



**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
October 8, 2018**

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

IN THE CHAIR: Andrea Smith

PLACE: 4702 South 19th Street

FLAG SALUTE: Commissioner Baines

STUDY SESSION

**LIVABLE CITY YEAR UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON STUDENT PRESENTATION
ON WATERFRONT GULCH VISIONING AND CONNECTIVITY**

Debbie Terwilleger introduced University of Washington student Team. Debbie Terwilleger commented that MPT and COT staff have been working in partnership UW Tacoma students on a joint project related to gulches in the community. Julia Bakke and Jinkun Li commented that students conducted site analyses to assess needs and opportunities for the gulches in Tacoma including Garfield, Mason, Puget and Buckley. Students studied hydrology, waterfront connections and design challenges related to the complex topography of the gulches. In addition, student researched other relevant factors related to the neighborhood site ecology including wildlife and tree canopy.

Students walked through their visionary plans for the future of the gulches using models and graphics. In regards to Garfield Gulch students commented that the site has great potential for ecological restoration but currently faces accessibility issues. It was noted that designing for Buckley Gulch requires understanding of landownership issues and careful consideration of where to connect the gulch to Ruston Way. The student team recognized that Puget Gulch is by far the most developed of the four gulches and is highly used. Students continue to study the sites hydrology, soils and topography to determine ways to support the gulches ecology. At Mason Gulch students considered neighborhood stakeholders and connectivity as well as ecological composition. Future design for this site focused on education and habitat enhancement.

The student Team walked through many of their designs options noting that the goal of each is to enhance ecological function, improve accessibility, provide programming and facilities for human activity as well as creating safer and interesting connection between each gulch and the waterfront.

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Metropolitan Park District Board of Park Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner Smith at 6:00p.m.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Proclamation Expressing Appreciation To The Staff For Meeting The Community's Urgent Need

A proclamation honoring Metro Parks staff was read by President Smith to recognize employees who played a role in extending free day camps and activities during the recent Tacoma School District Labor dispute.

Commissioner Reid thanked staff for their commitment to the community.

Commissioner Pointer inquired about funding for the additional camp services provided by the District. Staff commented that Metro Parks funded the camp costs.

Tacoma Day Proclamation

Mary Anderson commented on the District's commitment to increasing the tree canopy in Tacoma. Ms. Anderson stated that this is the 10th Green Tacoma Day, noting activities and tree plantings will occur at 11 sites this year.

President Smith read a proclamation designating October 13, 2018 as Arbor Day and Green Tacoma Day.

Mike Carey, Urban Forester for the City of Tacoma thanked Metro Parks for its continued commitment. He also commented that the City of Tacoma has been a Tree City USA member for 24 years.

A brief discussion regarding street tree species ensued.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

President Smith commented on the Governor's recent visit to the new Eastside Community Center. She also commented on the successful AZA conference she attended in Seattle.

STANDING COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Joint Municipal Action Committee

Commissioner Reid commented that at the last JMAC meeting Forterra gave a presentation on the land study mapping project. He commented that the project will be completed by the end of the year.

Active Lifestyle and Community Wellness Advisory Council

Commissioner Reid reported that the agenda items included a capital project status update and park master planning efforts.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director, Shon Sylvia commented on the following:

- Marina Becker recognized Roy Fletcher on the occasion of his retirement after 30 years with Metro Parks.
- Alan Varsik recognized John Houck on the occasion of his retirement after 32 years at Point Defiance Zoo.
- Alan Varsik introduced new employee Shelby Taylor.
- Advocacy Summit will be held on Wednesday, October 10th at 5:00pm at the Environmental Learning Center.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Stephanie Smith commented that she has concerns about KWA operating the Portland Avenue Community Center because appear to only serve the senior population, that housing may occur in the future and that a 500 person amphitheater is being proposed by KWA.

She noted that the social services that are planned to be offered by KWA may be too much for the center space to handle.

