

February 25, 2021

Zoom Meeting



Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services/Tree Board Meeting Minutes

Call to Order/Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Land Acknowledgment read by David Lin

Park Board members present: John Hoey, Christine Southwick, Sara Raab-McInerney, Jeff Potter, Bruce Amundson, Bill Franklin, Student representative David Lin

Absent: Elizabeth White, Hayley Berkman

PRCS Staff present: RCCS Director Colleen Kelly, Administrative Assistant II Gail Robertson, Administrative Assistant II Martha Karl, Arts Coordinator David Francis, Parks Superintendent Kirk Peterson, Recreation Superintendent Mary Reidy, Facilities Superintendent Dan Johnson, Senior Transportation Planner Nora Daley-Peng, Transportation Specialist Catherine Lander

Approval of Agenda

Chair Hoey called for a motion to approve the agenda. So moved by Mr. Amundson and seconded by Mr. Potter. The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Hoey called for a motion to approve the January minutes. So moved by Mr. Amundson and seconded by Ms. Southwick. The motion carried.

Public Comment

There were no public comments for tonight

Director's Report

Colleen Kelly, RCCS Director

- Spring registration for Recreation programs begins mid-March. A postcard will be going shortly to all Shoreline residents. With move to phase 2 Spartan Recreation Center will be open to the public on a limited basis starting April 1. They will be open from 5:00pm – 7:00pm M – Th and 10:00am – 2:00pm on Sat. Remote Learning Camp and Specialized Recreation Classes will continue during the day. The City will not be sponsoring or permitting large events for a couple more months.
- “Big Red” will be installed 3/5/21
- The call for the Artists for the Residency Program at Richmond Beach Saltwater Park Cottage is almost closed. Recommendations will be considered soon.

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- Snow Response recap – 11” of snow fell. 24 City employees worked to clear roads, paths, and parks. 3,674 miles were driven and plowed.
- Welcome to Joseph Callaghan our new Sr. Parks Maintenance, Urban Forestry employee
- Community Feedback is being collected for the new playground equipment at Richmond Beach Community Park. There are 6 possible designs. Staff will be present on 3/6 to present the design options at the park and answer questions. The findings of the survey will be presented to the Board in March.
- Council Subcommittee is conducting interviews on Saturday of 12 candidates for the open Park Board Seats. The Subcommittee will present their recommendations on 3/22/21 to council.

Dan Johnson discussed the RFP that is out for a consultant in preparation for potential passage of Prop.1. This is for Design/Build within 2 years to implement projects. Kirk Peterson and Susana Villamarin are staff that will be involved in this process. A selection will be made on 3/15/21. Dan verified that a contract won't be entered in until after the election.

Mr. Franklin asked whether there are new standards that limit the height of swing structures. He mentioned a taller structure at Woodland Park that allows kids to swing much higher which seems to be a very enjoyable feature. Mr. Peterson replied that most equipment now is designed to meet ADA requirements as well as ASTM standards which are centered around having both a sufficient “fall zone” as well as proper safety surfacing. Ms. McInerney pointed out that the Woodland Park playground was redesigned relatively recently but chose to leave the higher structure in place. Mr. Peterson acknowledged that current standards do not limit the height of the swing structure per se, but do require the associated safety measures relative to the arc of the swings.

Transportation Master Plan (TMP)

Nora Daly-Peng, Senior Transportation Planner

Ms. Daly-Peng introduced herself and explained how she came to transportation planning. She discussed the Transportation Master Plan (TMP), what it is and that it guides the region's transportation investments and defines the city's future transportation policies, plans and projects over the next 20 years. She stressed how the city needs the community's help with decisions that shape transportation needs in the next 20 years with an eye to emerging technology such as EV charging stations, ride share etc. The last update to the Transportation Master Plan (TMP) was in 2011 and it must be updated by 2023 to align with the city's Comprehensive Plan and the Growth Management Act requirements. The TMP is guiding transportation investments using a data driven approach. She stressed that there will be multiple opportunities in the next 2 years for feedback.

Key considerations are:

- The region is experiencing accelerated growth
- Recognizing regional transit investment made in Shoreline
- Ongoing transportation issues
- Maintaining the quality of life in our city
- Cost constraints
- Emerging technology

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A few projects done to date are:

- 2018 Sidewalk Prioritization plan will add more than 75 new miles of sidewalks based on a data driven model. These 12 sidewalk projects will be implemented over the next 10 years with funding from a successful sales tax measure.
- Trail Along the Rails – 2 ½ mile connection along the light rail corridor and to parks, libraries, and schools.

