

March 25, 2021

Zoom Meeting



## Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services/Tree Board Meeting Minutes

### Call to Order/Attendance

**The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.**

### Land Acknowledgment read by Elizabeth White

We acknowledge the land on which our work started as the traditional home of the Coast Salish and Snohomish peoples. We take this opportunity to thank the original caretakers and storytellers of this land who are still here, and to recognize the immense culture of these peoples by remembering their history and traditions. We invite you to recognize our government's history of unfair treatment and lack of accountability against Indigenous communities as we push to raise visibility and education about them.

**Park Board members present:** John Hoey, Christine Southwick, Sara Raab McInerny, Jeff Potter, Bruce Amundson, William Franklin, Elizabeth White, Student representatives David Lin and 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, Parks, Fleet and Facilities Manager Dan Johnson

### Approval of Agenda

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

### Approval of February Meeting Minutes

**Chair Hoey called for a motion to approve the February minutes. So moved by Mr. Potter and seconded by Mr. Amundson.** Mr. Hoey asked for comments to the meetings Ms. Raab McInerny asked to clarify her comments on Bike Rack placement per the minutes. She said she asked the question about bike rack donations and the reason she asked the question was the slide the Transportation Planner presented showing a huge cluster of bike racks at Richmond Beach Salt Water Park and it appeared that a large portion of bike racks were there. She wondered if the reason there were so many bike racks there was because people were excited about adding to the amenities at a popular community wide park. Ms. Kelly asked her if she wanted the minutes adjusted and she said no.

Mr. Franklin wanted to clarify the discussion regarding the height of the swings in our parks. He didn't feel that the minutes captured what the discussion was. He asked staff if the new play equipment/swing was set at a new maximum height since they seem to be shorter than older equipment. The initial answer was yes but Ms. Raab McInerny asked a follow up question and it became more clear that it's not actually maximum height it's simply related to the required "Fall Zone" and the fall zone expands as the swings get taller. He acknowledged that the discussion is in the audio, but he felt it would be helpful

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to have it expanded in the minutes for future reference. Ms. Kelly offered to amend the minutes as suggested by both Ms. Raab McInerney and Mr. Franklin and indicated that the Board could approve the minutes pending those adjustments. Mr. Hoey called for a vote to approve the minutes as amended.

**A vote was taken, and the motion carried.**

## Public Comment

There were no public comments

## Director's Report

*Colleen Kelly, RCCS Director*

- The installation of the new art piece, "Big Red", has been completed.
- City Council has appointed 4 new Park/Tree Board Members.
  - Genevieve Arredondo
  - Jean Hilde
  - Dustin McIntyre
  - Noah WeilHayley Berkman and David Lin will complete another term for one year as Student Representatives.
- New members will be welcomed at the 4/22/21 meeting and City Council will recognize all outgoing Board Members at their 4/5/21 meeting.
- Youth and Teen Development completed their scavenger hunt with the High Schools, and it went well. Spring Recreation Programming has begun. We are continuing Remote Learning Camps and adding some pre-school programming.
- CCAT – Collaborative Communities Activities Team – an internal working team formed as a cross program group to work together on community activities. Although still limited by COVID they are planning several events such as a Juneteenth Celebration and Pride Month.
- David did a great job working through the Artist Cottage Residency Program which had 46 applications. The Jury panel has recommended 4 artists. The Summer resident will share the cottage with the Youth and Teen Development program since they will be working out of that location this summer due to updates taking place at Richmond Highlands. Ms. Kelly thanked Ms. Raab McInerney for representing the Board on the Jury. Ms. Raab McInerney shared that she was impressed by the large number of applications and that she is excited to see how residents interact with the program when it is up and running
- The City was contacted by Kaleidoscope Landscaping in Shoreline regarding their interest in volunteering to support local park restoration activities. Staff suggested this might be a good opportunity for Darnell Park. Joseph Callaghan, the new Urban Forester, met with Kaleidoscope's representative to evaluate this opportunity. We are waiting for them to respond as to whether this is a good fit.

