

These minutes are in DRAFT form until approved by the Parks & Community Services Board.

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

Tuesday
January 10, 2012
6:00 p.m.

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

BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Robinson, Vice-Chair Grindeland, Boardmembers Evans, George, Van Hollebeke

BOARDMEMBER ABSENT: Boardmember Roland

PARKS STAFF PRESENT: Shelley Brittingham, Nancy Harvey, Paul Inghram (PCD), Michael Kattermann (PCD), Kevin McDonald (Transportation), Camron Parker, Terry Smith, Helena Stephens

OTHERS PRESENT: Max Navas, Irene Roberts, Alex Tang, Jenny Wang

MINUTES TAKER: Michelle Cash

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Robinson at 6:00 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion by Boardmember Van Hollebeke and second by Vice-Chair Grindeland to table “Item 8a: Recognition for outgoing Boardmember” to the February Board meeting and to approve the meeting agenda. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion by Boardmember Van Hollebeke and second by Boardmember Evans to approve the November 8, 2011 regular meeting minutes of the Parks & Community Services Board as presented. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

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

Irene Roberts, Bellevue Youth Theatre and Youth Court

On behalf of the Bellevue Youth Theatre, Ms. Roberts invited Boardmembers to attend the Bellevue Youth Theatre fundraiser on January 21 at the Westin Hotel. Ms. Roberts distributed invitations to the fundraiser and thanked Ms. Brittingham for her quilt donation for the event.

In addition, Ms. Roberts encouraged Boardmembers to support the Bellevue Youth Council and the Youth Court program.

Jenny Wang, Youth Link/Bellevue Youth Council
16137 Northup Way, Bellevue, WA

Alex Tang, Youth Link/Bellevue Youth Council
2367 127th Ave. NE, Bellevue, WA

Max Navas, Youth Link/Bellevue Youth Council
2604 – 126th Ave. NE, Bellevue, WA

On behalf of Youth Link and the Bellevue Youth Council, Ms. Wang, Mr. Tang, and Mr. Navas invited Boardmembers to Youth Link's annual Gumbo Night, which will be held on February 8 at Vice-Chair Grindeland's house. An invitation was distributed for the event.

In addition, the BYC members reported that two Kids Care Coat Drive distribution events took place raising over 3,500 coats.

Shelley Brittingham, Parks & Community Services

Ms. Brittingham distributed a postcard about educational outreach programs related to the Experience Dance Project program. In addition, she invited Boardmembers to attend a lecture demonstration or dance class. Experience Dance Project program is holding a Chop Shop: Bodies of Work festival on February 11 and 12. All Boardmembers were invited to attend.

5. **CHAIR COMMUNICATION:**

Chair Robinson thanked staff and Park Boardmembers for attending the holiday dinner. She also attended a Bellevue Youth Theatre production and enjoyed Travis Risner's presentation about Iraq.

Chair Robinson recently spoke with Robert Shay about the project to restore the WWI Memorial Monument in Bellevue's Downtown Park. She is optimistic that a compromise can be reached for the memorial project.

6. **BOARD COMMUNICATION:**

Vice-Chair Grindeland thanked Chair Robinson for hosting the holiday party. In addition, Vice-Chair Grindeland participated in the following events:

- Crossroads Community Center Thanksgiving Dinner
- Crossroads Community Center Youth Holiday Party
- Garden d'Lights celebration

Boardmember George attended the following events:

- Garden d'Lights celebration
- Bellevue Youth Theatre production of *A Christmas Carol*

In addition, Boardmember George visited the following parks:

- Downtown Park
- Robinswood Park
- Lake Hills Greenbelt

Boardmember George requested further information about the vegetation removal in the Lake Hills Greenbelt.

Boardmember Van Hollebeke attended the following events:

- North Bellevue Community Center Thanksgiving Luncheon
- Crossroads Community Center Youth Holiday Party
- Garden d'Lights celebration

Boardmember Van Hollebeke noted that his holidays were enriched by the various Parks-related activities. In particular, he thanked Chair Robinson for hosting the holiday party.

Boardmember Evans thanked staff for the tour of Weowna Beach Park. In addition, he attended the following events:

- Crossroads Community Center Youth Holiday Party
- North Bellevue Community Center Thanksgiving Luncheon

7. **CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION:**

Mr. Smith reported that Deputy Mayor Robertson is working with the City Clerk's Office on the selection process for a new Park Boardmember.