Ms. Daly-Peng shared the Bike Vision which includes the 145th St off Corridor Bike network, a network of slower paced streets for biking, with access to and through Parks, regional trail system and the light rail stations as well as the 148th St. pedestrian bridge.

Discussion topics:

- Access to and through parks
- Goal of adding 2 miles to and 2 miles through
- Existing planned sidewalks

The board was asked to share which parks they felt could use better pedestrian and bike access to & through. Mr. Franklin mentioned Darnell Park and James Keogh Park. Mr. Amundson mentioned the 195th St. Bridge connection to Burke Gilman. The current route is high risk. Ms. Daly-Peng explained what they currently have plans for this area and she mentioned they were aware of safety and connectivity issues and are looking for funding avenues. Mr. Hoey suggested looking for an opportunity to access though Hillwood Park and possible road improvements to slow traffic and access and opportunities for pedestrian improvement at Shoreview/Hidden Lake. Safety issues were cited regarding the road to the North of Kruckeberg. Mr. Potter mentioned N. City Park. He's excited for sidewalk plans and the pedestrian bridge.

Ms. Daly-Peng then asked what the board felt about frontage improvements along parks and ideas for creating active edges along parks such as art, fitness zones, plantings etc. Ms. Southwick said she likes bioswales. With the loss of trees these will help with run-off and are interesting and useful. She would prefer 6' sidewalks instead of 8'.

Both Ms. Raab-McInerny and Mr. Hoey liked all the ideas for active edges.

Ms. Daly-Peng's last discussion was around parking for bikes and scooters. There are currently only 17 bike racks in the city, the most being in and around Richmond Beach Saltwater Park. It was discussed where new ones should go, how to determine priority and number of racks needed and the different configurations for racks. Ms. Raab-McInerny asked if citizens can contribute bike racks wondering if that might explain why so many are clustered around the Saltwater Park. Mr. Peterson said they could be donated and that bike racks can be artwork as well as functional.

Ms. Daly-Peng mentioned that she would like to meet with the group again encouraged all to visit the website and take the survey. She also included her email for anyone to contact her with questions/concerns/comments.

Mr. Hoey thanked her for all her hard work and visions.

Park Name Recommendation

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Bill Franklin, Christine Southwick, Bruce Amundson

The Park Naming subcommittee for the park on 185th near Ashworth, consisting of Mr. Franklin, Mr. Amundson, and Ms. Southwick, looked over the submitted names and narrowed down the names to top 3 to discuss and bring to the board to vote on. Ms. Southwick recommended that the name include “185th” in the title to help define where the park is located. She also felt that “Birdsong Meadow” was a good name. Mr. Amundson recommended “Edwin Pratt Memorial Park”. Edwin Pratt was a distinguished leader for civil rights and the executive director for the Seattle Urban League and his murder was close to where this is park located. He said he doesn’t feel that we’ve ever come to terms with this act of violence and the murder was never solved and that it would be timely to recognize and honor Edwin Pratt in this way. Mr. Franklin suggested researching & considering other historic events in Shoreline if we to name a Memorial Park. He also felt it was prudent to consider the names that the Meridian Park neighborhood had suggested, one of which was Greenacre.

Ms. Kelly pointed out that there is a Bus Shelter at 175th & Meridian dedicated to Edwin Pratt. She also reminded the Board that there is a 6-month gap between proposing a name and the naming of the park and that the Board is being asked for a recommendation to share at the April City Council meeting.

There was much discussion around the names that were submitted. Mr. Franklin mentioned that he felt that, since he lives in Meridian Park neighborhood, he should abstain from voting. Mr. Hoey and Ms. Southwick disagreed and encouraged him to vote. Ms. Raab-McInerney asked if the park development has anything to do with the future of 185th redevelopment. She asked what 185th plans are in the next several years. Mr. Johnson talked about plans for 185th and the park cleanup and design.

