board will vote on March 25th and then will begin notifying grantees of their awards for the year. Leroy Eadie noted that the Parks Foundation has been working closely with the department on the 40 year celebration of EXPO 74 and the potential of getting a financial package together for Riverfront Park.

11. **Committee Reports – Action Items:**

Golf Committee: February 20, 2013, *Ross Kelley*

- A. **Motion No. 3:** Ross Kelley motioned to approve the Contract Amendments for Rex Schultz, Gary Lindeblad, and Mark Gardner.
Andy Dunau seconded.
Motion carried.
- B. It was noted that there a motion was made at committee to bring forward an Interfund Loan from the Park Fund in the amount of \$150,000. Due to the early opening of the courses this motion is not being brought forward. The Board discussed and decided that proper procedure would be to make a motion to not approve this loan.
Motion No. 4: Ross Kelley motioned to not approve the Interfund Loan that was brought before the committee.
Ken Van Voorhis seconded.
Motion carried.
- C. Indian Canyon will open March 22nd. All other courses are now open.
- D. The pros and superintendents had done an excellent job of getting the courses together. The courses are in excellent condition.
- E. The committee discussed the 2013 Marketing Plan.
- F. The committee received a Financial Update, a Revenue Enhancement/Advertising Update and an update on course conditions.

Land Committee: March 6, 2013 – *Ken Van Voorhis*

- A. Due to lack of a quorum at committee the Hamblen Park Stewardship plan was not considered

and will be brought forward in April.

- B. The committee received updates on the Coeur d'Alene Pavilion project, the Cannon Hill Pond grant, the Underhill Park CSO tank, design alternatives for the Centennial Trail Crossing at Mission, and the Kendall Yards/Centennial Trail/Veterans Court project.

Recreation Committee: March 7, 2013 – *Susan Traver*

- A. **Motion No. 5:** Susan Traver motioned to approve the 2013 Oxarc Chemical Value Blanket in the amount of seventy-one thousand five hundred twenty six dollars and twenty-three cents (\$71,526.23).

Sam Selinger seconded.

Motion Carried.

- B. **Motion No. 6:** Susan Traver motioned to approve the NEYC/Surplus Equipment Resolution. Sam Selinger seconded.

Speaking to the motion:

Susan Traver noted that Parks and Recreation has been working towards getting out of the van business and transportation business at the Community Centers. We have 6 vans that are used by NEYC and two pieces of surplus restaurant equipment we would like to donate to NEYC. The restaurant equipment would be used towards a food program that the center is starting up. Craig Butz has been working with City Legal. State law allows for this type of donation to non-profits to benefit the poor and infirm. The aggregate value of the vans is \$18,000. The value of the commercial oven and fat fryer is approximately \$3,500.

Ken Van Voorhis inquired if approving this motion would set the standard for all the other centers.

Leroy Eadie advised that we don't have any other items at the centers that he is aware of that is being asked to be donated. There are some title changes at Sinto Senior Center that we have been working on.

Craig Butz stated that requests such as these are handled on a case by case basis. Legal advocates that we develop some sort of policy if we have not already.

Leroy Eadie noted that this is not a situation that has come up very often. If PVCC decides to move there might be some opportunity there for a request from one of the centers. If that happens we could create another resolution and move forward. He does not anticipate something like this to come up on a regular basis and believes we don't need a policy at this point.

Ross Kelley identified that there are difficulties creating a policy for something that comes up on a case by case basis.

Randy Cameron noted that there is some sort of precedence set already but doesn't believe that with our focus on self sustainability we would be doing this very often.

Leroy Eadie advised that we have to be careful not to put every item we dispose of in Parks and Recreation in this type of scenario. The reason we ended up with this resolution is that these are vans that the NEYC is already using and we already had that particular relationship with the center. For examples the portable restroom trailer from Riverfront Park is being sold off with the proceeds being used to pay on the loan for the new Riverfront facility. In many cases when we dispose of vehicles we often use the funds to replenish fleet replacement funds. He does not want to create a policy saying that everything we dispose of in Parks and Recreation is available to senior and youth centers and other non-profits in Spokane for acquisition.

Susan Traver advised that these vans are old and well used equipment so in this case the value comes in at a dollar amount that does not meet the minimum dollar threshold for auction or sale.

Motion carried.

