

April 22, 2021

Zoom Meeting



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

### Call to Order/Attendance

**The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Ms. Kelly**

**Welcome and introduction of new board members. Dustin McIntyre, Genevieve Arredondo, Noah Weil, Jean Hilde**

**Park Board members present:** Sara Raab McInerny, Jeff Potter, William Franklin, Genevieve Arredondo, Jean Hilde, Noah Weil, Dustin McIntyre, Student representatives David Lin and Hayley Berkman

**PRCS Staff present:** RCCS Director Colleen Kelly, Administrative Assistant II Gail Robertson, Administrative Assistant II Martha Karl, Parks Superintendent Kirk Peterson, Recreation & Cultural Services Superintendent Mary Reidy, Senior Management Analyst Susana Villamarin, Light Rail Project Manager Juniper Nammi, Administrative Services Director Sara Lane

Attendee: Newly hired Administrative Assistant III, Lori Henrich

### Land Acknowledgment read by Jean Hilde

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.

### Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Mr. Potter nominated Mr. William Franklin for Chair. He stated that he's impressed with Mr. Franklin's passion for parks and his care and expertise in the work that they've done. Ms. Raab McInerny also nominated Mr. Franklin for Chair. She stated that she concurs with Mr. Potter's comment and that she's been impressed with his role in sub-committees.

Ms. Raab McInerny also nominated Mr. Potter for Vice Chair. Ms. Kelly asked for any other nominations. No additional nominations were submitted. Ms. Kelly asked Mr. Franklin if he would like to make a statement. He stated that he wants to make the Board a safe place for healthy communications and to do what's best for the city. Mr. Franklin thanked Mr. Potter and Ms. McInerny for their kind words. He stated that he's at the end of his 2<sup>nd</sup> term and feels there is still much he can bring to the city. He's happy to step up and serve if elected. Ms. Kelly asked all in favor of electing Mr. Franklin for Chair. All yes, no opposed. Mr. Franklin is elected as Chair. Chair Franklin asked for all in favor of electing Mr. Potter for Vice Chair. All yes, no opposed. Mr. Potter is elected as Vice Chair.

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## Approval of Agenda

**Chair Franklin called for a motion to approve the agenda and add several minutes at the end of the meeting for comments from the Board. So moved by Chair Franklin. The motion carried.**

## Approval of March Meeting Minutes

**Chair Franklin called for a motion to approve the March minutes. Ms. Raab McInerny requested a correction to the minutes to remove the hyphen from her last name. Chair Franklin moved approval as amended. The motion carried.**

## Public Comment

Chair Franklin read the public comment paragraph regarding Covid regulation requirements for submitting public comment for Zoom meetings.

### **Erin Van Nieulande, Shoreline**

#### *Ridgecrest Neighborhood*

Ms. Nieulande spoke in support of including bike tracks/pump tracks when planning for park development. Her family travels to other cities and towns for bike tracks/pump tracks but Shoreline parks don't provide that. There's a lot offered to younger kids but nothing for older kids, preteens and teens to get out and feel connected. She stated that when visiting other cities there are kids of all ages participating. She mentioned that the one in Bellingham is maintained by volunteers and her family would volunteer to help out with that. The skate park is popular, but it would be good to have a bike track. Chair Franklin mentioned that the Board is very sympathetic to having a bike track or pump track.

## Director's Report

*Colleen Kelly, RCCS Director*

The City Council has approved the names for the two new parks:

- Edwin Pratt Memorial Park, 1341 N 185<sup>th</sup> Street
- Westminster Park, 709 N 150th Street
  
- Kaleidoscope Landscaping volunteers completed one day of service at Darnell Park. Plans are for one day a month going forward working with the city's Urban Forest Manager Joseph Callaghan
- Tennis courts at Twin Ponds have finished surfacing and lining for Pickleball. Richmond Beach Tennis Courts will receive the same with lining for Pickleball as well to be completed by June
- The first artist in the Artist in Residency Program is now working at the Richmond Beach Saltwater Cottage. A local Seattle indie pop musician, Left at London, will be creating and sharing music with the public
- Public Art Coordinator David Francis was contacted last week about a potential sculpture donation suitable for placement in an urban forest setting. If the donation proceeds, staff will bring further information to the Board at that time.
- Spartan Recreation Center will be opening up for limited adult programming in the near future.
- Remote Learning Camp is continuing at Spartan for K-5 and middle and high school at Ballinger Homes. Staff provides a lot of support to the students

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- 4Culture grant has a requirement for demographic info from the Parks Board. An anonymous survey has been emailed to each Board member. They should be returned by noon on Monday, April 26th(date?). Hopefully, this will serve for the next year of grants also.
- Introduction of Lori Henrich, the new Administrative Assistant III. Lori comes from the Public Works Department and started her career in 2000 as a staff member of the Customer Response Team
- Staff Appreciation. Several staff have stepped in to provide support to the Park Board through all the transitions. Victoria Alie – Zoom Support, Gail Robertson – Park Board Meeting Minutes and Martha Karl for generally keeping everything on track!

