

SPOKANE PARK BOARD

May 9, 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 (telephonically 1:30-3:09 p.m.); Leroy Eadie, Secretary; Ross Kelley; Jim Santorsola; Chris Wright; Susan Traver; Ken Van Voorhis; Andy Dunau; Sam Selinger; Mike Allen, Council Liaison

Staff Present: Carl Strong, Debby Dodson, Rebecca Madany, Garrett Jones, Tony Madunich, Al Vorderbrueggen, Jerry Unruh, Nancy Goodspeed, Jacki Faught

2. **Motion No. 1:** Susan Traver motioned to approve the April 11, 2013 Regular Park Board Meeting minutes.

Sam Selinger seconded.

Motion Carried.

3. **Additions or Deletions to the Agenda:** The Finance Committee Action Item (Motion No. 3) will be addressed out of turn between items 10 & 11 on this agenda.

4. **Monthly Highlights:**

- A. The Street Tree Inventory is complete. Staff is looking for grant funding to complete the Park Tree inventory portion of the project.
- B. Park Operations staff is working on the renovation of the Coeur d'Alene Park Pavilion with completion scheduled for the first part of July.
- C. Park Operations is making aesthetic and safety improvements to the Lincoln Park restroom.
- D. Park Operation is working on a swing replacement project at 6 parks, Glass, Nevada, Franklin, Westgate, Ruth and Corbin.
- E. The Friends of Manito have been working on three major projects, completed new entrance in Manito Park at Bernard and Shoshone; a new picnic shelter at the south end of the park; and Phase I of the new shade garden.
- F. Ed Lester will be providing a free guided tour, hosted by The Friends of Manito, Part 2 of 3, Manito Park Trees, Saturday, May 18, 10:00 a.m.
- G. Founded in 1990, The Friends of Manito is a non-profit group that works to support Manito Park by providing funds for improvements, offer free educational programs, and hold three major plant sale fundraisers. Since its beginning they have contributed \$708,699 to Manito Park. The Park Board thanks The Friends of Manito for their tremendous dedication and support.
- H. All four golf courses are offering a Mother's Day special, Four Plays, one at each course for \$89.
- I. Golf is offering an Active Duty Military Personnel discount card promotion that includes up to \$10 in savings for up to 18 holes, \$4 for 9 holes and each dollar spent on greens fees throughout the season the card accumulates loyalty points.
- J. Recreation is offering summer day camps and swimming lessons.
- K. Riverfront Park is offering a new premium ticket for \$15 and day passes for \$17, tax included, when purchased online.

- L. The new Fountain Café in Riverfront Park is now open. It has an extensive menu, featuring local beer and wine, and self serve ice cream. It is open 11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. seven days a week.
- M. "Keep Your Kids Moving" is the Recreation Department's theme this season. Summer camps run from June 24 – August 9.
- N. Witter Aquatics Center opens May 13 for lap swim, all Aquatics Centers will be open June 17 – August 24 the regular season, post season will continue at Witter lap swim and swim teams through September 7.
- O. There is still room in this week's Wine, Ride and Dine events that includes glass of wine, a ride on the SkyRide and dinner at one of two restaurants for \$55, tax and gratuity included.

5. **Special Guests:**

A. SYSCA Update

Bonnie McDade, Executive Director, Southside Senior Activity Center, advised that the senior centers of Spokane (Southside, Sinto, Corbin, along with Pullman Senior Center in Pullman, WA) collaborated to host the Washington State Association of Senior Centers conference that will be held May 21-23 at the Red Lion Inn at the Park. She presented the Board with programs for the event. WSASC has not met in Spokane in 10 years. The conference will take advantage of Riverfront Park as much as possible including offering optional tours along the Centennial Trail. A couple of years ago the centers, both youth and senior, started collecting quarterly data on the services that they individually provide. In analyzing the data they were surprised to find that through the diversity and differences of what each center provides the zip codes within the City are covered on a fairly level basis. Most of the services throughout the City are pretty well distributed because what is not offered at one center is likely to be offered at another. The first quarter of 2013 the cost for each participant to Parks is approximately \$0.46 per person. They are anxious to see what next quarter will be as they will have more activities.