- C. The committee received updates on the new City Softball League, the Health and Obesity Initiatives, the Athletic Facility Allocations and the Under the Freeway Skatepark.
- D. The Board briefly discussed that the old Carnation Warehouse Building is being looked at as potential alternate location for a covered skatepark in the downtown area. Comments were made on pros and cons of this building, its location, the benefit that Parks owns both the building and the property, and the potential for increased public safety in comparison to the UTF Skatepark location. Staff is taking initial steps to take a look at and assess the building.

Riverfront Park Committee: March 4, 2013 – *Chris Wright*

- A. **Motion No. 7:** Chris Wright motioned to approve the Resolution creating the Riverfront Park Advisory Committee.
Susan Traver seconded.
Motion carried.
- B. **Motion No 8:** Chris Wright motioned to approve the MOU with the Friends of Riverfront Park.
Susan Traver seconded.
Speaking to the motion.
Chris Wright stated he felt many Board members, including himself, were excited about the prospect of a group forming to dedicate its efforts specifically to Riverfront. Over the past months they have realized that the timing is not good and entering into an MOU with this group probably is not the best way to go about it. He will personally vote against the motion.
Mike Allen inquired if there has been any conversation with the group about withdrawing the MOU instead of voting down on it.
Randy Cameron advised that he got the impression the group wanted the MOU to move forward, and if it wasn't, to know why.
Mike Allen stated he is against the MOU, mainly because he does not know if we are ready. Given some of the things Chris has said, some of the things he has seen with regards to being prepared and knowing what the value of sponsorships and partnerships, as well as naming rights is at this particular junction, and not having a clear understanding of what a "Friends" does. In most cases our "Friend" partners raise donation money and not necessarily sponsorship money and that has to be clarified so at this particular time he will vote against the MOU.
Ross Kelley advised he would like to speak against approving this MOU. He thinks the timing is the real key. We are still in a Master Plan approval process and a gathering of facts. We are trying to figure out what we are going to do there. He feels we should wait until we know exactly what we are going to do and then get into an operation of gathering funds, dedicating sponsorships, or whatever. We don't know what we are doing with Riverfront Park yet and really need to go through that process before approval of an MOU. He believes we are still open to it, that the idea is a great idea, but with the tremendous amount of work we have done on the Master Plan and the formation of the Master Plan Committee, the thought about bringing forward some bonds for next year, he feels we should get all this going and then see what we could get done with a "Friends of" type of situation established.
Susan Traver advised she does not wish speak further on this.
Randy Cameron believes that approving this MOU would run the risk of confusing the public as we get closer to 2014. It was quite a process to go through the sponsorship from Pepsi for the facility next to the fountain. Our other possibilities could be much larger, ten times larger collectively, and for us to really understand what we have, what we want to do, what we name, or how we receive donations is real important. He is not in favor of the motion.
Motion failed unanimously.

- C. The committee received a presentation from the Spokane Sports Commission on a proposed Field House.
- D. The committee received an update on the Riverfront Master Plan Phase II, an update on the Riverfront Marketing Plan, project updates on the Broadview Dairy Demolition, the Fountain Building and the Health & Obesity Initiative.
- E. Chris Wright will be taking over as the chair of the Naming Ad Hoc Committee.
- F. Brief discussion was had on moving the RFP Committee to the week of the Park Board meeting. Notice will be sent when the final decision is made.
- G. No change orders requiring Board approval are anticipated on the Fountain Building. We are looking at other alternatives on the Broadview Dairy Demolition some bids have been received although have not yet been reviewed.

Finance Committee: March 12, 2013, *Andy Dunau*

- A. **Motion No. 9:** Andy Dunau motioned to approve to award Chemicals & Turf Fertilizers bid as presented, with the total award not to exceed \$180,000.
Ross Kelley seconded.
Speaking to the motion:
Ken Van Voohis confirmed that there are 4 different companies included in this bid.
Motion carried.
- B. The committee received an update on the Ad Hoc Finance Committee.
- C. The committee received and reviewed the Fleet Replacement Plan. Further consideration will be made regarding proper handling of equipment replacements.
- D. It was noted that the change in order for the Finance Committee report reflects changes made with the Board's adoption of their new by-laws.

Urban Forestry Tree Committee: March 5, 2013 – *Ken Van Voorhis*

- A. The committee received updates on the Street Tree Inventory and the Citizen Advisory Committee.
- B. The committee discussed Finch Arboretum & Garden Springs Creek – Current and Future Projects; Ordinance No C34961 relating to street development standards to clarify language with regard to sidewalks, planting strips, and street trees; and the Tree Steward Field Guide.
- C. The April 2, 2013 UFTC meeting has been canceled. The next meeting will be April 30, 2013, 4:15 pm in the Woodland Center at Finch Arboretum.