8. **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:**

- A. Recognition for outgoing Boardmember

Tabled until the February Board meeting.

B. East Link/Sound Transit Update

Mr. Kattermann provided an overview of the Memorandum of Understanding that was approved by Council and Sound Transit Board in November 2011. The opening date for the project is approximately 2023.

Boardmember Van Hollebeke inquired if the Park Board will have a voice throughout the planning process for East Link/Sound Transit. Mr. Kattermann explained that City Council is currently keeping the decision-making role under its authority. However, Mr. Kattermann suggested that the Park Board may be able to provide feedback through Technical Working Groups because there are various technical groups that may be needed to address specific topics (e.g., park issues). Boardmember Van Hollebeke expressed his disappointment with the lack of Parks & Community Services Department advocacy included in the Collaborative Design Process. Mr. Kattermann added that normally code amendment and permitting framework would be discussed with the Planning Commission. However, Council is also keeping this discussion topic under its authority—city staff is involved throughout the entire planning process.

Mr. Kattermann provided an overview of the East Link/Sound Transit route. Boardmembers questioned the impacts to Surrey Downs Park. In particular, Mr. Kattermann noted that the current proposal would cut off access to Surrey Downs Park from 112th Avenue NE. Some of the items evaluated for this decision include:

- Cost
- Traffic
- Park impacts
- Neighborhood impacts
- Noise
- Property acquisitions

Boardmember George inquired if the Parks Department has a preference for the route that is most consistent with the Surrey Downs Park Master Plan.

Mr. Parker noted that there will be impacts to Surrey Downs Park regardless of the route being on the east or west side of the street. All have varying levels of impacts that will need to be considered in light of the master plan.

Mr. Kattermann discussed the major work items included in the MOU for 2012-2014. These items include:

- Station Area Planning (2012-2013)
- Engineering Design & Cost Estimates (2012-2014)
- Public Outreach (2012-2014+)
- Other working groups (e.g., land use, utilities)

Chair Robinson clarified that Mr. Parker's presentation is informational. No formal action is necessary at this time.

Mr. Parker explained that the Mercer Slough Nature Park has a long history of grant restrictions for the various parcels of land that comprise the park. The Winters House and the National Historic Designation of this house are being closely evaluated.

Boardmember Van Hollebeke questioned if the footprint of the South Bellevue Park and Ride would change with the proposed transit route. Mr. Parker clarified that for the most part, the footprint of the Park and Ride will remain the same.

Boardmember Van Hollebeke expressed his concern about the construction and vibration impacts on the Winters House. Mr. Parker explained the process that will be utilized to monitor the vibration on the house to determine the best construction methods. The greatest risk to the house will be during construction. Mr. Parker added that the current estimate for the temporary construction closure is three to five years. This estimate encompasses the west edge of the park. The east side of the park will not be impacted.

Boardmember Van Hollebeke asked if there is any precedence, in terms of light rail, for working around historic structures. Mr. Parker noted that Sound Transit has referenced the Paramount Theatre project, which is a historic building; as well as the UW Medical Center, which is susceptible to vibration impacts. However, there is not significant precedence for addressing the combination of factors present at the Winters House.

Mr. Parker discussed the temporary and permanent use mitigation factors. In addition, Mr. Parker discussed the context-sensitive design concepts for Mercer Slough.

Vice-Chair Grindeland questioned if the trail from Enatai to the south end of the Mercer Slough will be impacted from the Sound Transit route. Under the current plan, Mr. Parker explained that there may be some disturbance during construction but long-term there shouldn't be any impacts.

Mr. Parker reviewed the current footprint of Surrey Downs Park, as well as the current proposal for the Sound Transit route. As route alignments along 112th Avenue NE continue to be refined, the plan and impacts may be altered. In addition, Mr. Parker explained that there is a process in place if the Surrey Downs Master Plan needs to be amended. He noted that Council is receptive toward changes if necessary.

Boardmember Van Hollebeke questioned how changes to the Surrey Downs Master Plan are governed by Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation policies. Mr. Parker explained that any federally-funded transportation project must go through a study if there is to be impact to park land. The city's proposed west-run alignment (along 112th Avenue NE) has not gone through the Section 4(f) process. This step is expected at a later time.