## Sound Transit Update

*Juniper Nammi, Light Rail Project Manager*

Ms. Nammi gave an update on the progress of the Light Rail Project.

- There are two Light Rail Stations located in Shoreline at 148<sup>th</sup> Street and 185<sup>th</sup> Street
- Currently planting additional trees to replace those that were removed in 2019
- The impact to parks in the city:
  - Ronald Bog Park
    - Transforming the grassy field to a vigorous wetlands re-creation area
    - Sculpture relocated with a new trail improvement
    - New signage and benches.
    - Sound Transit is responsible for maintaining these mitigation areas for 10 years
  - James Keough Park
    - This park was not touched much and had very little impact.
  - Ridgecrest Park
    - This is the park with the longest duration of impact.
    - Drinking fountain, irrigation and parking has been impacted and everything impacted is being replaced while the park is kept open.
    - A small slide was caused by pumping out a catch basin and directing it towards the hill with blackberries has been corrected.
    - The berms along the freeway and running east/west have been removed along with two houses and a new parking lot added.
    - Funding has been recently approved for a retaining wall to allow fill to be added for the Trail Along the Rail.
    - The parking lot will be open to the public next week
  - Twin Ponds Park
    - New utility easement for new utility poles

Chair Franklin asked about James Keough Park improvements and mentioned the noise impact. There's never been a sound wall between the park and the freeway but on the other side of the freeway there's a massive retaining wall. The Park Sub-Committee noticed when they were at the park, freeway noise seems louder now than before the wall was added. He asked if Sound Transit will add vegetation or anything to help with noise reduction.

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Ms. Nammi said she'd confirm with Sound Transit that it meets the requirements. No vegetation will be allowed to grow on the walls. She doesn't think that anything will be changing.

Chair Franklin mentioned that there's more freeway traffic noise but there may not be any additional noise from the train.

Ms. Raab McInerney asked about the Ronald Bog mitigation area. She thinks it's a great addition but asked if they were required to keep the pedestrian trails out of the mitigation area.

Ms. Nammi stated that in exchange for the buffer area, people cannot be allowed into the new mitigation area. She verified that there are two interpretational signs.

Ms. Raab McInerney asked about tree replanting.

Ms. Nammi stated that the City's code was modified for Light Rail to plant larger trees than normally required. All the trees that count as replacement need to be native and the same proportion of deciduous (30%) and evergreen (60%). Additional trees planted can be non-native. On average, they're putting in three replacement trees for each tree removed. They need to make sure they have enough replacement trees and if they run out of room additional space will be provided for planting. A lot of the trees removed were a buffer along the freeway and there isn't enough room to replace there so the additional trees will be planted in the neighborhoods.

Ms. Raab McInerney asked about the size of the replacement trees and how they'll be maintained.

Ms. Nammi stated that Sound Transit is responsible for maintaining the trees for 13 years. The landscape buffer trees need to be 10' tall and must be evergreen. Other replacement is believed to be 8' tall and 2" diameter.

## Program Updates-Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

*Mary Reidy, Recreation and Cultural Services Superintendent*

*Kirk Peterson, Parks Superintendent*

(Presentation provided as 'Attachment A')

Ms. Reidy shared that there have been many significant shifts during the COVID shutdown in 2020 through 2021. Key changes include:

- Continued need to adjust to shifting COVID and public health guidelines
- The permanent closure of the Shoreline Pool one year earlier than expected
- The re-organization of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department
  - Recreation and Cultural Services merged with Community Services
  - Park Operations merged with Fleet and Facilities in the Administrative Service Department
- Creation of new Collaborative Community Activities Team to stay connected and involved with the public

Mr. Peterson provided an overview of Park Operations services. Park locations in the city include 32 community parks and three off leash dog parks

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- Key tasks include managing sports field rental and use, restroom maintenance and the Urban Forestry Program. Staff also monitor synthetic turf fields open from dusk to dawn with lights on at the fields and lights on at the tennis courts until about 10:30pm
- Parks and open spaces have been heavily used

Ms. Reidy spoke about the recreation centers and their hours of use.

