



**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
September 10, 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 Hanberg

STUDY SESSION

DISTRICT CONSERVATION PROGRAM UPDATE

Karen Povey, Conservation & Engagement Manger for the District was present to share an update on the District's conservation efforts. Ms. Povey commented that the district is committed to engaging the community to enhance environmental stewardship actions. She shared that this is done through story making, storytelling, action opportunities and advocacy. Ms. Povey commented on the import role of support provided to and from major partners ranging from national to local. The Board was informed of a cross-department team that is in place who is developing District-wide conservation engagement initiatives. Currently the team is working on creating an infrastructure and messaging to support customers and community in reducing use of single- use plastics. The team is also working on developing a phased approach for concessionaires, rental customers and event organizer to transition to alternatives to single – use plastics. Ms. Povey commented that sharing the stories of these efforts with the community is key.

Several events and efforts to engage the community were highlighted including the Point Defiance Park Bio-Blitz, Ocean Friendly Restaurant program, Rain Gardens in Schools and programs with Department of Fish and Wildlife. Ms. Povey indicated that getting others to participate in advocacy can make a concrete difference. Activities with elected officials in efforts such as the Endangered Species Act important in continuing conservation efforts.

Commissioner Pointer commented that work in the conservation area is very important. President Smith thanked Ms. Povey for her leadership and passion in this area of work.

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 Welcoming Week Proclamation

Hunter George commented that Welcoming Week is a nation-wide event that encourages activities and events in the community focus on welcoming immigrants and refugees. Mr. George introduced Abigail Vizcarra Perez the District new diversity outreach specialist. Ms. Vizcarra Perez's work for the District will be developing strategies to improve the District's outreach to be more inclusive and equitable in the community. Currently she is assigned to assist with outreach related to the three master planning efforts that are getting underway. Ms. Vizcarra Perez gave additional details about how improved outreach can make Tacoma a more welcoming city. President Smith read a proclamation the record that proclaims September 14-23 as Welcoming Week.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

President Smith congratulated staff on the great work of the recent opening events surrounding the new Pacific Seas Aquarium.

STANDING COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Zoo Liaison Committee

Commissioner Hanberg commented that at the most recent meeting the committee heard reports on attendance at Zoo and Trek. The committee also received information on the grizzly bear fencing project as well as the spike in participation for the new Trek Adventure Tours. Commissioner Pointer commented that the committee also learned about \$150,000 grant from the Puyallup Tribe to help fund the bald eagle exhibit.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director, Shon Sylvia commented on the following:

- The new Aquarium had over 25,000 visitors over the past five days.
- The Downtown to Defiance Event had over 5,000 participants last weekend.
- The District continues to operate free day camp during the Tacoma teacher's strike. Over 230 children are attending camp this week.
- Jack Tanner Park name change request has been officially submitted to the Landmarks Commission. An official 30-day public comment period will now begin. After public comment concludes, City Council will take action on the proposed name change.
- Commissioners are invited to Bike ride with members of the City Council on September as a way of looking at Tacoma's trails.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Luetta Patton commented that she is favor of another public meeting to be held with KWA before the Board votes on a final recommendation for the long-term lease for Portland Avenue Community Center. Ms. Patton stated that she feels that the third public meeting should have been held prior to the RFQ process. She also inquired how partners to KWA will be listed in the lease contract. Ms. Patton commented that her grandson has enjoyed Metro Parks day camps.

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 27, 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 .C73-18: APPROVAL OF WARRANTS CLAIM FUND FOR AUGUST 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

RESOLUTION NO. PW74-18: POINT DEFIANCE WATERFRONT PHASE 1 MANAGEMENT SUPPORT SERVICES CONTRACT AMENDMENT NO. 5 FOR OAC SERVICES, INC

Commissioner Hanberg moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Commissioner Pointer.

Marty Stump commented that this resolution authorizes a change order for \$130,958.22 with OAC Services. He reminded that Board that OAC was selected to assist with the GCCM delivery method for Waterfront Phase 1. Additional services will be need to help with close out of the project. This change order was reviewed by the CIC on August 29th.

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

RESOLUTION NO. PW75-18: AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT AMENDMENT #7 FOR ARCHITECTURAL & ENGINEERING SERVICES WITH SITE WORKSHOP, LLC

Commissioner Hanberg moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Commissioner Pointer.

