

SPOKANE PARK BOARD

Park Board Study Session – 3:30 p.m. Dec. 10, 2015
City Hall Conference Room 5A

NOTES

1. **Roll Call:** *Leroy Eadie*
Council President Ben Stuckart, Meeting Chair; Chris Wright, Park Board President; Susan Traver, Park Board Vice President; Leroy Eadie, Secretary; Ross Kelley; Ken Van Voorhis; Andy Dunau; Sam Selinger; Preston Potratz; Lauren Pendergraft; Nick Sumner; Ted McGregor; Councilman Mike Allen (absent/excused)
2. **Review of Agenda:** *Ben Stuckart*
3. **Appreciation for Mike Allen as Park Board Member**
Refreshments and a gift were provided by Parks & the Park Board. Candace Mumm was announced as the new city council liaison on the Park Board.
4. **President's Report:** *Chris Wright*
None
5. **Committee Reports**

Golf Committee: *Preston Potratz*
2015 Successes
 - Indian Canyon RFP – Mr. Potratz reviewed some of the successes at the golf course, including the new superintendent, increased number of rounds and revenue, and a good late season. There was a discussion regarding the new RFP process each time the golf pro contracts conclude. Previously, contracts were three-year agreements and could be renewed at the end of the term of each contract. The new contracts are five-year agreements with one option to renew an additional five years. Indian Canyon will be the first golf course to enter into the new RFP process. Mr. Potratz reported on a recent workshop with the Friends of Indian Canyon. It was a collaborative effort and positive meeting.
Land Committee: *Ken Van Voorhis*
 - 2015 Capital Projects Completed – Mr. Van Voorhis reported there are more than 50 projects which resulted in approximately \$1.7 million in investments to the park system.
 - 2016 Capital Projects Planned – He reported plans for about 40 projects totaling approximately \$2 million. Focus will be on safety and lighting.
 - Conservation Futures – Mr. Van Voorhis recapped the city activities working with the Spokane County Conservation Futures Program, and CF's efforts to acquire and preserve the open space within the county.

Recreation Committee: *Dr. Sam Selinger*

- 2015 Success – Dr. Selinger reported on successes in athletics and at the Corbin Art Center. He explained there was an increase in the adult volleyball leagues, improved softball team registrations and tournaments, and additional sports camps. Corbin enjoyed increased program attendance and total revenue has exceeded expectations.
- 2015 Challenges – Primary challenges included lack of snow and extreme smoke from fires.
- Aquatics – Dr. Selinger reported revenue and attendance were slightly up in 2015.
- Division Street River Put in/Take out – It opened the end of this year and plans are underway for 2016 to offer classes, trips and programs with pre-registration.

Finance Committee: *Susan Traver*

- 2015 Budget Performance – Ms. Traver reported there was a total budget of approximately \$22 million and YTD we are very close to budget. Some of the expenditures from windstorm will carry over to 2016. It appears those expenditures will be in the \$600,000 range for this unexpected event.
- 2016 Budget Expectations – Next year's budget is \$25 million in total funds which is the largest budget there has been in the parks' history.
- Healthy Reserves – The 2015 reserves are above the 7% required by the bylaws. This will help in covering the windstorm expenditures.

Urban Forestry Tree Committee: *Lauren Pendergraft*

- Windstorm Damage – Ms. Pendergraft reported there are currently 446 known tree failures throughout the parks and golf system. This number is expected to increase. These damages are estimated at approximately \$4.5 million. Mature ponderosa pines suffered the brunt of the windstorm damage.
- Finch Arboretum Projects – There are two Department of Ecology grants which were completed this year. Ms. Pendergraft reported the Woodland Center will soon have a new roof. Additional improvements are also planned at the center for 2016.

Riverfront Park Committee: *Andy Dunau*

- RFP Redevelopment Overview – Mr. Dunau reported that the Howard Street South Bridge is well into permitting and construction is expected around June 2016. The initial program validation has been completed and the budget is almost finalized for the Ice Rink Gondola Meadows. Dirt is expected to be turned on this project the summer of 2016. Mr. Dunau reported there are eight Looff Carousel RFQs on the table and interviews with the three finalists are set for Jan. 7. By 2018, the Havermale Island projects will begin. The board recently approved a contract with the Collins Group to provide a Capital Fund Drive Feasibility Study for the Riverfront Park Redevelopment Project.

6. **Adjournment**

A. The meeting adjourned at 5 p.m.

B. Next Joint City Council/Park Board Study Session: 3:30 p.m. Jan. 14, 2016, at City Hall Conference Room 5A