Mr. Hoey asked for a motion on this action. Mr. Amundson spoke to reasons he supports Edwin Pratt Memorial Park. Mr. Potter discussed his hesitation in naming it Edwin Pratt Memorial Park with no future plans for development nor clear plan to for how Edwin Pratt would be honored at the site. Mr. Hoey discussed his feelings regarding the park naming and the struggles the board is going through. His thought with naming it after Edwin Pratt that the City may follow through with signage or a plaque to encourage education. **Mr. Amundson moved to name the park “Edwin Pratt Memorial Park”. Mr. Potter seconded the motion.** Sarah asked if “memorial” was part of the name and it was confirmed that Edwin Pratt Memorial Park was the name that was submitted. Mr. Hoey called for a vote. **Mr. Potter, Ms. Raab-McInerney, Mr. Hoey and Mr. Amundson voted in favor, Ms. Southwick voted against and Mr. Franklin abstained. Mr. Hoey declared the motion passed.**

Dan Johnson discussed what to expect in the next year or two. He said that they’d remove the blackberries and do a site survey. Without Prop. 1 passing any future work may be on hold so we need to wait and see what happens with the bond measure. Colleen will share the Board recommendation with staff preparing the report for the Council.

Arts & Cultural Services Subcommittee Recommendation

John Hoey, Bruce Amundson

Mr. Hoey and Mr. Amundson prepared a memo that they wanted to expedite. They would like a motion to send the memo ASAP to the City Council reinforcing their 12/3/20 recommendation to encourage the City Council to establish an Arts Commission. The memo states the following:

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“The Parks Recreation and Cultural Services Tree Board unanimously passed a motion at its December 3rd, 2020 meeting to recommend the establishment of a Shoreline Arts Commission. We approve the attached letter to the City Council encouraging them to discuss this issue at their 2021 retreat and take subsequent action to create a Shoreline Arts Commission.”

Mr. Hoey discussed the need to send the letter in addition to the recommendation that was previously sent to the Council. Mr. Amundson discussed the process and their hopes for the City Council in moving this forward and building a case for a new Commission. He mentioned that they have received an endorsement from the ShoreLake Arts which he described as a significant endorsement. Mr. Hoey mentioned that the memo lays out the different functions and roles that an Arts Commission might serve. The bottom line of the memo emphasizes to the City Council that they are suggesting that the City Council move this effort forward and appoint a steering committee composed of City Staff PRCS/Tree Board Members and representatives from Shoreline’s arts community to develop a proposed plan and structure for the Arts Commission. He explained that this is an endorsement of the concept and they are encouraging City Council to adopt the concept and make a plan to study it and develop details with members of the community that are informed on this and are passionate about it. The memo also states that 4Culture is ready to partner on the steps to establish the Arts Commission. They have the expertise and can be very helpful to the City to move this concept forward.

Mr. Franklin asked for clarity on why we need additional action since the recommendation has already been submitted to the council. Mr. Amundson and Mr. Hoey stated that this is an effort to provide the Council directly with additional substance and depth as to why the board feels it’s important prior to the council retreat. Mr. Franklin discussed the wording in the middle part of the memo. He asked if the memo could be simplified by moving the last paragraph to the top of the memo. He mentioned some other language he’d like to see modified. They discussed the term “Aurora as an Avenue for Arts”. Mr. Hoey said he was open to changing some of the memo and to move the paragraph at the bottom of the memo for the recommendation to the top and highlight it. Mr. Franklin mentioned that he would not be able to support the memo based on wording on the last page preceding the recommendation as written. Mr. Hoey asked if Mr. Franklin could support the memo if this wording was removed. Mr. Hoey expressed how he wished these edits had come up earlier since there was an urgency to get the memo to the council prior to their retreat. **Mr. Hoey made a motion to amend the memo to move the bottom paragraph to the top of the memo and delete the last sentence of the paragraph above it. Mr.**

Amundson seconded the motion. A vote was taken on this motion and all were in favor, no opposed.

The motion carried. The memo will be sent to City Council tomorrow prior to their 3/5/21 retreat.

Comments from the Board

As the meeting was running behind there was not time for comments from the Board this month. Mr. Hoey mentioned that the March meeting would be the last meeting for himself and Ms. Southwick and he would like to build in time for comments at that meeting.

Adjourn

Hearing no further business, Chair Hoey called for a motion to adjourn. So moved by Ms. Southwick and seconded by Chair Hoey. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

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_____ / _____

Signature of Chair

Date

John Hoey

_____ / _____

Signature of Minute-Writer

Date

Gail Robertson, Administrative Assistant II