Marty Stump stated that this change order approves \$615,428 for additional A& E services for Waterfront Phase 1. Since the last change order the project has grown in size requiring additional design services. This change order was reviewed and discussed at the August 29th CIC meeting.

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

SINGLE READING RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. R76-18: ADOPTING THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN METRO PARKS TACOMA AND TACOMA PUBLIC SCHOOLS RELATED TO INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

Commissioner Hanberg moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Commissioner Pointer.

Erwin Vidallon commented that this agreement will formalize and allow for instructional work and formal programming by either agency. Mr. Vidallon highlighted the efficiencies created by the instructional partnerships.

Commissioner Pointer acknowledged the efficiencies and cost savings resulting from this agreement.

Luetta Patton commented that she liked the agreement and suggested a similar model be used Roosevelt School and the Portland Avenue Community Center.

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

Homelessness in Tacoma

Pete Mayer acknowledged Linda Stewart from the City of Tacoma along with MPT Staff Mary Anderson and Joey Furuto who have been working together on solutions and strategies to address the homelessness issues in Tacoma. Mr. Mayer stated that tonight's briefing is intended to increase awareness for the complex and growing homelessness crisis in Tacoma, Pierce County and the region. In addition, staff will highlight collaborative efforts with the City of Tacoma in planning and responding to the challenge, particularly around parks and public spaces. There are numerous key dates and touch points in the near future where this subject will be addressed in detail. Mr. Mayer stated that the presence of homeless is seen and felt throughout the region, city and park system. This has resulted in prolonged occupation of parks by those experiencing homelessness, accumulation of garbage, human waste and unattended belongings. Along with this comes frustration from park users, business owners and removal costs in natural areas. Staff commented that in 2017, 83 encampments were cleared in natural areas costing nearly \$34,000. In the first half of 2018, 65 encampments have been cleared.

Mr. Mayer spoke briefly about the City and the Park Districts collaboration with encampment identification and response. He furtherer noted that both agencies are engaging with partners such as THA, Pierce County, and Libraries to explore options for dealing with the issue. Staff is continuing to research state and national policies and procedures to inform potential response strategies specifically related to parks.

Next steps as outlined by Mr. Mayer include a COW scheduled for Wednesday, September 19th, Park Policy Group Meetings, 19/20 budget deliberations, joint COT/MPT Board meeting, and Park Board winter retreat.

At the request of Commissioner Pointer, Linda Stewart commented on the role of Catholic Community Services in assisting with the homeless population.

Naming of Ballfield at Vassault Park

President Smith stated that based on our naming policy—the board is able to name parks, recreation areas and park amenities after individuals who have contributed significantly through outstanding service to Metro Parks Tacoma or the community.

She commented that she has been approached by individuals in this community who would like the District to honor, Doug McArthur for his level of contribution to Tacoma and the south sound.

President Smith noted that Doug McArthur is often thought of as one of the greatest contributors to the sports' promotion and development in the Puget Sound. McArthur is a life-long Tacoman. He is a graduate of Tacoma's Lincoln High School and later studied at Washington State University and University of Puget Sound. McArthur was the Director of Athletics at the University of Puget Sound, where he coached golf, baseball, and the school's

first women's fast pitch softball team. In the early 1960's McArthur also served as the Superintendent of public recreation and Supervisor of Athletics for Tacoma Public Schools and Metro Parks Tacoma.

President Smith remarked that according to the District naming policy, the District shall name its assets honoring people that are consistent with its vision and mission.

President Smith moved to name the Ball Field at Vassalt Park in honor of Doug McArthur; seconded by Commissioner Reid. Being no additional comments the motion passed on a vote of 5-0.

Shon Sylvia stated that he will instruct staff to move forward with activities related to the naming of the ball field.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Commissioner Reid commented on the fantastic opening of the new aquarium. He thanked staff for their continued hard work.

Commissioners Hanberg & Baines acknowledged staff for the effort taken to continue to run free day camps for the community as the teachers strike continues.

ADJOURN:

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

APPROVED:

President

Clerk

Submitted by: Jennifer Bowman, Board Secretary