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- Dan Johnson discussed the progress on the Park Bond Project RFP Process. They are in the process of identifying a contracted Project Manager to deliver the project should Prop. 1 pass. 3 proposals came in and were reviewed by 4 City staff and Ms. Raab McInerny. Interviews were on 3/22/21 and Notice of Intent to Award to Parametrix was issued 3/24/21. The contract won't be executed until after a successful vote in April on Prop 1. Ms. Raab McInerny expressed appreciation for being included in the process and shared that she saw her job to be asking questions related to community engagement with an eye to ensure that we don't end up with a "cookie cutter" approach.
- Follow up discussion on the naming of the new park on 185<sup>th</sup>. After internal discussions on naming the park after Edwin Pratt, staff felt it was important to reach out to the family of Edwin Pratt before making a final decision. Per Mr. Pratt's daughter, the family is delighted with the proposal and pleased to support the recommendation.
- Mr. Johnson gave an update on the Westminster project. The closing for the purchase of the property was on 3/24/21 so the City now owns the property at 709 N 150<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Hoey thanked Ms. Raab McInerny on behalf of the Board for her involvement on both projects and thanked staff for reaching out to the family of Edwin Pratt.

## Richmond Beach Community Park Play Equipment – Presentation and Discussion

*Kirk Peterson, Parks Superintendent*

Mr. Peterson explained that staff follow the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) guidelines around rotating out the Playground equipment on a cycle of 15 – 20 years. Last year staff replaced the equipment at Sunset Park and before that they completed replacement at Twin Ponds and Shoreview. The equipment is audited annually and inspected monthly to make sure it is safe. Richmond Beach Community Park and Brugger's Bog are both up for replacement this year. Richmond Beach was installed in 2005 and Brugger's Bog was installed in 2003. The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) includes \$500,000 for the next couple of years for play equipment.

Mr. Peterson discussed how Prop 1 could affect the City's replacement cycle and what's next for the playgrounds that aren't in Prop 1. He reminded everyone that Richmond Beach Community Park is not part of Prop 1. Staff started the public process about 3-4 months ago by posting news articles with six different designs for the public to review. They did a survey and conducted a public meeting at the park on 3/6 and received well over 300 comments online. The current equipment is popular and safe although it's at the end of its life cycle. Staff are working with KCDA, a collective purchasing bargaining unit that frequently supplies equipment to Municipalities, Counties, States etc. He stated it's a good process for finding what they need. Mr. Peterson went through the six designs, three designs from NW Playgrounds Equipment Inc. and three from Great Western Recreation, and how the public voted.

- Design 1 – 13% liked best. Demolition, Equipment, Install, surfacing material and tax and shipping brings the price to \$467K
- Design 2 – 6% Liked best. They received the most comments on this design. They liked the natural look but no swings. Price = \$462K
- Design 3 – 62% liked best. Most popular design. ADA Swings, 31 play features. Price - \$453K
- Design 4 – 2% liked best. Not as many "Bells and Whistles". Price = \$247K

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- Design 5 – 9-10% liked best. Price = \$254K
- Design 6 – only about 6% liked best. Price = \$277K

Mr. Peterson discussed the play equipment at Brugger's Bog. The equipment was installed in 2003 and since then is frequently flooded. Over the years the area has become more of a wetland. When the equipment is replaced it will be moved forward towards 25<sup>th</sup> street and the existing area will be returned to a native wetland. There's about \$500,000 for play equipment in the next two years. Mr. Peterson asked the board to consider the following;

1. Should the City move forward with the Richmond Beach Play Equipment Replacement now or wait until after the vote on Prop 1 in April.
  - Pros – If they move forward now, the project can be completed by Summer.
  - Con – Potential inequity if Prop 1 doesn't pass on funding issues.
2. If we move forward now should we use the neighborhood preferred option or a lower price option that leaves more funding available.
  - Pro – If using a lower priced option, the city could complete 2 projects for the available budget of \$500K with Richmond Beach completed this Summer.
  - Con – Neighborhood may not feel that they were heard. Also, the surfacing material isn't as attractive as the high-priced options.

If we move forward, we need to decide on a color scheme. The Sunset School Park kids voted for Purple.

Mr. Hoey asked for comments from the Board regarding whether they should move forward with the plan for Richmond Beach Playground equipment or wait for the results of Prop 1.

Ms. Southwick said she felt #1 was tied to #2. If we complete both projects and Prop 1 doesn't pass, we've already spent the money. She asked how we're going to get to the number of voters we'll need to pass Prop 1. She asked if there's a campaign regarding Prop 1. Mr. Johnson explained that if we spend the majority of money on Richmond Beach neighborhood Park then there will be no funding from CIP until 2024. He stated if we do this and Prop 1 passes we can do both but if it doesn't pass they'd have to hold off until 2024 and go into maintenance mode to make sure existing equipment lasts or to do a lesser project at Richmond Beach and retain some of the funding for other projects. He explained that Brugger's Bog needs Prop 1 to pass in order to complete that project so if Prop 1 doesn't pass they may need to move on to the next project which is the Paramount Park project.

