CITY OF BELLEVUE
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Thursday
June 10, 2008
6:00 p.m.

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

BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Keeney, Vice-Chair Bennett, Boardmembers Karle, Roland

BOARDMEMBERS ABSENT: Boardmember Henrickson

PARKS STAFF PRESENT: Shelley Brittingham, Chérie Clayton, Nancy Harvey, Glenn Kost, Brian Krause, Shelley Marelli, James McClain, Terry Smith

OTHERS PRESENT: Kathleen Coli, Denise Dice, Barbara Eisenstein, Kim Jordan, Frank Kuske, Nancy Malvin, John-Marc Morassutti, Mike Ogliore, Jim Pratt

MINUTES TAKER: Michelle Cash

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Keeney at 6:20 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Vice-Chair Bennett and second by Boardmember Roland to approve the May 13, 2008 Meeting Minutes of the Parks & Community Services Board as presented. Motion carried unanimously (4-0).

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Chérie Clayton, Parks Department/Mike Ogliore, Bellevue Downtown Association

Ms. Clayton invited Boardmembers to the Bellevue Downtown Park Symetra Family 4th of July Celebration.

Mr. Ogliore discussed some of the events that will take place at the celebration.

Barbara Eisenstein, 12609 SE 29th Street, Bellevue, WA

Ms. Eisenstein is the President of the People for Off-Leash Recreation, a non-profit organization of local dog owners. The organization is seeking to retain access to off-leash areas. Ms. Eisenstein would like the Master Planning for the Boeing/Eastgate area parkland to include a 5-acre off-leash dog park as well as other "dog corrals" dispersed throughout the city.

Frank Kuske, 16612 SE 26th Street, Bellevue, WA

Mr. Kuske urged boardmembers to preserve the Boeing/Eastgate area as an open space meadow.

John-Mark Morassutti, 2619 – 166th Ave. SE, Bellevue, WA

Mr. Morassutti urged boardmembers to preserve the natural habitat of the Boeing/Eastgate open meadow.

Jim Pratt, President/BYT Foundation, 6517 – 153rd Pl. SE, Bellevue, WA

Travis Reisner, Boardmember/BYT Foundation, 3800 NE Sunset Blvd., Renton, WA

The BYT Foundation is a 501(c)3 corporation. The Foundation supports the design proposal at the Crossroads location. In addition, the Foundation supports the expansion and approves the challenge grant match.

Nancy Malvin, 3804 – 130th Lane SE #B2, Bellevue, WA

On behalf of BellevueDogs.org, Ms. Malvin requested Boardmembers to consider locating an off-leash park for small dogs (25 lbs. or less) in the Downtown Park. The organization has obtained over 200 petition signatures to advocate for the small dog off-leash park. The organization will accept responsibility for keeping a watchful eye on the parks.

Kim Jordan, 2515 – 128th Ave. SE, Bellevue, WA

Ms. Jordan would like the Boeing/Eastgate area maintained as an off-leash meadow for dogs. She feels that the Robinswood dog park does not provide adequate space.

5. CHAIR COMMUNICATION:

Chair Keeney reported that the interview process for the new Parks & Community Services Boardmembers is still being conducted.

6. BOARD COMMUNICATION:

Boardmember Roland attended the following events: Bel-Red Joint Commissions meeting, Youth Link's Community Leadership Awards, Highland Skate Plaza Grand Opening, Crossroads Water Spray Play Area Grand Opening, and two Light Rail meetings.

Vice-Chair Bennett attended the following events: Bel-Red Joint Commissions meeting, Highland Skate Plaza Grand Opening, Youth Link's Community Leadership Awards, Eastgate Area Properties Master Planning meeting, and Crossroads Water Spray Play Area Grand Opening.

Chair Keeney attended the following events: Eastgate Area Properties Master Planning meeting, Meydenbauer Park meeting, Youth Link's Community Leadership Awards, Crossroads Water Spray Play Area Grand Opening, Bel-Red Joint Commissions meeting, and Highland Skate Plaza Grand Opening.

7. CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

8. CONSENT ITEMS:

None.

9. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

A. Welcome to new Boardmembers

Tabled.

B. Bellevue Youth Theatre Update

Mr. McClain provided a brief background of the Bellevue Youth Theatre. He also discussed the current programming of the Theatre as well as the supporting partners.

Ms. Brittingham explained that the BYT program has grown from 12 participants to over 700.

Mr. Kost discussed the BYT space needs and the potential plan of action for these needs. He provided a brief background of the process that has taken place for the needs identified.

The site analysis alternatives were reviewed by Mr. Krause. They are as follows:

- Three alternatives at Ivanhoe Park: remodel, renovate and new construction;
- Three locations at Crossroads Community Park: adjacent to the golf course, adjacent to the community center and on the south plateau;
- Bel-Red Corridor leasing option

A comparison of the three alternatives was provided, including cost estimates. Mr. Krause summarized that the Crossroads Community Park site adjacent to the community center was deemed the best and most cost-effective alternative for the BYT. The theatre designs will be explored in the design development phase.

Mr. Kost explained that the Crossroads Community Park concept has not been presented to the community. However, it should be introduced to the community to gain feedback. He added that the Crossroads Community Park proposal is more consistent with the Master Plan because it is adjacent to the Community Center.

Mr. Pratt expressed the BYT Foundation support for the Crossroads Community Park alternative adjacent to the community center and the round option.

Mr. Kost explained that approximately 26 sites throughout the city were reviewed and then the list was narrowed down.

Boardmember Karle does not feel proper due diligence was conducted for the BYT recommendation. Although he supports the capacity increase for the BYT program, he does not support the Crossroads Community Park location. In addition, he feels there has not been enough public outreach for the process.

Mr. Kost explained the reasons for the Crossroads Community Park recommendation and the reasons for not including public outreach and/or a full-scale Master Plan process. Previous examples of city projects and the planning processes for these projects were discussed.

Motion by Vice-Chair Bennett and second by Boardmember Roland to extend the meeting until 8:30 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (4-0).

Boardmember Karle recommended that a citizen's committee process be developed for the BYT proposal.

Boardmember Roland favors the community input process for the Crossroads Community Park location. However, she is not recommending a lengthy process that would delay the Board's ability to make a recommendation and move forward on this issue.

Motion by Boardmember Roland and second by Vice-Chair Bennett to direct staff to develop a process to ask the question about the current Master Plan for Crossroads to see if it is consistent with placing a facility and the recommendation at the Crossroads Community Park. Motion carried unanimously (4-0)..

C. Park Board Tour Information

The Park Board tour will be conducted on July 12, 2008.

D. Election of Board Officers

Chair Keeney opened nominations for Board Chair.

Motion by Boardmember Karle to reappoint Chair Keeney as the Board Chair.

Chair Keeney requested other nominations for the Board Chair. There were none. Therefore, nominations were closed.

At the question, motion carried unanimously to reelect Chair Keeney as the Board Chair (4-0).

Chair Keeney opened nominations for Board Vice-Chair.

Motion by Boardmember Roland to reappoint Vice-Chair Bennett as the Board Vice-Chair.

Chair Keeney requested other nominations for the Board Vice-Chair. There were none. Therefore, nominations were closed.

At the question, motion carried unanimously to reelect Vice-Chair Bennett as the Board Vice-Chair (4-0).

10. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Smith called attention to the numerous upcoming special events.

11. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Boardmember committee/liaison reports

The Light Rail Best Practices committee is near the end of their scheduled meetings.

12. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Future agenda items

13. OTHER COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Staff Reports

B. CIP Project Report

C. MSEEC Monthly Project Report

D. Letter from Surrey Downs Park Committee to Council re Surrey Downs Park

E. Memo from Park Board to Planning & Transportation Commissions re Bel-Red Plan

F. Letter from Mountains to Sound Greenway to Mayor Degginger re Greenway Days, including Proclamation

14. INFORMATION:

A. List of upcoming Parks special events

B. July 8, 2008 – next Park Board meeting

A Parks & Community Services Board meeting will not be held in August.

15. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

16. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Vice-Chair Bennett and second by Boardmember Roland to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (4-0).