- Rentals at these facilities have been suspended
- Special events in the city have been suspended through the summer
- Recreation programming, public gardens and parks are all part of recreation with 5,000 to 6,000 volunteer hours each year

Ms. Reidy discussed key documents that guide the work of the Department.

- Shoreline Comprehensive Plan
- Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan (Pros Plan) which goes through the end of 2023.
- Urban Forest Strategic Plan
  - The city works with a number of non-profits to improve habitat. The overall goal is to meet the Green Cities goals. It's a helpful document that the Park Board has historically been active with
- Public Art Plan
  - The current plan is active through 2022 and staff will be completing an update over the next 18 months.
- Shoreline Aging Adult Strategy
  - Staff works with community partners on implementation activities. Shoreline has one of the oldest populations in the county
- Strategic Action Initiatives
  - There are 11 strategic action initiatives the city has incorporated. The number one request is to add trails. The Parks Department is working with Earth-Corps to add about 6 miles of trails mostly in the forested area within the park system. Trails are always at the top of citizen surveys
- Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA)
  - CAPRA Accreditation was achieved in 2019. This was a rigorous accreditation process that took about 18 months to complete with 154 standards that needed to be met. It is renewed every five years
- PRCS/Tree Board plays a significant role in this process. Mr. Peterson addressed the positive impacts of Parks and Recreation activities:
- Economic Benefits
  - Revenue from tournaments and sports rentals is generated within the parks system through active recreation which also results in addition money being spent in Shoreline.
- Health & Wellness
  - The community benefits both physically and mentally, from what parks and recreation offer
- Community Connections
  - Athletics, recreation and special events all help to bring the community together

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Recreation programs were very active pre-Covid. Staff are happy to be starting the following activities up again:

- General Recreation including Shoreline Walks, Active Adult classes, Community Gardens and the Giving Gardens, Preschool & Youth programming, and camps
- Youth & Teens - Youth and Teen programs trips, classes and camps and the Youth Outreach Leadership Opportunity Program (YOLO)
- Facility Rentals at Spartan and Richmond Highlands Recreation Center
- Our Specialized Recreation program is one of the best in the region. It includes trips, camps, Choices Day Program, the Greenhouse program which is staffed by volunteers and run by the participants
- Cultural Services with public art and special events typically includes Summer Theater on the Green, pianos in the park and special events; staff are currently working on what can be done during COVID. Some of our partners are Shoreline School District, ShoreLake Arts, and Kruckeberg Botanic Garden

During this time the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department was reorganized.

- Recreation, Cultural and Community Services (RCCS) now includes Recreation Programming, Cultural Services, Public Art, Special Events and Community Services (consisting of Human Services, Neighborhood Groups, Environmental Services, Emergency Management, Equity & Social Justice and Affordable Housing)
- Parks Operations has joined the Fleet & Facilities Division which is housed in the Administrative Services Department

Both groups still work closely together.

During COVID, Recreation has been providing Remote Learning Camps to support families in the Shoreline School District. Lunches are provided by The Hunger Intervention Program.

Specialized Recreation began with a few Zoom classes with more being added in Fall and Winter 2020. Ms. Reidy encouraged the Board to view the classes. She spoke about the engagement within that community. In the summer, there will be hybrid programming with outdoor programs and limited indoor programs.

Public Art:

- The two sculptures, "Big Red" and "Soundshell" are installed at the Park at Town Center
- The Artist in Residency Program is at the caretaker's cottage at Richmond Beach Saltwater Park
- Juneteenth virtual exhibition is currently being planned
- Voices in the Forest provides site specific poetry in four parks

Special Events:

- Postponed thru the summer. There have been some virtual concerts and alternative events including the Can Castle Project. Staff have created a new Collaborative Community Activities Team (CCAT) which is working on developing activities for this summer

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Athletic Fields:

- It's been a challenge with games and practices during COVID, as staff have had to adjust to changing state guidelines. There are many people back out using the fields and the user groups have been very respectful. Training, practices and games are allowed per state guidelines
- Ms. Reidy mentioned the partnership with King County for the Isolation and Quarantine Center last spring

New Parks:

- The new park at 1341 N 185<sup>th</sup> Street was purchased with King County Conservation funding. It won't be developed as an active space park but a more natural space park.
  - It was named The Edwin Pratt Memorial Park. A good public process was followed in the naming process along with assistance from the Board
- The new Westminster Park includes four city lots and one house. It has a healthy population of trees. The house is being removed and the land regraded. A volunteer group is coming in to remove brush. There will soon be a public meeting to get ideas on what the park can be

During COVID, a lot has been done in the Urban Forestry Program.

