



Meeting Minutes for the Parks, Recreation
and Cultural Services Board / Tree Board
Meeting

October 25, 2012
7:00 p.m.

Shoreline City Hall
Council Chambers

1. Call to Order/Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 by Chairman Clements

Park Board Members Present: Katie Beth, Joe Neiford, Carolyn Ballo, William Clements, Boni Biery, Jesse Sycuro

Excused Absence: Kevin McAuliffe

City Staff Present: Dick Deal, Director; Kirk Peterson, Parks Superintendent; Mary Reidy, Recreation Superintendent; Maureen Colaizzi, Parks Project Coordinator; Ros Bird, Public Art Coordinator; Lynn Peterson, Administrative Assistant III

2. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Deal requested the removal of item 9 involving approval of the Community Garden renewal process which does not require Park Board approval. Chairman Clements called for the motion to approve the agenda as amended. Ms. Biery moved Mr. Neiford seconded. The motion carried.

3. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Ballo moved to approve; Ms. Beth seconded. The motion carried.

4. Public Comment

Cynthia Knox, Shoreline, presented a slideshow summary of the Summerset Arts Festival event she coordinated at Ronald Bog Park on Sept. 15, 2012. Over 800 adults and children were in attendance including artists, musicians and attendees. 121 volunteers donated over 1500 hours. She thanked Ros Bird for her support, the Parks Dept for permission to hold the event, the Department of Neighborhoods for grants and event support, Meridian Park Neighborhood, Arts Council and the citizens of Shoreline. Mr. Deal and Chairman Clements publicly thanked Ms. Knox for her energy, creativity and initiative in organizing this community project.

Lance Young, Shoreline, commented on the approved Street Tree List, stating concern about the absence of native trees. Mr. Young has also addressed the City Council and he inquired about how the community can help move the process of reevaluation forward. Chairman Clements responded by informing Mr. Young that the December Tree Board meeting will be devoted to the discussion of trees and the tree list.

Mr. Deal responded that the process of modifying the list involves engaging a public process that requires intentionality and planning. In addition, input from Elizabeth Walker of Terra Firma will provide valuable information on which to base strategies for moving forward.

Mr. Neiford recommended the development of a Street Tree List review process that would allow latitude to consider particular situations and circumstances as they arise.

5. Staff Reports

Ms. Bird, Public Art Coordinator

- Arts Crush is underway with artists in the City Hall lobby nearly every day inviting the public to participate.
- The November 1st City Hall Gallery Opening from 5-7 p.m. will involve art and music.
- The de-accessioned yellow Piano Time piano is available for adoption by a non-profit organization. November 15th is the deadline before it will be disposed of.

Mr. Peterson, Parks Maintenance Superintendent

- Drainage problems have been remedied at the Community Garden at Twin Ponds Park.
- A large cottonwood at Twin Ponds Park has been deemed hazardous and will be removed.
- Public Works will be repairing lighting along the Interurban Bridge over Aurora Ave. N. Chairman Clements mentioned that some molding that has come loose on the north side of the Aurora bridge.
- The Parks Dept is keeping up with an increase in graffiti activity.
- Two play structures at Northcrest and Richmond Beach Saltwater Park have reached their replacement lifespan. At this time it appears we will only have the financial resources to replace one in 2013.

Ms. Reidy, Recreation Superintendent

- A half-time position has been added to develop programming for adults 50 and older. Preliminary internal research has been conducted and more widespread information gathering will be taking place to inform the programming.
- The Monster Mash Dash was held on October 15th. Over 200 people participated in this Healthy City event.
- The registration system CLASS is being upgraded to include heightened credit card security and ease of electronic registration.
- The annual Indoor Playground Halloween event will be held on Oct. 31 and has traditionally been a very popular event. Hamlin Halloween Haunt was a great success.

Ms. Colaizzi, Parks Projects Coordinator

- Parking lot improvements are nearly complete at Kruckeberg Botanic Garden.
- A meeting with the Echo Lake neighborhood association is scheduled for November 20th to continue to refine the improvement master plan.
- East Side Off-Leash Area study group met on October 1st and the City is continuing to coordinate efforts with DSHS. This will come back to the Park Board during the first quarter of 2013 for review.

6. Park at Town Center Tree Planting Plan

Chairman Clements and Ms. Biery met with staff on site to walk through the layout of the planting plan. A utilities locate will determine if any adjustments need to be made. Ms. Biery inquired about how to respond to an email from a citizen that was received by the Tree Board at the end of the business day. Since the purchase and planting of trees has been coordinated to meet the deadline for an Arbor Day celebration on November 17th Ms. Colaizzi will forward the citizen email to the designer from Berger. Mr. Neiford encouraged consideration of the rearrangement of two varieties of trees. Ms. Colaizzi will share that feedback with Berger as well.