Ms. White asked if the main drawback in waiting for the Prop 1 decision is that Richmond Beach won't be completed this Summer. Should we wait until we know if Prop 1 passes? If they do the Richmond Beach project and Prop 1 passes, they just continue on. He mentioned that the board could advise them to wait for the Prop 1 decision or to go ahead with a smaller Richmond Beach project and a possible 2<sup>nd</sup> project. Ms. White asked to verify that the existing play equipment at Richmond Beach would still be in good working condition if not replaced this Summer. Mr. Peterson verified that it would be. Mr. Johnson mentioned that if we wait to place our order for the play equipment we may run into back orders and not be able to receive the equipment and have it installed by Summer. All Cities will be competing to have equipment immediately installed.

Mr. Amundson mentioned that the Prop 1 vote is only a month away. Mr. Johnson said this would be cutting it very close to be able to order the equipment and have it installed by Summer since all vendors will be filling orders.

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Mr. Hoey verified that Brugger's Bog would not be done with any cost savings from Richmond Beach. Mr. Johnson stated that by moving the play equipment up the road from the wet area they would be blocking the entrance to the park. He said it's important to state that the decision on Richmond Beach doesn't affect Brugger's Bog getting updated play equipment.

John offered to recuse himself from the vote since he lives in the Richmond Beach area and he thanked the staff for getting the community's input and encouraged them to listen to community input. Mr. Johnson mentioned that the new poured-in-place surfacing would help with equitability by allowing the park to be more universally accessible to all and this product was not available at the beginning of the CIP cycle. This is a perfect example to playing catch up with new equipment.

Mr. Franklin stated that he agreed with Mr. Hoey about giving high priority to the neighborhood preference. He wondered if we should have made the determination to wait until after the Prop 1 vote first and then submitted the six options to the public. Mr. Potter asked about the parks that are on the capital replacement list. He asked about quantity vs quality. He stated that he leans towards a quality investment. Ms. Southwick asked if they could put something out to the public stating that if Prop 1 passes would they go with the preferred neighborhood option and if it doesn't pass then they may have to adjust. Mr. Hoey stated that it wasn't contingent on the Bond.

Ms. Southwick restated that if the bond doesn't pass and we don't have the money we may have to do something lesser. Mr. Johnson and Mr. Peterson stated if they went with the preferred option and prop 1 doesn't pass it would use up most of the available funding for the next 2 years. If Prop 1 passes they can then do Brugger's Bog project. They only have \$500K for the next 2 years but the Richmond Beach project is not part of Prop 1, it's a stand-alone. If they go with the public option #3 then it would use up most of the available money. The rate of replacement would go on, but it would slow down if Prop 1 doesn't pass. Mr. Franklin verified that if Prop 1 doesn't pass and they go with the neighborhood option it would use up most of the available money.

Mr. Amundson suggested, in the interest of equity, they wait for the results of Prop 1. He mentioned that if we wait until Fall the current play equipment will still be in good order. Mr. Franklin stated that a Fall installation would leave the existing equipment in place for use during the Summer. Mr. Hoey supported waiting until after the results of Prop 1. He also stated he's a fan of bold colors in playgrounds. Mr. Franklin agreed with him as did Ms. White. Mr. Lin, as a student, felt waiting was a good idea. Ms. Berkman agreed.

Ms. Raab McInerney stated that she felt this discussion would have been better to have been held before putting out the options to the public. She also stated that the equipment still feels like it's functional. Mr. Potter supports waiting until after the election as well. He feels we should have a strategy for the use of the funds. He encourages a different order of operations in the future. Mr. Peterson thanked the Board for their comments and agreed with waiting.

Mr. Franklin asked when the equipment at James Keough Park falls in the cycle for replacement. Mr. Peterson acknowledged that the park has old equipment that needs attention. It's not currently set for improvements but is on the list if Prop 1 passes. Ms. Raab McInerney stated that Brugger's Bog could be in the same spot as James Keough and fall into disrepair.

Mr. Hoey asked Mr. Johnson and Mr. Peterson to update the Board at the meeting following the Prop 1 vote.

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## Public Art Policy Update

*David Francis, Public Art Coordinator*

Mr. Francis explained how the board has had a long-standing role with helping the City developing public art policy. He'd like to discuss the memo in the packet and the policy and highlight some changes. The 2017 Art Plan Phase 2 called for fund stabilization due to the CIP cycle. Former Director, Eric Friedli, worked with the Evans School of Business at the University of Washington to give graduate students an opportunity to do a project in public art funding. The two volunteers gave the board recommendations in 2019. One of the recommendations was a to change qualifying CIP projects to include anything with a construction phase. These would contribute to the Municipal Arts Fund. This change will keep the Funding for Arts solvent for years to come. In 2018 it was predicted the fund would run out of money in 2022 but in 2019 the council adopted Ordinance 874 to change how public art was funded in the city.

