



MEMORANDUM

Date: September 28, 2016

To: Parks & Community Services Board

From: Terry Smith, Assistant Director
Parks & Community Services

Subject: Park Board Retreat Planning
(Board discussion and direction requested)

At your October 11, 2016 Board meeting, there is time on the agenda to discuss planning for the Park Board Retreat. This is a follow up to the September 13, 2016 Parks & Community Services Board meeting during which a decision was made (4-0) to conduct a retreat.

The October meeting discussion will be used to further develop the agenda and set the date for the retreat.

The Board Chair and Vice-Chair discussed the retreat with staff at our pre-meeting and suggest that:

- Boardmembers look at Saturday, January 28 as a retreat date (morning/half day).
- The primary focus of the retreat should center on board development.
- Boardmembers review comments made by Councilmember Robertson at the September 13 meeting (see draft meeting minutes) for discussion points for retreat topics.

Several Boardmembers have referred to the previous retreat and asked to see the notes from that meeting. I'm attaching the agenda and approved meeting minutes from the September 2014 retreat.

Parks & Community Services Board Retreat
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center
1625 118th Avenue SE
Saturday, September 20th
8:00am-12:00pm
AGENDA

Time	Topic	Presenter
8:00 am -8:30 am	<u>Welcome/Breakfast</u>	Sherry
8:30 am-8:45 am	<p>Introduction/Agenda/Park Game</p> <p>Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase knowledge of Bellevue 2035 • Open discussion about Park Vision related to Acquisition, development, Healthy Community and Funding alternatives <p>Product:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Memo to City Council reflective of the outcomes of the retreat <p>Name the Park</p> <p>Council Liaison --Introduction to Bellevue 2035 –The City Where You Want To Be</p> <p>Department Focus</p>	Sherry
8:45-9:15 am	<p>Break –Walk and Talk</p> <p>Discussion/ Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What would you like to see? (Big Ideas) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ City In a Park (Acquisition) ○ Parks and Facilities (Development) ○ Healthy Community (physical, emotional, social) ○ Funding Alternatives (How do you get it done?) • What are the priorities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Downtown; BNSF, Bel-Red; Diversity Plan; Levy projects; other 	Lynne Patrick
9:15-10:00 am	Break –Walk and Talk	All
10:00-11:45 pm	<p>Discussion/ Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What would you like to see? (Big Ideas) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ City In a Park (Acquisition) ○ Parks and Facilities (Development) ○ Healthy Community (physical, emotional, social) ○ Funding Alternatives (How do you get it done?) • What are the priorities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Downtown; BNSF, Bel-Red; Diversity Plan; Levy projects; other 	Terry/ Camron Facilitate
11:45-12:00 Wrap-up	Takeaways	All

**CITY OF BELLEVUE
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

Saturday
September 20, 2014
8:00 a.m.

MSEEC
1625 118th Avenue SE
Bellevue, WA

BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Grindeland, Vice-Chair Evans, Boardmembers George¹, Heath, Kumar, Powell, Van Hollebeke

COUNCILMEMBER PRESENT: Councilmember Lynne Robinson

PARKS STAFF PRESENT: Patrick Foran, Nancy Harvey, Shelley McVein, Camron Parker, Terry Smith

MINUTES TAKER: Nancy Harvey

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Grindeland called the meeting to order, welcomed the group with a team-building exercise.

2. **CITY COUNCIL:**

Councilmember Lynne Robinson updated the Board on the new Council Vision and other current issues before the Council, including issues of interest to the Board such as the Shoreline Master Program and Downtown Park parking.

Councilmember Robinson also discussed the Council Vision document and asked the Board to brainstorm about the Purpose and Value of Parks:

Purpose of Parks

- Gives us places to be
 - Creates a green oasis
 - Provides space for respite
 - Space for recreation
 - Nature
 - Reflection
 - Greenery for people without yards
 - Decreased crime
 - Decreased negative energy
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The Parks & Community Services Board approved these meeting minutes on October 14, 2014.

