

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

Thursday  
September 9, 2008  
6:00 p.m.

Conference Room 1E-113  
Bellevue City Hall  
Bellevue, Washington

**BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair Keeney, Vice-Chair Bennett, Boardmembers George, Robinson

**BOARDMEMBERS ABSENT:** Boardmembers Karle and Roland

**PARKS STAFF PRESENT:** Mike Bergstrom (PCD), Shelley Brittingham, Robin Cole, Patrick Foran, Nancy Harvey, Paul Inghram (PCD), Glenn Kost, Ken Kroeger, Camron Parker, Terry Smith

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Pat Sheffels

**MINUTES TAKER:** Michelle Cash

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Keeney at 6:07 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**Motion by Vice-Chair Bennett and second by Boardmember Robinson to approve the meeting agenda. Motion carried unanimously (4-0).**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Motion by Vice-Chair Bennett and second by Boardmember George to approve the July 8, 2008 Regular Meeting Minutes of the Parks & Community Services Board as presented. Motion carried unanimously (4-0).**

**Motion by Vice-Chair Bennett and second by Boardmember George to approve the July 12, 2008 Special Meeting Minutes of the Parks & Community Services Board as presented. Motion carried unanimously (4-0).**

**4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Pat Sheffels

Ms. Sheffels requested that the City of Bellevue start promoting pickleball in the following ways:

- Include pickleball courts in several places throughout the city in the proposed bond issue.
- Direct facilities already in place to make available indoor courts that can be used at different times of the day.
- Investigate the possibility of partnering with private facilities (such as 24 Hour Fitness) by providing some resources to make space available for pickleball.
- Work with health clubs, the public schools, and businesses to provide for and promote the sport of pickleball.

**5. CHAIR COMMUNICATION:**

Chair Keeney reported that Boardmember Henrickson has resigned from the Board. Interviews will be conducted to fill the vacant position.

**6. BOARD COMMUNICATION:**

Boardmember Robinson attended the following events: Eastgate Area Properties Open House, Lake Hills Open House, and Bellevue Network on Aging

Boardmember George attended the following events: Eastgate Area Properties Open House and the Strawberry Festival. In addition, she visited a wave pool in Springfield, Oregon and was quite impressed by the facility.

Vice-Chair Bennett attended the Eastgate Area Properties Open House. She also thanked staff members for coordinating the Park Board tour.

Chair Keeney attended the following events: Eastgate Area Properties Open House and the Meydenbauer Bay Steering Committee meeting. He reiterated Vice-Chair Bennett's positive comments regarding the Park Board tour.

**7. CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS:**

None.

**8. CONSENT ITEMS:**

None.

## 9. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

### A. Meydenbauer Bay Project Update

Three alternatives have been developed for the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan. Mr. Bergstrom noted that each of the three concepts is based on a different theme:

- **Environment and Education:** This concept has a strong theme interacting with nature, environmental education programs and facilities. The stream in the ravine on the west end of the site would be daylighted. A literal stream flow would be created. In addition, the concept of an Environmental Education Center would be incorporated into the designs as well as new transient moorage.
- **Shoreline Destination:** The ravine within the shoreline destination concept is partially daylighted but not entirely. This design suggests a very low level of buildings (i.e., storage, seasonal vendors, etc.) and incorporates a shoreline promenade as well as transient moorage.
- **Urban Edges:** This concept incorporates the promenade across the entire shoreline frontage. This concept does not daylight the stream. It incorporates transient moorage.

Ms. Cole noted that once the Steering Committee reaches a preferred plan, it will be presented to the Park Board. The Board would then review the information and conduct a public hearing for the master plan (or a possible joint hearing with the Planning Commission).

Particular areas for discussion included:

#### Moorage:

- How much is appropriate?
- What are the trade-offs for providing private moorage and public access?
- How much pier removal/reconfiguration or construction should be conducted?
- Should parking for boat loading and boat owners be provided for moorage tenants?

#### Parking:

- Should parking be provided to satisfy all of the needs at the park or should the Land Use Plan incorporate parking in coordinated developments?
- Should there be surface lots or underground parking?
- Should parking be in one location or spread throughout the park in relation to activities?

#### Structures:

- What structures belong in the park?
- What uses will the structures house?
- Should the structures provide flexible, unprogrammed space, vendors, etc.?

100<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE:

- Should 100<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE be closed to vehicle use?
- What option is preferred?
- What are the impacts?

After discussing the above items, Boardmembers made the following comments regarding the highlighted areas and alternatives:

Moorage:

- Focus should be on the ability of boat owners to access the park (transient moorage).
- What is the purpose of removing pier(s)?

Parking:

- Don't like using the park for surface parking.
- Like underground parking.

Structures:

- Don't like specific uses called out in concepts.
- Community center with multi-uses is favored.

100<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE:

- Like the idea of closing the roadway to vehicle use.