Hal McGlathery, Vice President, SYSCA, Spokane Youth & Senior Centers Association, offered a special thank you offered to the collaboration between the youth programs, Peaceful Valley and West Central Community Centers, and Northeast Youth Center, for their work on the Playhouse Project. He also offered thanks to Councilmen Mike Allen, Steve Salvatore, Mike Fagan, and Leroy Eadie. \$42,000 before expenses was generated from the project, with an expected return to each center of approximately \$10,000. 12 custom built children's playhouses were built by members of the Spokane Homebuilders Association. 11 were auctioned at the Spokane Homebuilders show and the other was awarded in a raffle. All 5,000 raffle tickets were sold. Some of the recipients donated the houses back to the West Central Community Center. The event was made possible through collaboration between three non-profits, Park Board, City Council, and private enterprise, the Homebuilders Association members. Councilman Allen gave recognition and appreciation to Kim Ferraro who seeded this idea last year.

6. **Motion No. 2:** Andy Dunau motioned to approve claims for the month of April 2013 in the amount of 946,200.82.
 Ross Kelley seconded.
 Motion carried.

7. **Financial Report & Budget Update:** *Rebecca Madany*

- A. Park Fund revenue is at 107% of year to date budget, expenditures are at 98% of year to

date budget.

- B. Golf Fund revenue is at 80% of year to date budget, expenditures are at 64% of year to date budget.

8. **Riverfront Park Master Plan Update:**

Juliet Sinisterra, Phase II Project Manager, gave an update on the RFP Master Plan. The RFP Master Plan Advisory Committee was formed and met for the first time last month. The committee has a round robin discussion about what they would like to see. The committee will be compiling the goals and principles for the Master Plan based on that discussion at their meeting next week. The committee will also talk about some of the programmatic uses for the Pavilion. One of the main goals is to make Riverfront Park successful to the community and finding out how to draw more people to the center of the park, to the river, the falls, the pavilion and to what makes Spokane unique and special. Programs will be approached from a business plan perspective with potential revenue generation, operating costs, public/private service contracts, and how the park could become potentially self sustaining over the years. Case studies and examples from around the country will be presented. Juliet has been working with Engineering and Capital Facilities in looking at the bridges in Riverfront Park. There is a lot of concern that the bridges have not had a real thorough inspection in the last 40 years. A few do not need a thorough inspection because Engineering can get within arm's length to take a look at those bridges. There are about 7 bridges that Engineering highly suggested we hire consultants and have a thorough inspection done in the next year or so, ideally before the Master Plan. CH2M Hill looked at the South Howard Street Bridge and did a pretty good analysis. Basically they recommended that it be torn down. That bridge is not included in the list for a thorough inspection. Bridges that are included are the suspension bridges over the falls, the triangle truss bridge that connects over to the Red Lion, the pilings on the wood bridges in the south channel, and load bearing needs to be established for the blue bridge. Juliet met with Katherine Miller to develop a budget for the inspections and based on what was spent on Latah Creek in the Hangman Valley area we can expect a cost of \$300,000 - \$350,000 for inspections. Juliet is looking for potential grant monies so we could do it sooner. Ross Kelley advised that the three bridges in the Howard Street corridor were all inspected as a part of the Central City Transit Program to determine if they could handle light rail or streetcars. The north bridge in the Howard Street corridor is in good shape. We have entered into a contract with AHBL to put forward some low impact development strategies for Riverfront Park in general. These strategies could save up to 20% in operating costs. We are moving forward with appraisals of the North Bank and the Bosch parking lot. We are working on putting together a comprehensive citizen participation plan.

Sam Selinger advised that at the introductory meeting of the Advisory Committee the committee discussed that they would like to start with a blank canvas so they can focus on what is the best plan. The plan may involve more than just the park itself. Some of the regulations regarding the north bank are different from Riverfront Park and thought needs to be given towards how it will all work together. The committee discussed how important it is to build something iconic and the importance of safety in the park from visual perspective, increased and better lighting, and bringing more people in.