- Ballinger Open Space
  - 421 new trees and 125 shrubs planted
- Twin Ponds
  - Nine trees planted and 177 shrubs
- The Right of Way
  - 65 trees were planted on 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE and 155<sup>th</sup> Street
  - 100 hazardous trees were removed
  - 79 hazardous trees added to backlog
  - Canopy maintenance was performed on 155<sup>th</sup> Street from Aurora Avenue N to Corliss Place

Summer 2021:

- Hybrid Special Events will be offered through the summer
- Permitting for sporting events, picnic shelters, field and open space permits continues
- Sporting Events that meet State and King County Public Health guidelines
- A variety of youth and teen camps will be offered
- Our active Shoreline Walks program will continue
- We will partner with the Shoreline School District for a recreational camp for their Summer School Program students

Proposition 1:

- Ms. Reidy noted that the vote is next week, and we'll soon know what the effect will be on parks in the City. For more information visit [shorelinewa.gov/prop1](https://shorelinewa.gov/prop1)

Chair Franklin asked about the Ballinger Open Space and Carbon Offset Trust. He asked if this would allow public access into the park with a trail.

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Mr. Peterson stated that he's working with Earth Corps to see if that can be developed. It may be hard in the winter because it's a wetland and gets mushy.

Chair Franklin asked about Westminster Park and if it will connect to the street to the north.

Mr. Peterson wasn't sure but thinks it just connects to 8<sup>th</sup>. He says that in looking at the design there may be a possibility for access.

Ms. Hilde asked how the new Westminster Park and the Triangle Open Space were connected.

Mr. Peterson stated that the Triangle wasn't part of the bond and it's more of a beautification area.

## Comments

Chair Franklin asked if there were any comments.

- Student Representative Hayley Berkman thanked Ms. Reidy and Mr. Peterson for their presentation. She stated it was very helpful.
- Ms. Hilde asked about the minutes from last month and the possibility of dividing the Board up into two Boards or an Arts Commission. She asked if there was any direction on this.
  - Chair Franklin said this is something left up to the city
  - Ms. Kelly said that at the Council retreat, Councilmembers recognized that the scope of the PRCS/Tree Board is quite broad and that they would be open to considering a move to divide up the functions of this Board. They also expressed a lack of support for moving to create a new Board with a single focus. Staff will be exploring the question of the need for increased public involvement on issues related to public art as part of the Public Art Plan Update and may bring forward a recommendation as part of that process.
- Mr. McIntyre commented on the 148th Pedestrian Bridge in conjunction with the 1st Avenue Sidewalk Improvement Project. He asked how this will be used to connect to Ridgecrest and the Twin Ponds soccer fields
  - Mr. Peterson stated that Senior Transportation Planner Nora Daley-Peng was at a previous meeting and one of the goals of the City's Transportation Master Plan is to connect the parks and neighborhoods through walking paths and bike paths
  - Ms. Daley-Peng will be back in the next few months with an update
  - Ms. Reidy mentioned that David Francis is working with them to imbed public art into the project
  - Ms. Arredondo stated that she received a pamphlet regarding potential delays in the Light Rail system
  - Ms. Kelly mentioned that funding has become a concern and that Sound Transit is soliciting community input about priority projects
  - Ms. Arredondo asked if that would stop the progress from 185th to Lynnwood or if it was just extensions to the East Side
  - Ms. Hilde has a copy from the website that she will send to Ms. Kelly. They're not sure where the possible changes will be



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Chair Franklin welcomed the new members and stated that he is looking forward to working with them for a year of friendly, amicable, and collaborative work. He looks forward to meeting in person hopefully later this summer and thanked everyone.

### Adjourn

**Hearing no further business, Chair Franklin called for a motion to adjourn. So moved by Mr. McIntyre and seconded by Ms. Hilde. The meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.**

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

Signature of Chair  
William Franklin

Date

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

Signature of Minute-Writer  
Gail Robertson, Administrative Assistant II

Date