The policy update aligns with the changes brought by the adoption of this ordinance. In addition, the updated policy expands and clarifies a number of general definitions and adds a definition for the Portable Works Collection. Finally, the update clarifies that direct selection of artists should only be done when neither open or limited competition is feasible. He indicated that he would begin participating in 30, 60, & 90% project design review as part of implementing Ordinance 874.

Mr. Francis thanked the Board Members for all their support and hard work on art and projects they were involved with and for keeping Public Art on the radar. Mr. Franklin, Mr. Johnson, and Mr. Amundson spoke to Mr. Francis accomplishments. Mr. Hoey thanked Mr. Francis for everything he's done over all the years

## Council Retreat Update

*Colleen Kelly, RCCS Director*

Some of the items discussed at the Council Retreat were:

Tree Discussion -

- Review of tree regulations in R-4 and R-6 zones as proposed by Save Shoreline Trees.
- Review increased inspections and fines/penalties in tree removal violations.
- Review and amend the Engineering Development Manual to provide flexibility for development to construct frontage improvement around trees.
- Review and add language to development checklist about flexibility in the design of frontage improvements to maximize the retention of significant trees.
- Have PFCS/Tree Board re-review the Street Tree list to make sure the list meets all City goals, including providing the greatest environmental benefit through carbon reduction.

Arts commission discussion –

- Majority of Council is supportive of staff recommendations to review as part of Public Arts Plan Update
- Council has concerns about "Single Issue" Boards and Commissions.
- Recognition of broad scope of issues for PRCS/Tree Board.

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- Suggested exploration of division of current PRCS/Tree Board into Recreation, Cultural & Community Services Board, and a Tree/Park Board – 2 bodies since the Board has such a broad range of issues.

Ms. Kelly stated that in addition to the recommendation that the Board forwarded there was also a request for a staff White Paper and analysis and recommendation. The staff recommendation agreed with the Parks Board that there should be review of the potential to establish an Arts Commission but recommended that the review be conducted as part of the upcoming Public Art Plan Update. In this way, exploration of the issue could reflect the emerging goals and strategies developed for the new plan and could address how an arts commission might contribute to achieving those goals. The discussion among the Council was that the majority was supportive of doing that review but there was a concern about support for any board focused on a single issue including a Board focused solely on Public Art. One idea shared was a possibility of making two Boards with one specifically focused on Parks and Trees and the other focused on Recreation, Cultural and Community Services to align with the new organizational structure. Several recognized that this board has a broad scope so potentially breaking into two Boards might make sense.

Mr. Amundson asked if anyone tuned in live to the City Council discussion. He stated that in his research he found that 25 of the 30-some Cities in King County had Arts Commissions. He had hoped that one of the points to the Council was what roles Arts Commissions play and what their contributions to the Cultural life of those Cities. Mr. Amundson didn't feel that was reviewed. He asked Ms. Kelly if she contacted any cities with Arts Commissions. She stated she did not. She referenced the 4-Culture, Cultural Health Report in the paper since they'd done much of that analysis. The report suggests that the role of Commissions varies based on many factors in each city. The fundamental issue is how the recommendation of an Arts Commission ties to the overall policy direction and the role an Arts Commission would play in the context of goals expressed in the Public Art Plan. Mr. Amundson asked if she talked to anyone at 4-Culture and she said she did not.

Mr. Amundson felt the Council didn't have anything to compare to what other cities are doing. Ms. Raab McInerney said her sense is that when comparing Shoreline to other cities of similar sizes, Shoreline only has two citizen committees which seems low compared to other cities that may have 8 or 10 different Boards or Commissions. She questioned why this is and why this is the approach Shoreline has chosen to take. She also asked when the Public Art Plan is scheduled to be updated. Mr. Francis shared that the Public Arts is a 6-year plan and current plan expires in 2022. Next plan will run from 2023-2029 with 1 year of development meetings. 2022 will be spent with developing a plan.

Mr. Hoey thanked Ms. Kelly for including the Tree updates. Tree Board is an example of another commission that could be created. He's disappointed as well and is sorry he won't be on the Board to see where it goes. He encouraged everyone still on the board to continue the work.

