

## **SPOKANE PARK BOARD**

October 10, 2013 Regular Monthly Meeting

1:30 P.M., City Council Chambers

### **Minutes**

1. **Roll Call:** *Leesa Van Zandt*

Park Board Members Present: Randy Cameron, President; Sam Selinger, Vice President; Leroy Eadie, Ross Kelley; Chris Wright; Susan Traver; Ken Van Voorhis; Andy Dunau (1:46); Preston Potratz, Kristine Meyer

Park Board Members Absent Excused: Jim Santorsola; Councilman Mike Allen

Staff Present: Angel Spell; Nancy Goodspeed; Jerry Unruh; Rebecca Madany; Carl Strong; Garrett Jones; Tony Madunich; Al Vorderbrueggen, Steve Nittolo, Debby Dodson, Penny Simonson, Leesa Van Zandt

2. **Motion No. 1:** Randy Cameron motioned to approve the September 12, 2013 Regular Park Board Meeting Minutes and Study Session.  
Susan Traver seconded.  
Motion carried.

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

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

- A. Fall Parks and Recreation Classes are well under way this week and a few openings remain.
- B. The Corbin Art Center will be holding fall youth camps and workshops for school age and preschool children.
- C. Parks and Recreation offers unique event venues for reservation.
- D. Discount coupons for the major attractions in Riverfront Park have been included in with October utility bills.
- E. Curling is being offered in partnership with the Lilac City Curling Club.
- F. Parks and Recreation will launch its traditional holiday sales campaign in late November. This year the campaign is called "Unwrap Summer."
- G. Discounted gift cards and season passes for Golf, Riverfront, Ice Palace and Aquatics will be offered throughout the holiday season.
- H. The annual Fall Leaf Festival at the Finch Arboretum will take place on Saturday, October 26 from 11 am to 2 pm.
- I. The work of the Citizens Advisory Committee for the Riverfront Park Master Plan 2014 continues. Look for kiosks at various locations in Riverfront Park to add your comments and ideas.
- J. A ribbon cutting ceremony took place September 27th to celebrate the opening of the new Spokane River Gorge Section of the Centennial Trail with Greenstone, the City of Spokane, Spokane Parks & Recreation and Friends of the Centennial Trail.
- K. The new Centennial Trail extension into Veteran's Park is slated to be complete in early spring.
- L. Keep in touch with Parks and Recreation for updates on class openings, new activities, special events and more.

5. **Special Guests:**

Bonnie McDade, Executive Director, Southside Senior & Community Center, Kate Green, Executive Director, Northeast Youth Center and Curt Connolly, President, SYSCA presented the Park Board Members the Partner of the Year Award for their commitment and support of the recreation programs of the SYSCA members. Bonnie thanked board members that attended "The Young and the Restless" event and Randy Cameron chose the winner of the \$900 grand prize, Jennifer Ferguson. Bonnie also highlighted that SYSCA has over 70,000 volunteer hours contributed each year and provides over 250,000 participant hours of activities each year.

6. **Motion No. 2:** Ross Kelley motioned to approve claims for the month of September 2013 in the amount of \$1,481,416.45.

Sam Selinger seconded.

Motion carried.

7. **Financial Report & Budget Update:** Rebecca Madany presented the September Financials. The Park Fund revenue to date is at 92%; the Park Fund Expenditures to date is at 96%. The Golf Fund revenue to date is 106%; the Golf Fund Expenditures to date is at 115%. Golf experienced the lowest September revenue month of the past five years due mainly to weather.

8. **Foundation Report:** Heather Beebe-Stevens reported that the Foundation Board's strategic plan is to increase funds available. They are working to streamline their grant process and will have the application available online. The Foundation is moving offices in late October and will open at their new location November 4<sup>th</sup>. An open house will be planned for early December.

Randy Cameron presented the Foundation, Park Board Members and Hal McGlathery, influential senior, Expo '74 coins that had been discovered in an unmarked box while organizing the Mayor's office.

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

- A. Shoreline Action Plan resolution received approval on removal plan last month, looking for approval of restoration plan. Citizen comments were discussed regarding planting density and the use of cottonwood trees. The restoration plan strategically included dense planting to avoid erosion and the cottonwood is a native Northwest repairing tree. The PFD, through the revocable license agreement is committed to maintain this area for 10 years and will deal with any maintenance issues that arise in that timeframe. Leroy Eadie advised that the revocable license agreement has been filed with the Clerk's Office. Ken Van Voorhis thanked the staff for their effort and citizens for their comments.

Randy Cameron stated that we will move forward. No action needed.