9. **Presentation on I-90 Gateway Project** (moved up on agenda from Special Discussion / Action Items)

Jan Quintrall gave a presentation on the I-90 Gateway project. Jan and Mayor Condon brought together the I-90 Business Neighborhood by canvassing business owners on both sides of I-90 from Maple to approximately 2 blocks east of Division. They showed the Neighborhood what

the City is up to under I-90 along with the rehabilitation of the railroad overpasses as they go through downtown. Last autumn a massive cleanup under I-90 was done and the Skatepark was painted and vegetation was cut back. The City is now working on spring beautification with some short term things and some long term investments under I-90. Geiger crews are working about 3 days a week. The gateways into the City will be painted in a specific palette of three colors. The light color brightens areas. WSDOT has agreed to move a sign to provide a clear view of the Welcome to Spokane sign. We are investing in a lot of annuals this year with the goal of if we change the environment we will change what goes on under I-90. The City has invested in infrared under the freeway cameras that feed directly into the Spokane Police Department. Downtown Spokane Partnership has agreed to water the plantings this year. The long term plan is not to spend this much effort planting annuals under I-90. The City wanted to do this as a pilot project where if an investment is made and change the way things look will it indeed change the behavior. Before and after pictures were shown of the different projects. There are a lot of other things the City plans to do. In 1971 WSDOT invested about \$1.2M in landscaping under I-90 and then we did not take care of it. A lot of it is too far gone. We are going to only make investments that we clearly have a way to maintain. Sherwin Williams has the paint palette and several business people have purchased paint so that they can match what we are doing in the underpasses and they can paint over graffiti. WSDOT has been a partner in this project with giving permissions, supplying some of the paint, participating in painting, traffic control to make sure the Geiger crews were safe, and are talking about making other signage changes.

Councilman Allen noted that there has been discussion about routing freeway traffic onto 2nd. There are now multiple reasons why to do it, one is to clean up the Division area as well as keep access open when the north corridor comes in to the central business district. Jan advised that the area really needs to be strategically looked at to see if there is a better way to flow traffic. One thought was to close the Division exit and to bring people off at 2nd and bring them in on Trent and Hamilton through the U-District.

It was noted that Parks staff, a couple of Park Board members, Jan, Police and the UTF Skatepark group are meeting tomorrow to discuss the Skatepark and the Board's interest in investing in it. This is the first meeting to discuss potential solutions.

10. **Foundation Report:**

Heather Beebe-Stevens, Executive Director, was unable to attend and the report was given by Susan Traver, Park Board liaison to the Foundation. The Foundation is hard at work with their Make a Splash in a Kid's Life program. They had great response to their first two fundraising mailings and are planning a third in late May or early June. The Foundation wanted to express appreciation to Carl Strong. They are continuing to make updates to their website to make it more accessible. Their blog is now online. On April 17th they held a very well attended welcome event for donors and supporters and to talk about the future of Spokane Parks Foundation. They want to thank everyone who attended. The Foundation is doing a lot of administrative work making sure all their policies, guidelines and by-laws are current.

11. **Executive Session:** Land Acquisition

12. **Special Discussion/Action Items:**

- A. Approval of Purchase and Sales Agreements to Acquire Certain Properties in the Kendall Yards Development. (No discussion was had)
- B. Presentation on I-90 Gateway Project – *Jan Quintrall* (Moved to # 9 on the agenda.)

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

Golf Committee: April 17, 2013, *Ross Kelley*

- A. A \$10 discount card promotion for Active Duty Military personnel has been created.
- B. The popular 4 Play Golf Pass is on sale this week only for Mother's Day.
- C. The Davenport Hotel is running a package deal that includes deluxe accommodations for and two vouchers for 18 holes of golf at any of the four city courses.
- D. The updated City of Spokane Golf Brochures is now available at the four courses and My Spokane.
- E. Downriver hosted the Pro Am on Monday and it was a huge success. The course is in perfect shape.
- F. The Esmeralda Amateur will be held on Memorial Day weekend, May 25-27. The course is in great shape and playing firm and fast.
- G. Junior Golf Northwest held their second tournament of the season at Indian Canyon on May 4 where Brianna Jensen made a hole in one. Superintendent Don Nelson aced hole 16 last Thursday at Downriver.
- H. First tee is up and going at Qualchan. All the classes are full for spring. Qualchan is up 270 rounds for the first week of May from last year.
- I. The committee discussed Passes, Discount Cards, Multi-Play Cards, and 4 Play Cards; the online point of sale software; the strategic planning committee; and the draft letters of interest for capital investment in Spokane City golf courses.
- J. The committee received updates on the course conditions, a financial update, and Revenue Enhancement/Advertising.