Alternative 1: Environmental Education

- Like transient moorage.
- Don't like specific use of building.
- Like Environmental Education Center.
- Like no retail.
- Like terrace garden.
- Like historical/educational displays.
- Dislike use of park for surface parking.
- Like kayak trails.
- Like full daylighting of stream.
- Dislike lack of swimming beach.

Alternative 2: Shoreline Destination

- Some members like viewing pier (viewing/moorage), while other members did not like the double-decker pier.
- Concerned about retail uses (physical space).
- Want complete daylighted stream.
- Like the bike path.
- Like the boardwalk.
- Like underground parking.
- Don't expand permanent moorage.

- Dislike covered moorage/want some permanent moorage.
- Dislike specific building use.
- Bike path too short unless connection exists.
- Like big iconic pier.
- Dislike double-decker pier – unnatural.
- Like concept for overlook plaza rather than Alternative 3.

#### Alternative 3: Urban Edges

- Concerned about retail.
- Some dislike permanent moorage/others want some permanent moorage.
- Love floating boardwalk.
- Dislike surface/material on walkway
- Some thought the overlook/plaza was too far from water—doesn't seem to bring people to the water. Others like the overlook plaza.

#### B. MSEEC Signage

Mr. Kroeger briefed Boardmembers on the program developed to recognize contributors to the Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center (MSEEC) and reviewed the proposed building names. There are three agencies with contributions over \$1M, and many private firms and individuals that have contributed to the project. One of the incentives used to attract potential donors is that recognition could be provided on the amount of donation, starting with the smallest donation being listed in a donor recognition book, to the larger donations being recognized on building or site elements.

The Grand Opening Celebration for the MSEEC will be held on October 11, 2008.

Boardmember Robinson expressed her appreciation that taxpayers were included in the donor list.

#### C. Bel-Red Corridor Plan

Mr. Inghram provided a brief background on the Bel-Red Corridor project. The Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval of the Bel-Red Subarea Plan, zoning and related Land Use code amendments.

Mr. Inghram called attention to the two park-related changes within the recommendation. They include:

- The park system projects were modified to shift the park area planned for the center of the 122<sup>nd</sup> node to the edge of the node, while maintaining the total overall park area. This change reduces the park at the south-central area of the 122<sup>nd</sup> node from 4-acres to 1-acre (replaces neighborhood park N-2 with mini-park M-3) and increases neighborhood park N-1 planned adjacent to east edge of the node from 4-acres to 7-acres. In response to comments from the property owner of the location of the south-central located park, this change was seen as more likely to achieve new park space.

- The recommended project description for NE 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> includes general vehicular use, light rail, an off-street ped/bike path, sidewalks, and connective green elements. Concerned about the overall width of the corridor, the Planning Commission recommended that the outer traffic lanes be designed for parking or bus use that could be converted to vehicle use in the future and to remove the additional lane of on-street parking that had been originally suggested by staff.

On behalf of the Parks & Community Services Board, Chair Keeney has been asked to join the Chair of the Planning Commission in presenting the subarea plan and zoning package to the City Council on September 22, 2008.

Boardmembers expressed their concerns for the alterations to the parks and open space areas within the Bel-Red Subarea Pan and suggested clearly expressing these concerns to the City Council.

**Motion by Vice-Chair Bennett and second by Boardmember George to have a statement prepared on behalf of the Parks & Community Services Board to be presented to City Council to incorporate the overall Board opinion that they appreciate the need for the current modifications of the Bel-Red Corridor Plan. However, they want to ensure that there is a mechanism developed that will guarantee that the overall park and open space vision for the Bel-Red Corridor is honored and upheld. Motion carried unanimously (4-0).**

**10. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Mr. Smith informed Boardmembers on the ways that the City is assisting community members during the Bellevue School District teacher strike. Various camps have been held as well as partnerships and support.

**11. OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. Boardmember committee/liaison reports

None.

**12. NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Future agenda items

Boardmember George inquired about the potential aquatic facility within Bellevue. There will be a presentation regarding the potential facility at an upcoming Board meeting.

**13. OTHER COMMUNICATIONS:**

- A. Staff Reports
- B. CIP Project Report and Timeline
- C. MSEEC Monthly Project Report
- D. Memo from staff re Boat Tour
- E. Email from Daniel Altchech re wallet returned
- F. Email from Peter Tannen re good customer service
- G. Email from Cydly Smith re Eastgate Area Properties
- H. Email from Julie Rosenberg re Eastgate Area Properties
- I. Email from Jo Scott re Kelsey Creek Farm Park project
- J. Email from Keith Henrickson re his resignation from Board

**14. INFORMATION:**

- A. List of upcoming Parks special events
- B. October 11 – Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center Grand Opening
- C. October 14 – next Park Board meeting

**15. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None.

**16. ADJOURNMENT:**

The Lake-to-Lake Walk will be held on September 13, 2008. In addition, the next Eastgate Area Master Plan Community meeting will be held on September 30, 2008.

Regarding the presentation during Oral Communications, Mr. Smith noted that pickleball is already offered at many of Bellevue's community centers.

**Motion by Vice-Chair Bennett and second by Boardmember Robinson to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (4-0).**