Boardmember Van Hollebeke questioned how the Section 4(f) analysis affects the changes to the Master Plan, in terms of building use and the status of the community park versus a neighborhood park. Mr. Parker explained that Section 4(f) provides the most protection to existing park features and protects future planned features to a lesser degree. For example, the courthouse within Surrey Downs Park today is not a protected Section 4(f) building because it is

not a park use. Since the Surrey Downs property is still being evaluated, there are many options under consideration.

Boardmember George asked if the development agreement would address minimizing park impacts. Mr. Kattermann clarified that the park impacts will be addressed as part of the overall design process of the project.

C. Bel-Red Station Area

Mr. Inghram discussed the Goff Creek/130th Avenue NE station area planning and scope of work. Other items discussed included:

- Existing conditions
- Redevelopment factors
- Neighborhood character
- Redevelopment examples

The following is an estimated time schedule that was discussed by Mr. Inghram:

- Pre-light rail construction (2011-2015)
- LRT Construction (2015-2023)
- Station open (2023-2030+)

There are many neighborhood park opportunities within the Bel-Red corridor that Mr. Inghram called attention to. In addition, a civic plaza is a concept for public art, street vendors, etc. within a designated shopping zone.

Mr. McDonald discussed some of the restoration concepts for Goff Creek, including improvements for fish habitat.

Motion by Boardmember Van Hollebeke and second by Boardmember Evans to extend the meeting until 8:15 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

Mr. McDonald showed examples of concepts for how Goff Creek could be incorporated as amenities for nearby neighborhoods. In addition, he discussed the project timeline for the 130th Avenue NE station and surrounding area. The overall objective for the 130th Avenue NE station is to focus on identifying redevelopment phasing and opportunities, the restoration of Goff Creek, concepts for implementing Bel-Red parks and open space objectives, and how to provide sufficient pedestrian and bicycle access to the station as the area redevelops.

Motion by Boardmember Evans and second by Vice-Chair Grindeland to extend the meeting until 8:30 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

Boardmember Van Hollebeke asked if the improvements to Goff Creek are contingent upon acquisitions that the city has not conducted. Mr. McDonald explained that the strategy for Goff Creek is two fold: public acquisition and private redevelopment. The process will be an incremental approach. Mr. Inghram added that there are waterfront regulations that would apply

for improving Goff Creek. In addition, there are multiple parcels and funding strategies as well as various incentives for making improvements.

Boardmember George commended the city for making Goff Creek a priority and day lighting the stream.

Boardmember Evans questioned if property owners are open to the concept of day lighting the stream. Mr. Inghram explained that nearly all property owners have been communicated with. The challenge is that owners see long-term value but recognize that the short-term is a challenging opportunity.

Boardmember Van Hollebeke views the planning process for the Bel-Red area different from other planning processes and questioned how the Parks & Open Space Plan has been adapted to this process. Mr. Parker explained that the 2010 version of the Parks & Open Space Plan included a major revamp of Downtown and the Bel-Red Subarea. He noted that these areas will look vastly different than other areas within the city.

Motion by Boardmember Van Hollebeke and second by Vice-Chair Grindeland to extend the meeting until 8:35 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

Vice-Chair Grindeland favors the day lighting stream concept and hopes the plans come to fruition.

Chair Robinson also favors the day lighting stream concept and hopes the concepts incorporate age-friendly designs so people of all ages and abilities are able to access the corridor. Boardmember Van Hollebeke concurred with Chair Robinson.

9. **BOARDMEMBER COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS:**

A. Eastgate Corridor Study

No report.

B. Network on Aging

Chair Robinson reported that the Bellevue Network on Aging recently held its annual retreat.

C. Other Groups

None.

10. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

No report.

11. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Future agenda items

None.

12. **OTHER COMMUNICATIONS:**

- A. CIP Project Report
- B. Note from Kinderling Center
- C. Email and articles re Parks Dept. work with Kinderling Center
- D. Email from Janelle Steiner re Rudy Thomas
- E. Email from Alok Srivastava re Bellevue Aquatic Center

13. **INFORMATION:**

- A. List of upcoming Parks special events
- B. February 14 – next scheduled regular Park Board meeting

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

None.

15. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Boardmember George and second by Boardmember Van Hollebeke to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).