By-Laws Committee: Did not meet.

12. **Reports:**

Park Board President: *Randy Cameron*

- A. Sincere appreciation was given to Dr. Quigley for coming back and joining us today. Regardless of his health challenges and inability to attend recent meetings he has worked diligently behind the scenes during these last months.
- B. 2012 was a great year working with Mayor Condon and Leroy on the challenges, opportunities and quite a few achievements.
- C. Three items on Randy's top five list for 2013 is the Skatepark, the Riverfront Park Master Plan and the newly formed Riverfront Park Master Plan Citizen's Advisory Committee, and working with City Council and Mayor on the 2014 Bond.

Liaison Reports:

1. Conservation Futures Liaison – *Ken VanVoorhis, No report*
2. Parks Foundation Liaison – *Susan Traver, No report*
3. Council Liaison – *Councilman Mike Allen*
4. Parks Department Revenue & Sponsorship Subcommittee – Councilman Mike Allen reported the Beverage RFP has been completed. He asked the Board to think about what they want him to work on this year.
5. Ad Hoc Committee for Improved Financial Reporting – *Randy Cameron, No report*
6. Ad Hoc Committee for RFP Facility Naming/Sponsorship – *Chris Wright, No report*

Director's Report: *Leroy Eadie*

1. We are in the process of revamping the Director's Monthly Report.
2. There is a press conference on Monday morning at 11:00 a.m. for the announcement of the Chair of the Riverfront Park Master Plan Citizen Advisory Committee.
3. Leroy will work with Randy Cameron on an April Park Board Retreat.
4. The 2012 National Database Report in the NRPA magazine shows a better picture in Parks and Recreation than we had anticipated with regards to budgets and we seem to be tracking well with the number of full time employees.

13. **Correspondence:**

14. **Public Comments:**

- A. Eric Bonanno, Eagles Ice Arena, commented that he was there to speak with regards to Spokane Regional Sports Commission's proposal for the North Bank property that includes and ice rink however would prefer to hold comment until after the Board has seen the proposal. Eric Sawyer, SRSC, will be presenting the proposal at the joint study session directly following this meeting. Mr. Bonanno saw the presentation and met with Mr. Sawyer subsequently. He would like the opportunity to offer the Board a different perspective on the availability of inventory of ice in town once the Board has had opportunity to see Mr. Sawyer's presentation. He looks forward to speaking with the Board at a future date.
- Mr. Bonanno stated that he is a proud former employee of Funshine Day Camp where he worked back when he was in college. He emphasized it is an excellent program and he tells everyone that it was the best job he ever had.
- Chris Wright offered his appreciation to Mr. Bonanno for his coming to the committee meeting and talking. He would like to highlight for the Board that the comments from Tim and Eric are important as they consider what will happen under the Pavilion. Particularly whether the skating rink stays and how Eagles, other existing ice, and any new ice are all going to interact and survive and whether they serve different uses. He is glad they are here and their input will be important not only for what is decided for the North Bank, but what we keep, or not keep, in the pavilion.

15. **Adjournment:** 3:05 p.m.

- A. Next Committee meeting dates:
- Golf Committee: March 20, 2013, 8:00 a.m., City Hall Conference Room 5A (subsequently rescheduled to 7:00 a.m., Esmeralda Golf Course)
 - Riverfront Park Committee: April 1, 2013, 8:00 a.m., City Council Briefing Center (subsequently rescheduled to April 8, 2013, 8:05 a.m., City Hall Tribal Conference Room 1)
 - Land Committee: April 3, 2013, 3:30 p.m., City Hall Conference Room 5A
 - Recreation Committee: April 4, 2013, 3:30 p.m. City Hall Conference Room 2B
 - Finance Committee: April 9, 2013, 3:00 p.m., City Hall Conference Room 5A

Urban Forestry Committee: April 30, 2013, 4:15 p.m., Woodland Center (April 2, 2013 meeting has been canceled)

B. Next Park Board meeting date: April 11, 2013, 1:30 p.m., City Council Chambers

C. Next Park Board Study Session: April 11, 2013, 3:00 p.m., City Hall Conference Room 5A (subsequently canceled)