- B. Leroy Eadie gave an overview of a resolution regarding the use of \$241,000 of park fund balance for strategic investments and advised that Randy Cameron had approved adding it to the agenda as it was not an action item from a committee meeting. Leroy advised that the projects recommended have a revenue generation component and will have an impact in the last quarter of 2013.

**Motion No. 3:** Ross Kelley motioned to approve the resolution.

Dr. Sam Selinger seconded

Speaking to the motion:

Ken Van Voorhis requested more information regarding the \$12,000 for recreation.

Rebecca Madany advised that the amount was mainly for the replacement of worn out floatation devices and kayaks.

Leroy Eadie noted that we are moving to a more entry level sit-on-top type of kayak as it is more marketable to our outdoor recreation clients.

Ken Van Voorhis also questioned the \$100K for Bosch lot.

Leroy Eadie advised that amount will include beautification strategies, as now that the Centennial trail has been improved, Bosch lot stands out as an eyesore. Potential upgrades may include a keystone wall, replacing a sidewalk, and regrading of the parking lot with a surface that will stand up better to winter weather.

Andy Dunau advised that specific expenditures will come back through finance committee and for Park Board approvals before action is taken.

Ross Kelley noted that these are a one-time expenditure of funds that provide for enhancement of our revenues. He advised that he is strongly supporting the motion.

Randy Cameron stated that the staff communicated well with the Board through various committees on this resolution and feels confident that there will be a direct immediate impact. Motion carried.

#### 10. **Committee Reports – Action Items:**

**Golf Committee:** September 18, 2013, *Ross Kelley*

- A. There was an update on the Point Of Sale Software.
- B. There was discussion on the 2014 Budget-Revenue Generation.
- C. There was discussion on the Course Closure Plan beginning first weekend of November depending on weather.
- D. There was discussion on the Qualchan Mortgage Note Burning Celebration.
- E. There was a Financial Update. Hoping for great October to make up for slow September.
- F. The discussion on the Golf Research Project was deferred.
- G. There was a Revenue Enhancement/Advertising Update.
- H. There was an update on the course conditions.

**Land Committee:** October 2, 2013 – *Ken Van Voorhis*

**Motion No. 4:** Ken Van Voorhis motioned to approve an easement with Avista.

Andy Dunau seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

- A. Ken Van Voorhis advised that the Land Acquisition Criteria was tabled at committee.

**Motion No. 5:** Ken Van Voorhis motioned to advise Conservation Futures they are supportive of nominating all or part of the Tuscan Ridge property.

Chris Wright seconded.

Speaking to the motion:

Leroy Eadie advised where the Tuscan Ridge property is located.

Ken Van Voorhis provided background and advised that the motion would show support for Conservation Futures as the property is an unforeseen opportunity. He noted that Tuscan Ridge is a challenging property and that the developers are willing to part with it. It could be considered as a habitat and meets recreation criteria.

Leroy Eadie is supportive as it fills a gap in property owned to the north and south. He does have concerns as the purchase would come with some need for maintenance dollars, but does not come with dollars for improvements. Trailheads, restrooms, etc would not be something we would be able to build. The property would need to be kept in same condition

as is today.

Randy Cameron requested an overview from Kent Moline, Tuscan Ridge Conservation Futures application. Kent stated that the main recreational value is that it connects 27 miles of trails on the bluff's lower and upper portions. The lower part of the lot consists of flat pine grass. The northern part consists of a gulch at 43rd and Hatch which is mainly a wet ecosystem with Douglas firs. Speaking to any plans for trail access, the slope of the land would make trail building and maintenance difficult and impractical. Development would pinch off a wildlife corridor into a narrow area, impacting more sensitive creatures.

Andy Dunau inquired as to the difference between this piece of property and a similar request made previously by a neighborhood group in Palasades. He stated that he supported the previous request and will support this one as well.

Ken Van Voorhis advised that land acquisition criteria previously did not exist and that this particular piece sits inside city limits. He noted that the Tuscan Ridge property was brought forward as a timely measure and it fits the criteria although there is further discussion to be had on how to evaluate future properties.

Susan Traver stated that by approving this motion we are telling Conservation Futures that we support that they purchase this property. She noted that one of the guiding principles for this year was to maintain and not expand. Also mentioned was that it would be naive to assume we would not have to improve this property if it is accepted. Susan advised that she cannot support the motion as we are not to expand the budget for maintenance.

Chris Wright agreed with Ken that Tuscan Ridge joins two disconnected pieces of park property. He advised that Susan's comments make him hesitate, but ultimately will vote for it as there is already an existing trail system. He also noted that the committee would also support buying a portion of the property that would connect other Park held properties.

Randy Cameron inquired regarding the timeframe and ranking.

Ken Van Voorhis advised that evaluations and assessment by both parties and negotiations could take several months.

