

Culture and Heritage Advisory Council – Meeting Minutes

Metro Parks Tacoma Headquarters

Wednesday February 17, 2016

I. Roll Call and Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Chair Zach Powers at 5:30pm.

Present: Kristen Murphy, Heather Joy, Angela Jossy, Commissioner Aaron Pointer, Zach Powers

Staff: Melissa McGinnis, Mary Tuttle, Jeremy Woolley

Guests: Andrea Michelbach, Maria Pascualy, Laura Bradley, Katy Evans

Excused: Dick Dorsett

II. Review and Acceptance of January 2016 Minutes

Kristen made a motion to accept the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Heather and approved unanimously.

III. Old Business

a. Public Art Steering Committee Reports

- i. Melissa noted that the procedures and official Art Plan are in the process of final review and will be presented to the Park Board at their Study Session on February 22nd. In March a formal resolution will be presented to adopt the policy and make a few minor changes to the policy. Zach asked about changes to the Advisory Council's role. None of the proposed revision will change the importance of the Advisory Council in the process.
- ii. Heather reported on the progress of the Art Committee focusing on Point Defiance Park's "Waterfront Phase One". Artist Adam Kuby was chosen as the lead artist on this project. In addition to working with the architect to include artistic elements in the basic design of the park, Adam's stand-alone signature piece is called "Alluvion". It is basically an artistic interpretation of the demolition of the ASARCO smelter's smoke stack.
- iii. Angela reported on the artist selection process for the new aquarium at Point Defiance. The project calls for two art projects but after interviewing the top candidates, the committee chose the same artist team for both projects. It was a difficult decision with many qualified candidates.
- iv. Melissa reported that the next art project coming up is Oak Tree Park in conjunction with the city's Flume Line Trail project. Maria volunteered to serve on the Art Committee for this project which will be reviewing applicants on February 29th.

b. W.W. Seymour Botanical Conservatory Expansion Plan

- i. Melissa reported that the Conservatory Expansion Plan is presently being revised based on the comments received at public meetings and on-line surveys. The architects will be looking for ways to reduce the size and scale of the addition while still providing the basic needs identified in early plans and surveys.

IV. New Business

a. Eastside Community Center

- i. Metro Parks Project Manager Jeremy Woolley shared preliminary design plans for the new community center on the 42 acres near First Creek Middle School.
- ii. Jeremy shared the depth of community engagement and partnership that led to the design. One of the components the community wants to see in the facility is a multi-media center for sound and video design. Metro Parks is partnering with Bates and Clover Park as well as KPLU and KBTC in developing this area.
- iii. Aaron asked how the funding for the project was coming along. There is \$12.4 million secured with approximately \$32 million needed to complete everything as designed.
- iv. Kristin asked about a timeline for construction. Contingent upon funding, the tentative opening date is 2018.
- v. Angela asked about space for the Manitou Artists – sculpture and pottery. There may be some possibility but the community specifically wanted to focus on sound and video arts for this center.
- vi. The Artist Scope of Work for this project will be developed in the summer of 2016 with Zach serving as the Advisory Council liaison.

b. Fort Nisqually Capital Development and Program Plan

- i. Melissa discussed the public process used to come up with the final two options for Fort Nisqually's Capital Development Plan.
- ii. The most significant changes to the present operation are rerouting visitors through the meadow (like at Candlelight Tour) to enter the fort, building a new Visitor Center outside the fort and combining it with new public restroom and café, and expanding the agriculture/animal husbandry exhibits to better illustrate the fort's 19th century history.

c. Introduction of applicants to the Advisory Council

- i. Zach welcomed Andrea, Maria, Laura, and Katy to the Advisory Council and asked each person to tell the Council a little more about themselves and why they want to serve on the Council.
- ii. The applicants were then dismissed while the standing council reviewed their qualifications and discussed their applications.
- iii. Zach made a motion to recommend all four as well as Maija McKnight who attended the January meeting for membership on the Council. The motion was seconded by Kristen and approved unanimously.

V. Board and Staff Liaison Report

- a. Aaron reported that the Park Board and the School Board have been meeting regularly to discuss furthering their partnership to better meet the needs of the residents of Tacoma. Aaron also noted that the grand opening of Kids Trek is scheduled for April 2nd.
- b. Melissa discussed the need to orient all the new members of the Advisory Council to Metro Park. Zach led a discussion about meeting formats and asked that staff try to keep the agenda manageable so that we are finished by 7:00pm. Several members raised questions about presentations intended to inform versus presentations needing direct input from the council. The purpose of all presentations needs to be clear to the council and more time should be devoted to those needing input. Once the Council is

back to full capacity, a goal setting meeting needs to be held to guide council discussions.

- c. Mary mentioned the ongoing update of MPT's Mission-Led Comprehensive Plan which helps guide programmers and those managing budgets determine the best use of MPT resources to meet community needs. Public meeting dates and an on-line survey will be sent to Council members.

VI. Good of the Order

- a. Kristen mentioned that she attended the recently Wine and Chocolate event at WW Seymour Botanical Conservatory and it was wonderful.
- b. Heather asked if some level of increased security could be added to the China Lake parking area. There are a high number of break-ins at this park and any deterrent would be appreciated.
- c. Heather also mentioned that she/Space Works has begun working with the Manitou Artists group to try and help them find a new location now that the old Manitou Community Center is closed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10pm.