



**MINUTES OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS  
MAY 29, 2018**

PRESENT: Andrea Smith, President  
Aaron Pointer, Clerk  
Erik Hanberg,  
Tim Reid  
Jessie K. Baines, Jr.

PLACE: Metro Parks Tacoma Headquarters

The meeting was called to order by President Smith at 5:30pm.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

April 30 2018 Committee Of The Whole

Commissioner Pointer moved to adopt the minutes as presented; seconded by Commissioner Hanberg. The minutes passed on a vote of 5-0.

**CAPITAL PROJECT ART UPDATE**

Dickman Mill

Debbie Terwilleger commented that staff is present per Board request to give an update on several art plans under development. Ms. Terwilleger reminded the Board of the current art review process in place, noting several formal Board review opportunities. Rebecca Solverson representing the City's Arts Department detailed information about the project. She commented that the artist chosen is Mary Cross. A concept drawing of the piece was presented to the Board. The proposal includes a ghost log made of steel that is detailed with a cedar bark design. Board members voiced opposition to the ghost log being formed into a canoe as proposed by the artist as it does not historically represent what occurred at the mill. Ms. Solverson commented that they have heard similar feedback from others who have reviewed the piece. President Smith commented that Dickman Family should also be involved in the art piece review. Debbie Terwilleger comment there will be continued review as the piece is refined by the artist, including review by Cambia who funded the project.

**Aquarium**

Ms. Solverson commented that the Aquarium has three art pieces being installed. The first of the three is called *Shoal*. The second piece is *Shimmer* and is located in the Jelly Fish exhibit ramp area and includes hundreds of silver fish silhouettes hanging from the ceiling. In addition, the exhibit includes a glass sculpture by Kate Rhode. The third piece, which has been installed, is a mural *Where the Land meets the Sea* by Maria Jost.

Alan Varsik commented that the salt water is currently being added to tanks in the aquarium; a September opening is projected.

Debbie Terwilleger commented that Lot A – Waterfront Phase 1 is being finished; staff is continuing to deal with utilities, gangway and landscaping & slope stability. Staff also continues to work closely with users relative to boat trailer parking. Ms. Terwilleger stated that roundabout at the park entrance is about finished. Staff is currently working on strategies for the timing of opening Wilson Way late in 2018.

## **BOARD RETREAT FOLLOW-UP**

### Bettering Current Systems

Within the area of communication, Commissioner Hanberg requested that staff work on providing fact sheets to commissioners on community concerns so that Board members will be able to communicate quickly and effectively when necessary. Board members discussed several instances that have transpired on social media that they would have liked to be able to respond to quickly to avoid misinformation being spread in the community.

Commissioner Hanberg also stated that he is appreciative of staff's current efforts to provide facts and clarification following board meetings when needed.

### Board Committees

Commissioner Hanberg commented that he is interested in exploring the function of both the Capital Improvement Committee and the Zoo Liaison Committee. Commissioner Hanberg suggested that the CIC take a larger role in looking at higher-level capital planning initiatives. He further noted that perhaps contracts and change orders might not need to be previewed prior to being placed on the Board agenda. Staff commented that staff actually appreciates the feedback relative to contract and changes order prior to full board review, but also sees benefit in expanding the committees role in looking at higher level planning initiatives.

Board members also requested that the Interlocal Policy Committee meet more often than currently scheduled.

Commissioner Hanberg stated that he feels that the Board should not assign a board member to serve as a liaison to the Greater Metro Parks Foundation but rather allow for an invite from the foundation.

It was agreed that staff would take the Board's recommendation and craft a proposal on committee structure and roles for additional discussion at the mid-year retreat.

### Adaptive Challenges

Staff will be bringing back information related to cost recovery and community benefit philosophy at the COW scheduled for June 18<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Baines commented that within the area of equity, diversity & inclusion that public outreach to underserve populations needs to be improved. Pete Mayer commented that staff is seeking other avenues through partnerships with other groups and agencies that have existing relationships with these populations.

**OTHER**

Staff commented that they scheduling an upcoming COW meeting to begin 2019/20 budget dialogue.

Commissioner Pointer asked if there would be lunch service provided at the Peoples Center for the senior program as it shifts from the Beacon Center. Marina Becker commented that the Beacon Center run by the COT is still open, a pilot program to introduce seniors to the People's Center is being planned. Programming, transportation and meals are all being considered.

Commissioner Pointer voiced some concern that the District is using an outside provider for adult sports and the impact it has on cost to players and to the umpires association. Staff stated that study session on athletics is planned for the June 11<sup>th</sup> Board meeting and more details will be addressed at that time.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, President Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

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President

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Clerk

Submitted by:  
Jennifer Bowman, Secretary