Ross Kelley voiced concern that the property appears expensive. He noted that it is similar to those next to it and is not unique. He likes that it connects the trails as they are adjacent to a sheer face but was concerned that no ranking system is in place. While he supports conservation futures efforts, he would not like to have more than a portion of it to ensure that we would not be expected to maintain access.

Susan Traver noted that the current owner has allowed public use and that continued use could be negotiated with a new owner.

Andy Dunau thanked Susan for her consistency. He noted that he has been swayed and will abstain. He suggests that Land Acquisition Criteria be finished to provide consistency before providing any future recommendations.

Dr. Sam Selinger commented regarding the time spent in committee on establishing criteria. He noted that there was a struggle to agree on the both the criteria and their weighting. He surmised that it may be a long time before the Land Acquisition Criteria are finished.

Randy Cameron thanked each one for well thought out opinions and stated that the Criteria will be a game changer as it will treat each property fairly and on its own merits. He was concerned of the timing of Tuscan Ridge and hoped the Board would consider pushing it back through land committee to go through the new process.

Chris Wright sees no value in waiting on the vote as we could be months away from agreeing on the criteria. He also noted that his concern was that less be acquired rather than more. Motion failed with 3 in favor, 3 opposed and one abstention.

- B. The Committee deferred Beacon Hill, Camp Sekani and Lower High Drive off Highway 195

Conservation Futures Land Acquisition discussions until the November meeting.

- C. Centennial Trail Crossing at Mission - The preferred concept, project phases and scopes, cost estimates and funding, and impacts to parking and the Witter aquatics facility were reviewed. The item may be presented for action at the November Committee meeting.
- D. Kendall Yards/Centennial Trail/Veterans Court – Trail paving through Veterans Court and Kendall Yards, and pouring of Kendall Yards lookouts were completed in time for the ribbon cutting ceremony. Kendall Yards Phase II work and Veterans Court landscaping plans continue.
- E. Glover Field CSO Tank – Work continues on the SEPA and environmental checklists. Both design alternatives are being considered.
- F. Capital Projects – Written report was provided. Project updates were given for the Kehoe and Camp Sekani restrooms, and a play structure at A. M. Cannon Park.
- G. Operations Division Financial Report – Written report was provided. We are tracking at or below budget.
- H. Rebecca Madany will task staff with supplying parking information on Witter Pool.

11. **Recreation Committee:** October 3, 2013 – *Susan Traver*

- A. There was an update regarding the Under the Freeway Skate Park.
- B. There was a Marketing Update.
- C. An Aquatic Programming Comparison Report was distributed and discussed.
- D. There was discussion on a Make-A-Splash Punch Card.
- E. There was discussion on an Aquatic Chemical Maintenance and Management Plan.
- F. There was a Recreation Program Status Report.
- G. The Recreation Financial Report was distributed and discussed.
- H. There was no update on the Health and Obesity Initiatives.
- I. There was a brief update on the Athletic Facility Allocations.

12. **Riverfront Park Committee:** October 7, 2013 – *Chris Wright*

- A. Board and Staff connection - Staff Member, Barbara Ackermann, was introduced. She reviewed her duties, background, and answered questions.
- B. September, 2013, Riverfront Park Operations – Staff gave a PowerPoint presentation, and a printed outline version was provided.
- C. Public Facilities District (PFD) project update - The project location, photographs, background, and scope were reviewed. Urban Forestry Staff is monitoring vegetation work. The Revocable License Agreement obligates Park Board to take public comment and make a final decision regarding the PFD Restoration Plan at the October 10, 2013, Board meeting. The Planning Department has made a hiring recommendation regarding shoreline restoration.
- D. Marketing Quarterly Report - Holiday Campaign information was provided and reviewed. A partnership opportunity with River Park Square, and an Urban Forestry related gift idea were highlighted. A Quinn Group representative reviewed marketing research and strategy, and compared the current strategy with prior ones.
- E. Riverfront Park (RFP) Master Plan Advisory Committee update – A slide presentation was given. The Committee is making good progress. A recent presentation to the Downtown Spokane Partnership was well received. Riverfront Park chronology and ideas regarding Havermale Island, the Howard Street corridor, U. S. Federal Pavilion, IMAX facility, central plaza, ice rink, low impact development strategy, the Northbank, Washington Street connections, and parking were reviewed.
- F. Bosch Lot Update – The previously discussed concept lacks Mayoral support. A sub-committee or team will be created to explore ideas. The budget has been reduced with the expectation a

'lighter' version of the prior concept may be implemented for the interim.

G. Financial Reports - Written reports were provided and reviewed by Staff.

13. **Finance Committee:** October 8, 2013, *Andy Dunau*

A. Rebecca gave an overview of the budget for 2014.

**Motion No. 6:** Andy Dunau motioned to approve the 2014 Proposed Budget as presented in the September 12, 2013 Regular Park Board Meeting.

