

Active Lifestyles and Community Wellness Council
November 17, 2016 Meeting Minutes

I. Roll Call

Present:

Council Members Jane Moore, Darren Campbell, Emily Russell, Steve Wells, Will Niemann-Ross, Meagan Kula, Michael LaFreniere, J. Preston Childs and William Privett.

Staff: Commissioner Reid, Bob Houston, Kyle Clogston

II. Review and Acceptance of Previous Minutes

The minutes for the September, 2016 meeting were reviewed and accepted with the spelling of one name corrected.

III. Program and Facilities Updates

A. Over 700 runners participated in the Black Cat Run.

B. The elementary school soccer and flag football games took place during the Storm of the Century. Slides from those games documented the joy of playing in the lighter than predicted rain.

C. Bob reported that three staff members have left MPT for new opportunities, including Jose Gorospe returning to the YMCA in a leadership role.

C. Commissioner Reid reported on the recent Board meeting. The budget received its first hearing with minimal public comment. A public bathroom has been added to the remodeling of the Conservatory, and will serve over the next 4-5 years as the full project is built out. A new MOU with the Zoo Society has been adopted with no major changes in roles and responsibilities. The Zoo Society is the fundraising arm for the zoo.

IV. Outdoor Adventures Program – Kyle Clogston

A. We were given a detailed overview of the OAP programs designed and staffed by Kyle, with volunteers. These include the 8-week Summer Camp, Family Camp at Owens Beach, the guiding service day trips, the Family and Adult Winter trips to Mt. Rainier, and the partnership with Snowboard Outreach Society. Kyle explained his working relationship with the Nature Center and his work developing the skills of their summer camp counsellors with year-round activities. Discussion included consideration of the impact of reduced funding for SPARX by the City of Tacoma and a corresponding shift to providing OAP service to charter schools. We talked about ways to spread the word about OAP opportunities to more kids (particularly those unable to pay full fees) in consideration of the program's limited budget and therefore limited capacity in the boats, vans and other program assets.

V. Program Updates

A. Bob reported that the Elementary School Program had 62 soccer teams and had grown from 28 to 35 participating schools. This means about 3000 people at SERA on a Fall Saturday. MPT reaches out to these people with marketing of other offerings. There are 561 kids enrolled for basketball with another 3 weeks left for registration. The biggest challenge in delivering these sport programs is finding volunteer coaches.

B. Meagan and Jane reported on progress with Safe Routes to Schools (and Parks). Discussion included the suggestion that MPT become directly involved in the MPO committee guiding funding allocations for pedestrian improvements. We also encouraged a focus on places where schools and parks are adjacent or nearby to leverage funding being spent on Safe Routes to Schools.

VI. Good of the Order

A. Next Meeting: Thursday December 15 at 6:30 in Main Conference Rm. (note date change)

VII. Adjournment