Land Committee: May 1, 2013 – *Ken Van Voorhis*

- A. **Motion No. 4:** Ken Van Voorhis motioned to approve the Stewardship Management Plan for the Hamblen Conservation Area.
Sam Selinger seconded.
Motion carried.
- B. The committee discussed the Glover Field/High Drive Stormwater Projects; the Tuscan Ridge Development easement for a sewer line connection; the Centennial Trail Gap at Mission; the Convention Center/Centennial Trail Plans; the Kendall Yards/Centennial Trail/Veterans Court purchase and sale agreements; and the Capital Projects list.
- C. Announcement was made that Garrett Jones has been hired as Parks Landscape Architect.

Recreation Committee: May 2, 2013 – *Susan Traver*

- A. The action item recommending Approval of up to \$10,000 for Capital Recreation Equipment Replacement was tabled at today's meeting to be discussed at the 2014 budget meetings.
- B. The committee received presentations on by STSA's Executive Director, Phil Helean and a presentation on the 1st quarter marketing.
- C. The committee discussed the recreation equipment replacement.
- D. The committee received updates on the athletic facility allocations and on the City Softball League.

Riverfront Park Committee: May 6, 2013 – *Chris Wright*

- A. **Motion No. 5:** Chris Wright motioned to approve the 2013 Riverfront Park Master Plan Budget in the amount of \$200,000.
Sam Selinger seconded.
Motion carried.

- B. **Motion No. 6:** Chris Wright motioned to approve the NAC Fountain Concession Design Amendment in the amount of \$98,687.51.
Jim Santorsola seconded.
Motion carried.
- C. The committee received updates on the quarterly marketing report, Avista Huntington Park project and 2013 IMAX marketing and operations.
- D. The committee requested an analysis be provided at the June committee meeting of expenses per revenues for the top ten IMAX movie revenue generators for 2012.
- E. Financial reports were provided.
- F. A slide presentation was given on 2013 April Riverfront Park Operations and Bloomsday.

Finance Committee: May 7, 2013 – *Andy Dunau*

- A. (This item addressed between agenda items 10 & 11)

A brief discussion was had outlining the changes to the Resolution in support of establishing three Parks and Recreation Division Manager Classifications as Exempt Non-Civil Service Positions as a result of discussion at Finance Committee. Organizational charts of the existing structure and the proposed structure were presented. The basically would not change however three existing non-exempt positions would become exempt positions and the proposed changes do not violate City Charter. If approved by Park Board, then the issue would move to City Council for approval.

Motion No. 3: Sam Selinger motioned to accept the resolution with the changes brought forward today.

Ross Kelley seconded.

Speaking to the motion:

Andy Dunau noted that page one states, “A resolution supporting three exempt positions” then at the end it says “Now therefore it is hereby resolved that the Park Board supports the City Council’s recodification of Parks Division Managers (existing and future positions)”, asking whether it is supposed to say the three exempt positions in the title, or “creation of exempt positions” and if it makes a difference.

Leroy Eadie advised he considered the changing the language identifying only 3 positions because he wanted to be clear to City Council that the 3 positions are what we are asking for at this time and the Board’s intent was not to create more than 3. The existing structure in the Spokane Municipal Code contains language allowing Parks to have 8 exempt positions. Through the discussions at Finance Committee the Board wanted to make sure that the opportunities in the future to redefine our organization and create additional positions that we had the ability to define those positions as departments within the Parks and Recreation Division/Department. For example if we decided to elevate a golf position that the Board would have that ability to make that recommendation and that would be a department level position, or if we were to break apart recreation and entertainment for flexibility. We’re not proposing that today. That really has to come out of your budget discussion. He knows that he and the Board have talked a little bit about that from Finance Committee.

Andy Duanu stated that if Dr. Selinger was willing to accept a friendly amendment he is in favor of using the term “creation of” and fully supports the three positions Leroy is talking about with the intent of this resolution being both the present and the future and we have to acknowledge that is the reality of it.

Ross Kelley and Sam Selinger both indicated their agreement on the amendment.

Ross Kelley confirmed that we would have to go through a process should we want to make more exempt positions than the three being talked about.

Ken Van Voorhis stated the Board is acknowledging and clarifying that we are allowing the resolution to create exempt positions for those three sub-departments or departments. He asked to confirm that the second org chart is a part of the resolution.

Leroy Eadie, stated that the second org chart is just to show that the structure of Parks and Recreation does not change from before.

Ken Van Voorhis asked for clarification on if "union" and "civil service" are one in the same.