Kristine Meyer seconded the motion.

Speaking to the motion:

Susan Traver thanked Leroy, Rebecca and the staff. She appreciated the ability to delve into detail at the committee level.

Chris Wright thanked the finance chair for keeping us on task.

Ken Van Voorhis inquired if modifications previously discussed were included.

Leroy Eadie advised that the modifications were included and that he would discuss more in his director's report.

Motion carried.

**Motion No. 7:** Andy Dunau motioned to approve the contract amendment with Divco, Inc., for boiler repair and maintenance in Riverfront Park facilities, in the amount of \$17,403.47, including sales tax.

Dr. Sam Selinger seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

B. Financial Reports - Written reports were provided. Staff reviewed the reports, impacts of rainy weather, and anticipated projects that were not pursued.

C. Overview of 2014 City of Spokane Budget – A copy of overview information was provided. Staff reviewed it as well as information on the webpage.

D. 2013 Capital Plan – Written report was provided by Staff, and reviewed collectively.

E. Pending Project List for Use of Fund Balance – A written list was provided and reviewed by Staff. Committee consensus was that the Board President will schedule the \$241,000 component on the October Park Board agenda, and the other components should be presented for action at the November Committee meeting.

F. 2014 Capital Plan – This item was moved to the November Committee meeting.

G. General Fund Transfer to Parks – The Committee Chairperson introduced the issue, and requested a smaller group start to meet to develop message points. A written report was provided and reviewed by Staff.

14. **Urban Forestry Tree Committee:** October 1, 2013 –*Ken Van Voorhis*

A. The October 1, 2013 Urban Forestry Tree Committee meeting was canceled.

15. **By-Laws Committee:** Did not meet.

16. **Reports:**

**Park Board President:** *Randy Cameron*

1. Randy congratulated Andy Dunau on his efforts the budget reset and changing how it is recorded and reviewed see some sustainability increased collective knowledge of staff and Park Board.

2. Thanked Chris Wright for all the legal work he has done this year as it has enabled us to do great things while protecting Parks and Recreation.

3. Thanked Leroy Eadie for ensuring that his team is more focused on revenues vs. expenses and on retaining customer service.
4. Study session reminder

**Liaison Reports:**

1. Conservation Futures Liaison – *Ken VanVoorhis, No report*
2. Parks Foundation Liaison – *Susan Traver, No report*
3. Council Liaison – *Councilman Mike Allen, No report*
4. Parks Department Revenue & Sponsorship Subcommittee – *Councilman Mike Allen, No report*

**Director's Report:** *Leroy Eadie*

1. Leroy Eadie reported that the SYSCA centers open house went well and mentioned that in particular, the Northeast Youth Center stood out as having a positive atmosphere.
2. Parks and Recreation received the 2013 Mayor's Urban Design Award for the Fountain Café in Riverfront Park. The Café was a great investment that the Board provided both the funds and the vision for.
3. Leroy thanked Andy Dunau for leadership during the budget process for 2014.
4. We will begin recruiting and interviewing process for three new positions set to start in January. A nationwide search will be conducted for both the Recreation Director and Riverfront Park Director positions. Leroy requested that the following Park Board members participate in the interview process:  
Recreation Director – Susan Traver  
Riverfront Park Director – Chris Wright  
Executive Officer Administrator – Randy Cameron
5. The main focus for Fall 2013 will be on the Master Plan and Advisory Committee.

17. **Correspondence:**

- A. Newsletters: Southside Senior & Community Center
- B. Letters: All letters were distributed to the full Board via email prior to today's meeting.  
To the full Board Regarding Corbin Senior Center Funding:  
Mary Kay Bryan  
Gerald Ray  
Wayne Limber

18. **Public Comments:**

19. **Adjournment:** 3:33 p.m.

- A. Next Committee meeting dates:  
Golf Committee: October 16, 2013, 7:00 a.m., Qualchan Golf Course  
Riverfront Park Committee: November 11, 2013, 8:05 a.m., 8:05 a.m., City Hall Tribal Conference Room 1  
Land Committee: November 6, 3:30 p.m., City Hall Conference Room 5A  
Recreation Committee: November 7, 2013, 3:30 p.m. City Hall Conference Room 2B  
Finance Committee: November 12, 2013, 3:00 p.m., City Hall Conference Room 5A  
Urban Forestry Committee: November 5, 2013, 4:15 p.m., Woodland Center
- B. Next Park Board meeting date: November 14, 2013, 1:30 p.m., City Hall Conference Room 5A
- C. Next Park Board Study Session: November 14, 3:00 p.m., City Hall Conference Room 5A