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 10, 2018 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

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

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTION NO. C77-18: REVISING NOVEMBER 2018 MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION NO. C78-18: APPROVAL OF WARRANTS CLAIM FUND FOR SEPTEMBER 2018

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

PURCHASING RESOLUTIONS None

PUBLIC WORKS PURCHASING RESOLUTIONS None

SINGLE READING RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. R79-18: APPOINTING ALLIANT INSURANCE SOLUTIONS INC. AS INSURANCE BROKER OF RECORD FOR EMPLOYEE BENEFITS INSURANCE

Commissioner Hanberg moved adoption of the resolution; seconded by Commissioner Pointer.

Paul Weed commented that in June of 2018 Metro Parks Tacoma issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Insurance Broker of Record for Employee Benefits. Seven responses were received and reviewed by staff from the Health and Welfare Committee. From the review of the responses three vendors were identified as top candidates and asked to participate in a presentation/interview. The review committee selected Alliant Insurance Solutions, Inc., The proposed term is for 26 months. It was noted that Alliant is located in Bellevue and has a large portfolio of services and provides services to a number of other local government agencies and municipalities. Mr. Weed noted that other two brokers under consideration were Albers & Co., and Gallagher.

Being no additional comments the question was called and the resolution passed on a vote of 5-0.

RESOLUTION NO. R80-18: APPROVING AN AGREEMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF PLAY EQUIPMENT AT CHARLOTTE'S BLUEBERRY PARK BY THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

Commissioner Hanberg moved adoption of the resolution; seconded by Commissioner Pointer.

Debbie Terwilleger commented that this resolution was brought to the CIC for review on August 26th.

Ms. Terwilleger commented that Trust for Public Land, using a grant from Kaiser Permanente, has been working with communities to facilitate and construct selected park amenities. MPT's Charlotte's Blueberry Park was chosen as a site featuring a health-focused playground to complement the new community garden. In addition, TPL has worked with MPT staff to lead a participatory design process involving multiple community events for input and feedback to meet the neighborhood's desires. This project includes community outreach, design, procurement, installation/construction and construction administration from TPL. The project will provide new play equipment and base material valued at \$100,000.00

Staff commented that the agreement between MPT and TPL will outline the parties' respective roles and responsibilities for the project. MPT will have full ownership and maintenance once a Letter of Acceptance from MPT is agreed and signed.

Commissioner Pointer commented that Charlotte Valbert would be proud.

Being no additional comments the question was called and the resolution passed on a vote of 5-0.

RESOLUTION NO. R81-18: FOSS HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL FIELD PARTNERSHIP, INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH TACOMA SCHOOL DISTRICT AND CAPITAL FUNDING ALLOCATION

Commissioner Hanberg moved adoption of the resolution; seconded by Commissioner Pointer.

Debbie Terwilleger commented that this resolution was reviewed at the September 26th CIC meeting.

Staff indicated that this resolution authorizes the appropriation of \$250,000 from 2014 UTGO Bond Funds (Athletic Complex Partnership Project Sub-category) for construction of a Title 9 Softball Field at Foss High School. This resolution would also authorize the Executive Director to enter into the necessary agreements with the Tacoma School District.

Commissioner Pointer asked about safety with other fields on site. Staff commented that netting will be put up between fields for safety.

Commissioner Hanberg asked if this work is a risk of being "undone" if there is future work at the Heidelberg complex. Ms. Terwilleger commented that there is no anticipated impact to the girls' softball field project.

Being no additional comments the question was called and the resolution passed on a vote of 5-0.

SECOND READINGS RESOLUTIONS None

FIRST READING RESOLUTIONS None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS

BOARD COMMENTS:

Commissioners Smith and Reid requested that staff develop response to the recent Lincoln Park Article.

ADJOURN:

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

APPROVED:

President

Clerk

Submitted by: Jennifer Bowman, Board Secretary