Leroy Eadie advised that you can have a civil service position and can have union representation as well. You can have a non-civil service position and still have union representation. Or you can be a non-civil service with no union representation. Leroy is a "confidential exempt employee" with no union representation. Department heads within Parks and Recreation Department/Division would be exempt employees but they would have union representation. Today they have civil service positions and they have union representation.

Ken Van Voorhis again asked to confirm that by adopting this resolution, if we are adopting Leroy's proposed hierarchy, if that is what Leroy's intent is, and if the org chart we are talking about now would be the org chart under this resolution.

Leroy Eadie advised that you can see the org charts don't change the organization within the boxes, what changes is that within the boxes these positions become exempt and therefore are not civil service.

Susan Traver inquired if the four existing positions that were in the adopted budget would just end and asked if the org chart can be included in the resolution. She expressed concern when we started this conversation that it was only supposed to be 3 positions and then found that it's 8 people because with each position there is another one attached to it. In her mind we came up with a bigger number than we were initially interested in. For example, it's like you go out and you are going to take down a certain amount of trees and then as you go along you have a bunch of trees down and it really isn't what you had planned. She would be interested in making sure that the org charts are an attachment to the resolution because it makes it more clear as to what the Board's position is concerning this issue. Things were added on to make it 8 positions when really the Board thought they were looking at 3 or 4 total.

Leroy Eadie explained that he would say it a little bit differently and not that they were added on because the existing City Charter gives the mayor power to appoint and fire department heads and their assistants. That is really how you get up to the 8. It wasn't our intent to do that but since we know the existing charter language is there and we could take advantage of it if we wanted to through the budgeting process and add those positions.

Sam Selinger advised he thinks the Board's intent is basically to codify the way we already do things but because of how the other rules are you get the additional ability, but the Mayor has it and we're not necessarily intending to fill any of these other possibilities that exist. His understanding that is if somebody is currently Civil Service and fills one of those positions then they will go through Civil Service.

Leroy Eadie advised that if someone chooses to take one of those positions and leaves Civil Service, asks for a leave of absence from Civil Service, and then later goes back to a Civil Service job then they can obtain their Civil Service rights again. He is completely comfortable adding this to the resolution and thinks it will add clarification in bringing it forward to City Council.

Chris Wright asked Leroy to clarify about how the hiring and the termination of those works today versus how it works in the future.

Leroy Eadie stated that today the three division manager positions are Civil Service

positions with representation. On the hiring side they get some privileges they don't get with Civil Service. They get the Rule of the List, when hiring for those positions they get the ability to promote from the inside and lots of opportunity to hire from the outside. Leroy gets a little more control over the list than he would with Civil Service positions within the organization and that is not something he enjoys today. Termination is subject to all of the City's Human Resource policies in the process. Under Civil Service there is a whole series of steps that we would go through starting with counseling all the way through potential termination. What is being proposed is the hiring is non-Civil Service, so we would have to advertize the position and Leroy would have to create an interview list, obviously including Park Board members in the process. In the end he would present potential employees to the Mayor to be considered for hiring. Termination would have to be for cause, unlike Leroy's position which can be terminated without cause. There are some union rights associated with what is being proposed so termination would have to be for cause with these positions.

Chris Wright asked Leroy to clarify if the new exempt positions still would have to go through a progressive discipline process, or if the termination would be the same as Leroy's, or how it would work.

Leroy Eadie stated he does not believe it would be the same as his because his doesn't have to have cause. There would have to be cause and asked Heather Lowe to confirm if exempt employees without representation would be let go without cause or exactly what that process would be.