Chairman Clements stated that he thought the plan was well thought out and that the first phase will be a wonderful addition to the park.

Chairman Clements called for the motion to approve the Plan as presented with the understanding that staff will make minor adjustments. Mr. Sycuro moved and Ms. Biery seconded. The motion carried.

7. Tree City USA

Linden Lampman from the State of Washington Department of Natural Resources provided a general overview of the scope and responsibility of Tree Boards and Commissions. In smaller communities they can be regulatory and have authority but mostly they are advisory. She encouraged the Board to become informed about what Tree Boards do regionally. Policies, ordinances, and regulatory issues need to be addressed systematically by an informed and facilitated Board to develop goals and objectives, a mission statement, and guiding principles. This can be done over a long period of time or in a condensed timeframe like a retreat setting. "Tree Board U" is a free online course consisting of multiple units that informs the role of Tree Boards and Councils.

Ways to get involved now:

- Facilitate educational programs that engage the community in advocacy
- Arbor Day events that educate the public
- Financial assistance opportunities
 - Community Forestry Inventory Grant: limit \$10,000.
 - Community Forestry Assistance grant: helps manage programs and put together educational programs. It could be used to fund a retreat, hire a facilitator and/or a consultant
- In Shoreline, the majority of trees in the ROW are native trees, a remnant forest. The disadvantage of such a dense native forest is that it is not diverse and in the case of a cataclysmic disorder such as disease or insects, the majority of an existing species could be wiped out. Consider ways to diversify the tree canopy in Shoreline so if one variety of tree is impacted by disease or insect pest it will be less devastating to the urban forest canopy.
- Native trees tend to be either large or fast growing and fragile. They don't necessarily flourish and serve an urban environment well. Some landscape trees that are not native are better suited for urban environments because they can be sustained long-term. An urban environment is not our native environment. Natives are great in parks and planting strips that are over 10 feet wide. If natives are what the Board determines they want then perhaps a policy change is needed to create spaces for large trees that will thrive. Develop a sustainable program.
- If you do not have money to establish and sustain an urban forest then we have no right to plant trees.
- Develop a community program and strategy for public feedback and education.
- Put together a "Standards" manual.

Mr. Neiford inquired about the best way to invite public involvement. Ms. Lampman responded: The Board and staff should be the ones to develop the mission and vision, goals and objectives. Present those to the public and talk policies with them. Workshops and community meetings are appropriate venues for these discussions. Tacoma is a good example to follow.

Ms. Biery inquired about the use of volunteers to conduct tree inventory surveys. DNR never recommends conducting an initial survey using only volunteers because of the exactness required for survey validity.

8. Giving Garden Coordinator Appointment & Leadership Committee Application Process

Mr. Deal introduced acting volunteer Giving Garden Coordinators, Jeanne Powell and Nancy Short and gave an overview of the progress of the garden so far. Ms. Powell and Ms. Short were present to address the Board. Staff recommended the appointment of Ms. Powell and Ms. Short to the position of Giving Garden Coordinator and the formation of a committee to work with the city on garden governance.

Ms. Short thanked the Board for allowing the garden to happen, supporting and funding it. She shared her own experience being in the garden which has provided a culture for building community and involving local school children in gardening (Lakeside 5th grade class and Evergreen Elementary).

Ms. Powell addressed the Board: She shared her appreciation of the opportunity to give back to her community of 30 years. She has experienced the reward of seeing the produce grown at the garden reach the hands of those who need it through Hopelink and she read a letter from Hopelink that testified to the benefit of the garden to those they serve.

Chairman Clements and Mr. Deal publicly thanked Deputy Mayor Eggen (present on behalf of the Council) for their funding and support, for encouraging ongoing support of food awareness and for community building opportunities throughout Shoreline.

Chairman Clements called for the motion to create the position of Giving Garden Coordinator and the appointment of Ms. Powell and Ms. Short to the position of Giving Garden Coordinator(s). The motion was moved by Ms. Biery and seconded by Ms. Ballo. The motion carried.

Chairman Clements called for the motion to approve the formation of a garden leadership committee. Moved by Ms. Biery and Seconded by Ms. Ballo. The motion carried.

Volunteers were solicited to review garden leadership committee applications. Chairman Clements volunteered; Mr. McAuliffe will be invited as applications come in.

9. Omitted (See Item #2: Approval of Agenda)

10. Director Updates

The December meeting will be devoted to Tree Board business.

- Develop a strategy for a way to move forward with a mission statement, goals and policies
- Information from Elizabeth Walker
- Research funding opportunities
- 2003 Assessment update
- Bring calendars to the Dec meeting to set a date for a retreat

11. Adjourn

Hearing no further business Chairman Clements called for the motion to adjourn. Ms. Ballo so moved and Mr. Nefford seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.



Signature of Park Board Chair

12/6/12
Date



Signature of Minute Writer

12-6-12
Date