



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

**August 27, 2015
6:30 p.m.**

**Shoreline City Hall
Room 303**

1. Call to Order/Attendance

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Robertson at 6:30 p.m.

Park Board Members Present: Christine Southwick, William Franklin, Katie Schielke, Lauren Smith, John Hoey, Betsy Robertson, Cindy Dittbrenner

Absent: Jesse Sycuro, Vadim Dolgov

City Staff Present: Eric Friedli, Director; Lynn Gabrieli, Administrative Assistant III

2. Approval of Agenda: Vice-Chair Robertson called for a motion to approve the agenda as written. So moved by Ms. Southwick and seconded by Mr. Franklin. The motion carried.

3. Approval of Minutes: Vice-Chair Robertson called for a motion to approve the August, 2015 Board minutes as amended to correct the reference from "Seattle Conservation Association" to "Student Conservation Association." So moved by Ms. Schielke and seconded by Ms. Southwick. The motion carried.

4. Public Comment

None

5. Parks and Open Spaces in Densifying Neighborhoods

Guy Michaelson, Principal with the Berger Partnership

Mr. Michaelson led a conversation intended to foster creative and expansive thinking about the topic rather than to reach any kind of conclusion. He is experienced in landscape planning in urban areas preparing for the arrival of Sound Transit Light Rail.

Mr. Michaelson distributed an outline to guide the conversation that included the following topics:

1. The Role of Parks in Density

- **Pause and Escape:** "Levels of Service" have traditionally been defined as square footage per resident. New measures of service are needed for higher density areas that relate to connectivity of people to open spaces. The focus shifts from square footage per resident to how we move people from dense areas to parks and recreation opportunities. Bus routes, walking paths, and transportation corridors are reimagined.
- **Recreation & Exercise:** when density increases and citizens don't have back yards, opportunities to recreate in parks and recreation centers increase in importance.
- **Social and Cultural Catalyst:** Partnerships with other organizations that share a common mission and resources maximize the efficiency and quality of service to citizens.

- Ecology and Habitat: In a densifying area hyper ecological performance is created in small areas to provide the most ecological benefit.
- Placemaking.
- Connectivity: bringing densified areas to open spaces and recreational opportunities, and allowing those opportunities to promote and enrich densification.

2. The tool-kit for creating open spaces:

- Acquisition of new space offers the most flexibility, and is the most expensive option,
- Dedication of a portion of land for public use during development,
- User agreements for the sharing of facilities for mutual benefit,
- Privately owned public open spaces,
- Right of way usage,
- Land swap.

All of these require careful proactive planning and specific code requirements. The creation of networks of connectivity to parks, open spaces and recreational opportunities can make it easier for citizens who live in denser areas to participate in open space and recreational opportunities.

3. Working with Sound Transit Cautionary Tales

- Don't assume Sound Transit cares about place making and creating communities. Their job is to move people and that's what they do.
- Land ownership is essential to the system. A cohesive system can't be built solely on partnerships.
- Beware of commitments to other agencies that allow you to acquire land which may obligate land to specific uses.

Storm water management is a golden opportunity to leverage funds and landscape options that provide a benefit to the city and the environment.

The Board requested information about Shoreline's timeline. The 2016 Parks Recreation and Open Space Plan update will focus heavily on the Light Rail Station areas which will be the guide going into this higher density future. Citizen surveying and data collection will take place during the first quarter. Futuristic planning will begin in quarter two through early 2017. Consultants will be hired to guide the process. Questions were asked about the School District's process which is currently unknown.

6. Critical Areas Ordinance

Juniper Nammi, AICP, City of Shoreline Associate Planner

Ms. Nammi distributed a PowerPoint handout which she explained in detail. The state requires an update of regulations regarding critical areas every 8 to 10 years. Shoreline's last update was in 2006. The three sections of the Critical Areas Ordinance update that are receiving the most attention are Geologic Fish and Wildlife Habitat Areas, Wetlands, and Streams. Two thirds of Shoreline's parks contain critical areas. Ms. Nammi reviewed the updates and changes affecting Shoreline parkland. The Ordinance is scheduled for adoption by Council on November 2, 2015.

Vice-Chair Robertson called for a motion to extend the meeting to 8:45 p.m. So moved by Ms. Southwick and seconded by Ms. Dittbrenner. The motion carried.

7. Park Board Retreat Update

Mr. Hoey confirmed the date and time of the retreat: October 8 from 3 – 8 p.m. at Shoreline Community College. The draft agenda was reviewed and input from the Board was received. The Board suggested the following topics to discuss with the City Manager:

- The future of Westminster Triangle and Aurora Square,
- The Joint Use Agreement and overall relationship with the School District,

- Plans and processes for the 145th Street Subarea Plan,

Other discussion:

- The Board decided that they wanted to cater food from Puerto Buenita if possible.
- The suggestion was made to watch “The Social Life of Small Urban Spaces” – a 30 minute film that addresses human nature in relationship to parks and urban spaces.

8. Director’s Report

- Celebrate Shoreline was an overall success with the addition of a new headliner band.
- Hidden Lake Dam Removal update: the consultant is interviewing five neighbors regarding the three alternatives under consideration. A public meeting will be scheduled in the fall.
- Seattle City Light is scheduled to trim / remove trees under the high voltage distribution lines along the Interurban Trail. This was scheduled a couple of years ago but was postponed because of public protest. The City Council voted on August 24 to request Seattle City Light delay again the pruning of these trees because of similar public protest. Ultimately this is a decision to be made between Seattle City Light and the City Manager’s Office unrelated to the Parks Department.
- A construction schedule has been developed to make needed improvements at the Shoreline Pool. This will mandate the pool’s closure for several months beginning in February. The City is attempting to find employment opportunities within the City for six displaced staff.
- The Echo Lake Bench Donation website is live. First-run applications will be received until September 30, 2015 as approved by the Board in July.
- One more week of summer camp remains this year. There are 104 enrollees and 75 people on the wait list. The Parks Dept. is seeking approval for a new outdoor camp at Hamlin Park next year to meet the demand.
- Max Galaxy will go live as the department’s online registration system on January 1, 2016.
- A bulletin board has been installed at Twin Ponds Park and three homeless encampments were removed at Shoreline parks this month.
- The Veterans Recognition Plaza is moving forward with pavers and flagpole installation.
- Grant applications have been submitted for Twin Ponds field turf and a vegetation management plan, and to continue student work in vegetation management at Richmond Beach Saltwater Park.
- The Echo Lake drainage repair project is scheduled to begin soon.

9. Comments from the Board

The Board was made aware of the September 3 Council meeting to discuss the 145th street Light Rail subarea plan.

10. Adjournment

Hearing no further business, Vice-Chair Robertson called for a motion to adjourn. So moved by Mr. Hoey and seconded by Ms. Southwick. The meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Signature of Vice-Chair
Betsy Robertson

Date

Signature of Minute Writer
Lynn Gabrieli

Date