Heather Lowe, Human Resources Director, gave a little background on herself. Previous to working with Leroy on this ordinance she presented an ordinance that was an update to the rest of the organization to City Council several weeks ago which also created departments that have not existed to date in the City ordinance. It did not create positions, it created the departments. A byproduct of that is that based on our Charter there are two appointed positions that the Mayor can appoint to each of those departments. It's a flexibility that is allowed by having the department created. Without having the department created that flexibility will never exist. So similar to what Parks and Rec is doing now we codified the organization by creating departments that don't exist. They currently exist and we are just creating the organizational structure to assist us in the ordinance as to how our organizational structure is actually operating. If you ask Leroy for an organizational chart right now it will look exactly like this. However, our ordinance doesn't accurately reflect that so this isn't anything that previous administrations haven't done in the past. This is actually something that she believes almost every administration has done. A new administration comes in, they see how they want things designed, how they want work to flow through and align employees appropriately. That is really what we are doing here. Relative to the change of a classified Civil Service Position going to an exempt position is that the biggest change is that recruitment is now handled through Human Resources and not Civil Service. There is a different recruitment process that would then be handled. Heather would work with Leroy to create the job description, he would funnel it through the Board, we would come up with a very robust interview process that would include panels, Park Board would have recommendation for hire, Leroy would make recommendation to the Mayor, which would then have to be confirmed by City Council. The biggest issue from what she was hearing would be union representation. These department heads would still be represented and they would be in the group that we call M&P A. Our Managerial and Professional Association "A" Group is an at-will group. They would have the same benefits, we would negotiate their contract just as we normally do, but they would be at-will positions. If Leroy were to retire and we brought in a new Parks

and Recreation Director, that employee would have the ability to say "you know what this is the team that I want structured under me" and he would be able to make changes to those appointments and set up the structure they way he needed it to be most effective and efficient. While there is a standardized termination process, every situation is different and unique because you're dealing with a different employee, a different situation. If there was a circumstance where there was obvious just cause then we would move forward with an immediate termination. If it's just the matter of the employee's not the right fit we would sit down and have some conversations with that employee but we wouldn't necessarily have to have just cause to go through the termination process with an exempt employee. With those types of decisions Heather typically works with the department director and work through what the circumstances are and onto an appropriate determination. The ultimate authority is vested with the Mayor.

Andy Dunau following up with Chris' line, currently Civil Service goes through the termination process with these three positions.

Heather Lowe responded with "yes" and "no". Mayor is the only person that has the authority to hire and fire any person that works within the City.

Andy Dunau inquired if right now it would go through the process Leroy just described all the way up through termination because of the Civil Service process.

Heather Lowe advised that yes, and that the process is described in the collective bargaining agreements.

Andy Dunau inquired that if the future process is that it wouldn't go through the civil service process, but that it would go through the Human Resource Department.

Ross Kelley stated that on the same track those people have risen through the Union and through City employment would have the rights to go back to their previous position.

Heather Lowe advised absolutely.

Susan Traver stated that this isn't a change as to codify an existing policy. It is interesting to her because to codify means that it was out of codification all this time, which is probably what has happened. It bothers her the extents to which this reaches down into the organization where the Mayor is concerned. She has been told by other Park Board members that it would never happen and would be an anomaly. She has been on the Board for almost 3 years and anomalies happen all the time. She is talking about the office of the mayor, future mayors, and not personally about the current Mayor, and is concerned he could come down into the organization for whatever reason and put someone in or release them. Now they are a little bit more protected. She is not personally a fan of Civil Service and understands how it works very well, however it gives her pause concerning that because we have said 3-4, that just isn't quite true in Civil Service.

Heather Lowe noted that the Mayor relies on his cabinet and his department directors to make those decisions. He has made it very clear that reaching out into each of our departments is not something that he has the time to do. He trusts Heather and the director of that department to come to him the circumstance and what they need to do. He is not making those decisions alone, without allowing a process with Heather and the department director.

Randy Cameron stated that for him those discussions, decisions, organizational chart, and all of that are extremely important and thinks that this current board is very advanced and very interested in all of it. Randy wants to make sure that he is doing nothing political. If he votes yes to this resolution, that he is staying on track or is he deviating from what the City Council has already voted on or the charter. Is the board being defiant by not approving the resolution or are they staying consistent by voting for it.

Leroy Eadie displayed the City Council ordinance they consider earlier and made some

changes to noting that Parks and Recreation is defined as a Division/Department which gives us the ability to define our major structure within Parks and Recreation as a division with departments within. Today we don't define ourselves with departments though we have the ability and that is the way we function. He outlined what Police did in creating departments. If approved then Leroy would proposed changes to the appropriate section do define departments within Parks and Recreation.