- Problem resolution
- Release
- Communing with nature
- Centering
- Decreased tension
- Range of opportunities
- Free recreation
- Programmed recreation
 - Team building
 - Healthy competition
- Gathering place
- Experience different settings and opportunities
- Different experiences for different people
- Beauty
- Community pride
- Creates well-being
- Value of maintenance; Dependent on good maintenance
- Public reflection of our values

Value of Parks

- Community
- Economic development
- Health value – decreases costs of health care
- Helps environment
- Equitable quality of life
- Attracts good neighbors
- Teaching:
 - Botanical Garden
 - Shoreline Master Program
 - Mercer Slough

3. **BREAK/WALK:**

The Board recessed for a short break to take a walk along the trails of Mercer Slough Nature Park.

4. **VISION FOR THE FUTURE:**

Terry Smith and Camron Parker led the Board in a discussion of visioning ideas. The ideas discussed will help guide the Department in the next year as it updates certain plans and policies such as the Parks & Open Space System Plan and the Department's Strategic Plan.

CITY IN A PARK

- Bellevue Parks Foundation
- Connectivity – connecting parks in a formal way
- Trail system – circle around the city
- Aquatics Center
- Heritage Center
- Cultural Center
- Bel-Red Commons
- GPS way-finding/directions
 - Tech looping
 - Trip planner
 - Information connectivity
- Connection between Airfield Park to Phantom Lake to Lake Hills Greenbelt
- Buy Phantom Lake shoreline
- Bel-Red – buy 30 acres
- Downtown – buy 5-6 acres
- Keep high standards for expanding system - make sure we have as good or better of a park system as we have now
- A stunning vision for the community to build community will
- Maximize opportunities in their context through appropriate design and development
- Focused growth (population) in Downtown and Bel-Red
- Acquire and bank land
- Don't be Seattle
- Balance big regional parks with continuing investment in neighborhood parks
- Eastgate subarea – around T-Mobile

PARKS & FACILITIES

- Bellevue Parks Foundation
- One Uberpark
- Aquatics Center – in Bel-Red or Factoria

- Heritage Center
- Cultural Center
- Wayfinding – signs, maps
- Disc Golf and Mini Golf
- Bel-Red Commons

- Lake Bellevue – redevelop, provide public waterfront?
 - “Cycle Town”
 - Uber TOD (Transit-Oriented Development)
- Zero-energy buildings - sustainability
- Rails to Trails
- Neighborhood and mini parks
- Buy, buy buy!
- Design Sound Transit OMSF (maintenance facility) with parks in mind
- Arts incubator – Bel-Red
- Climbing facility
- Diversity institute

HEALTHY COMMUNITY

- Bellevue Parks Foundation – a community building purpose
- Equity/Balance – access available throughout city, across areas/neighborhoods – parks, trails facilities (especially Newport Hills and Factoria)
- Equity – tax? Housing? Parks
- Public outreach/awareness of parks and facilities
- Shouldn't have to leave city for recreational opportunities
- Equity to contributions to build/maintain our system
- Planning for growth
- Growth consistent with standard Quality of Life
- Arts Center
- Aquatics Center (partnership with health industry)
- Sustainability – zero energy consumption
- Engaged public in vision – surveys, outreach, satisfaction, advocates and critiques - Benchmarks, measurable outcomes
- Metrics to determine success
- Quality local government, identify and eliminate corruption
 - Schools – BSD, BC
 - City

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- County
- Transparency
- Diversity institute
- Planning
- Retain/Increase Bellevue's tree canopy – on City and private properties
- Establish tree canopy inventory

FUNDING ALTERNATIVES

- Bellevue Parks Foundation
 - To supplement current investments
 - To tap corporate giving
 - Estate planning
- Building greater community ownership
- Impact fees for parks
- National Best Practices for funding – be a regional leader and example of innovative funding mechanisms
- Bel-Red Commons – up front funding to make early major acquisition
- Apply equity lens to revenue
- Pooled impact fees vs other mitigation (e.g., fees for acquisition instead of “public” plazas)
- Resourcing/financing system that's equitable and balanced – best practices
- T-Mobile – make an impact
- Conservation incentives

PRIORITIES

- Maintain outstanding system
- Keep long-standing priority on acquisition
- Create a balanced revenue system – public and private
- Connectivity
 - Geographical
 - Networked
 - Technology
- Keep and preserve
- Get and preserve
- Avoid (risk and opportunities)
- Build off inheritance

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At a future Park Board meeting the Board will distill these visioning ideas into themes to forward to the City Council.

5. **ADJOURNMENT:**

The Board adjourned at noon.