Ms. Southwick expressed frustration that the Tree Board was only concerned with public trees and that the board seems to find out after-the-fact on tree decisions. No input on trees in the parks. She feels that the Board's purpose is to oversee public trees, but they don't find out about decisions until after the public does.

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Mr. Franklin asked Ms. Kelly what the next steps are to addressing tree regulations. He asked if this was the Planning Committee responsibility? Ms. Kelly verified that regulations pertaining to trees associated with development are the responsibility of the Planning Department.

Mr. Johnson stated that he and Mr. Peterson met with the new urban forester, Joseph Callaghan today to work on a schedule for street trees which they will bring back to the board later this year.

Mr. Potter asked if there was a reluctance by the council to grow citizen boards and commissions. Ms. Kelly said she didn't feel that there was reluctance to have another board but there was reluctance with single issues boards. Mr. Francis stated he did not feel that the Arts, Cultures and Heritage is a single issue. Ms. White suggested that the Board focus on the Council support for considering a second board—even if it is not just for art-- which could still provide more focus on art, culture and heritage as the scope of the current Board is very broad.

As the meeting was running over schedule Mr. Hoey wanted to be sure there was time to recognize outgoing Board Members. Mr. Amundson suggested a motion to extend the meeting for 20 mins. Mr. Franklin seconded, and all voted in favor.

Ms. Southwick spoke first. She enjoyed her 8 years on the Board. She was on the Arts Committee for the first 4 years. It was a great experience and she felt they got a lot done with the 20-Year Plan/Urban Forest Plan. A lot was done that has helped guide where Shoreline is going and what the community wants. She felt that this is a good experience for all citizens, she learned a lot and felt like a productive member of the Shoreline community. She is glad she served.

Mr. Hoey has served for 8 years. When he applied in 2013, he had only lived in Shoreline for 9 months. He's been through three Directors and lots of changes during his time on the Board. His highlights have been working on the Urban Forest Strategic Plan and PROS plan. He stated that he did this for his twin 7-year-old boys and the hope that their stewardship will make Shoreline a better city. He's very proud of the work he's contributed to. Lastly, He stated it's all about the people. He's disappointed that the last year the meetings have been on zoom and not in person.

Ms. White expressed appreciation for the dedication, passion, and intelligence of both her fellow Board members and the City staff. She felt that hearing public comments was inspiring. She stated she has grown a lot and that everything with this last year, parenting in a pandemic and working with a non-profit, has been hard. She has so valued her time with everyone and is much more interested, connected and committed to her community.

Mr. Amundson stated that it's important for the Board to recognize it is a more forceful voice for the community. There have been dramatic changes during John's leadership. He thanked everyone and asked the remaining three Board Members to consider stepping up to chair the Arts Sub-Committee. He spoke of David's role in the arts with the City and how it's changed from a .3 to .5 time position because of the Board's recommendations. He expressed concern that none of the current City management in key positions has experience in the Arts. He spoke of the risks of challenging the City and how that's apparent in his not being re-elected to the Board. He and David were moving forward with a donated \$60,000 piece of artwork for potential siting around 195<sup>th</sup> and Aurora. He was within 1-2 weeks of signing a contract with the artist to begin fabrication of the piece assuming City acceptance of the donation. He stated that in view of recent events, he has decided not to proceed with the donation. A second potential donation was from a friend and Shoreline resident with history of Arts Philanthropy.



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Mr. Amundson asked for a donation and the donor had agreed. He had a local artist in mind to commission a \$50,000 sculpture. Mr. Amundson stated that in view of the Council's rejection of an Arts Commission and that Mr. Amundson will not be on the Board, the donor has decided against proceeding with his donation. He mentioned how there were at least three other potential donors that he was in preliminary talks with for donations of art and he will not be moving forward with those. Mr. Amundson concluded with a quote from George Bernard Shaw "without art, the crudeness of the real world would make the world unbearable".

Mr. Franklin asked to clarify that because Mr. Amundson will not be continuing for another term, two artists have decided not to donate sculptures to the city. Mr. Amundson confirmed that this was the case. He shared that he had applied for another term and was interviewed, but he stated that the reason he was given for not being re-elected for the Board was because of diversity. He stated that if you look at the four new appointees this does not hold up.

Mr. Hoey thanked everyone.

## Adjourn

**Hearing no further business, Chair Hoey called for a motion to adjourn. So moved by Mr. Franklin and seconded by Mr. Potter. The meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.**

\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Chair  
John Hoey

Date

\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Minute-Writer  
Gail Robertson, Administrative Assistant II

Date