Mike Allen noted that Council had many of these same discussions with regards to Police and Fire. The majority of the Council's position was that if you are put in a position of leadership, whether you are Leroy or the Mayor or someone else, you should be able to surround yourself with people you want on your team because you are being charged with bringing of that part of the organization forward. You are responsible for it and you should be able to select your senior team. He thinks that it is absolutely fundamental and critical in business and in government. There is a safe harbor if they came out of Civil Service. They are able to go back into Civil Service if for some reason the position change or if something happened. So they have that capacity and that capability. Some of them do continue to have Union representation through the process and there is some safe harbor and protection there. Ultimately what it came down to is that if you are a part of an organization and you have been charged by the Citizens in an organization in charge of by the Mayor, you should be able to select the senior management folks who are on your team. It is an exceptional thing, especially when there is a safeguard when they came from Civil Service and can go back.

Andy Dunau asked for a call for the vote.

Jim Santorsola inquired that since we are in a position of voting upon this resolution, does it also give us, if we find we don't like it at a later date, does it also give us the authority to disband it.

Leroy Eadie advised that the Board's course then would be to adopt a different resolution making a recommendation to the City Council for change. The Board would not have the ability to unilaterally make the change. That power resides with the City Council. Park Board doesn't have the power to amend or adopt Spokane Municipal Code. The Board has the ability to work with the council liaison should they want a change.

Chris Wright commented that with all due respect to other Park Board members this may from an operational standpoint mirror what we have in place. That is it creates departments or divisions, whatever we call them, that already exist. It's not a mere codification, it's a resolution intended to convince the council to change the personnel structure within Parks. If there is any notion that it is preserving staff or what we have now is not true. We are creating three exempt positions, but even more than that we are creating divisions that will have the ability for up to 8 exempt positions. He is not supportive of it. He, like Susan, thought it was a simple notion of giving the director tools to more effectively manage the department heads and it has expanded to a much broader notion. He is concerned about future administrations being able to come in and assemble a team. It is not just what the director needs and could be what the mayor wants at different levels. That concerns him. He is not supportive of it because it isn't a codification from a personnel standpoint though it may be from an operational and division standpoint, but not anything beyond that. He will oppose the motion.

Susan Traver stated she would like to make a friendly motion that the graphic showing the organization with the total of four exempt employees be added as an attachment to the resolution.

Sam Selinger noted that though he thinks it is fine it is not going to change the municipal code.

Susan Traver stated that it shows the Board's intent.

Randy Cameron asked Susan that if when the 2014 bond is passed by the citizens and we became large enough to divide Recreation and Riverfront Park would that be within her thoughts.

Sam Selinger noted that we would have to go back at that time anyway then.

Randy Cameron asked about Communications or the management of Golf.

Susan Traver noted that in looking at it the total number of exempt positions that can be created is 8. That information is there but it also has the other information. For right now she wants to draw her line in the sand.

Sam Selinger agreed to the friendly amendment and echoed the call for the vote.

Ken Van Voorhis stated with all due respect to the Board that what they are looking at as far as the Board is concerned it is the financial responsibility, not the operational responsibility, where they give direction, or how the Parks system is laid out based on how they finance things. We can have 8 exempt employees or one exempt employee but they are all funded. The part of the job that is the Board's is the financial and that is what is in the charter. He would support this resolution because it would bring us in line with the code.

Randy Cameron called for the vote.

Motion carried 9 yea, 1 nay.

- B. The committee received and reviewed the Financial reports, Parks and Gold equipment replacement report, 6-Year Capital Plan Improvement Program introduction, 2013 Capital Plan, and the budget guidelines list.
- C. The budget template has not been received from City Finance.
- D. Today's Study Session will be rescheduled due to time constraints from this meeting going long.

Urban Forestry Tree Committee: April 30, 2013 – *Ken Van Voorhis*

- A. The committee received updates on the Street Tree Inventory, and the Citizen Advisory Committee.
- B. The committee discussed the Grant Projects and applications 2013-2014, the Urban Forestry Budget Impacts related to Park Property Acquisitions, and the Canopy Coverage/Shade Requirements in SMC 17C.200.
- C. The Arboretum is in nearly full bloom and very pretty.

By-Laws Committee: *Ross Kelley, Did not meet.*

13. **Reports:**

Park Board President: *Randy Cameron*

- 1. The Riverfront Park Master Plan is moving along and we are happy with the progress so far.
- 2. Randy is in discussions with the Mayor as we continue to move towards the 2014 Bond. He will provide updates as they come available.
- 3. Discussions continue on the Corbin Art Center.
- 4. We are working with Stormwater on plans and ideas on both the north side and the south hill. Randy has been in discussion with the City representatives talking about how Parks and Recreation can participate.
- 5. Susan Traver is leading the Ad-Hoc committee for the Park Board vacancy review. Also on the committee were Sam Selinger, Ross Kelley and Randy Cameron. Two recommendations have been forwarded to Mayor.

6. There is a UTF Skatepark meeting tomorrow and we are moving forward looking at both the current and other locations.

Liaison Reports:

1. Conservation Futures Liaison – Ken VanVoorhis, No report
Leroy Eadie advised that it looks like we will get a small piece of land in Palisades from Robbi Castleberry. Although we have decided not to be in the land acquisition business this one does make sense. Ken advised that this piece of land has not yet come through land evaluation for Conservation Futures Funding but they will look forward to seeing it.
2. Parks Foundation Liaison – Susan Traver, No report
3. Council Liaison – Councilman Mike Allen reported our budget is really predicated on the size of the General Fund. The sales numbers we are seeing come back are strengthening. This will dictate the budget level we are looking at next year.
4. Parks Department Revenue & Sponsorship Subcommittee – Councilman Mike Allen reported that the committee had come up with the idea of the request for letters of interest in the four golf courses. Leroy Eadie reported that this was taken to the Golf Committee and we have prepared a list of people to send it to. We are getting it ready to send out the door. Randy Cameron recommended contacting the ad agencies and requesting them to see if it might be a good fit with their clients.
5. Ad Hoc Committee for Improved Financial Reporting – Randy Cameron, No report
6. Ad Hoc Committee for RFP Facility Naming/Sponsorship – Chris Wright, did not meet

Director's Report: *Leroy Eadie*

1. The next Riverfront Park Master Plan Committee meeting is Thursday, May 16. The members really enjoyed the tour of Riverfront Park.
2. The *Walk in the Park* show will be highlighting Riverfront Park, some of the new concession opportunities, and Funshine Day Camp.
3. Leroy had the opportunity yesterday to spend time with an EWU Parks Planning class. By the time he got done he realized that we are doing a lot right now. The professor reported back that the class was quite stunned by what we are doing.
4. Leroy is very proud of Recreation and Riverfront. They have been under a lot of pressure in the last couple of years and have responded quite well. Jerry Unruh, Carl Strong and Adriano Eva are doing a wonderful job in Recreation. Sam Song is doing a great job. Riverfront Park staff took a strong leadership role in the Cleaning to the Core event.

14. **Correspondence:**

- A. Newsletters: Southside Senior Activity Center
Project Joy

15. **Public Comments:** None

16. **Park Board Member Comments:**

- A. Susan Traver offered to speak at the WSASC event. Bonnie McDade will make arrangements with Susan.
- B. Ken Van Voorhis commented on how nice it is to sit outside at the Riverfront Park Café and see the vibrancy of the area.
- C. Andy Dunau recognized Randy Cameron for his new glasses.
- D. Sam Selinger said how nice it is to have Dr. Quigley with us on the phone. Sam visited him just the other evening and he is up and around. Dr. Quigley is being kept up to date by a

lot of the members here.

- E. Councilman Mike Allen complimented this board for the amount of work that was put into getting the Fountain Café right. It looks great, is a great addition to the community and we got rid of two trailers at the gateway of our most important tourist attraction.
- F. Jim Santorsola complimented Al Vorderbrueggen on the tremendous work he put in on the on the Equipment Replacement Plan and the 6 Year Capital Improvement Program.

16. **Adjournment:** 4:37 p.m.

- A. Next Committee meeting dates:
 - Golf Committee: May 15, 2013, 7:00 a.m., The Creek at Qualchan Golf Course
 - Riverfront Park Committee: June 10, 2013, 8:05 a.m., City Hall Tribal Conference Room 1
 - Land Committee: June 5, 2013, 3:30 p.m., City Hall Conference Room 5A
 - Recreation Committee June 6, 2013, 3:30 p.m. City Hall Conference Room 2B
 - Finance Committee: June 11, 2013, 3:00 p.m., City Hall Conference Room 5A
 - Urban Forestry Committee: June 4, 2013, 4:15 p.m., Woodland Center
- B. Next Park Board meeting date: June 13, 2013, 1:30 p.m., City Council Chambers
- C. Next Park Board Study Session: June 13, 2013, 3:30 p.m., Joint with City Council, City Council Briefing Center