

**From:** Robertson, Jennifer S.  
**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2015 11:09 PM  
**To:** Shay, Robert  
**Cc:** Foran, Patrick; Smith, Terry; Miyake, Brad; Berens, Mary Kate  
**Subject:** Re: Problems at the Downtown Park...

Dear Bob,

Thanks for your detailed and thoughtful email. I am copying key staff for input on these concerns.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Robertson  
Bellevue City Councilmember

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 29, 2015, at 5:24 PM, Shay, Robert <[rshay@qwest.net](mailto:rshay@qwest.net)> wrote:

Hi Jennifer,

Could you please let me know which member of the Parks Board might take on these brewing problems in Bellevue parks.

Saturday I was working on the Monument to prepare it for July 3rd and 4th and as I was working a group from the Hot Sake Dragon Boat Club started gathering for a big picnic and volley ball game. The group consisted of 30 or more people. My concerns began when they rolled a BBQ in and started up the coals. My concern hit the 911 point when they poured the white hot coals into the BBQ from their stater chimney and then put the very hot metal pipe down on the dry wood bark around the Memorial Elms. I was pretty sure that would not start a fire, but that when I understood that they would have any idea where to dump the remaining coals and hot ash after they were done, so I called BPD Non Emergency and asked them to call the Park Ranger. I continued to work and no one came, then I noticed a BPD officer had arrived in the Southeast parking lot, but had not gotten out of his car. I grabbed some of my gear & tools to haul back to my car and stopped to talk to the officer. He told me that he searched the parks website, but could not find the park rules easily. So I told him that I had the same problem, but I went over to the sign at the end of the road from NE 2nd. It was pretty clear to me that the only BBQ's allowed are the ones installed by parks. He was not so sure it was that clear. I asked why he did not call the Park Ranger who I know was on duty and he told me that dispatch had tried, but got voice mail. I would think that Park Rangers and BPD officers would be on an instant connection system. The officer went over to the gathering and as I was leaving another officer showed

up. My primary concern there is fire. Those trees have lasted 95 years and I would like them to last another 95.

There are other problems in the park too. As I was leaving carrying my tools, a woman came up to ask if I worked for the parks Department and I asked her concern. She said that she had just had a problem with a man who claimed to be a lawyer told her off in not at all polite language when she told him that his large dog had to be on a leash. I gave her information on the volunteer park patrol program and a number to call. I had the same experience that day, but with a very understanding couple who were not aware of the off leash dog park which I directed them to. Then there was the two young men flying drones. When I pointed out the sign that forbid it they understood and went over to read it. The women also told me that she lives in the area and the park turns into a different place at night, with drinking and other activities.

I think it is time for the Parks Board to address this situation. It is also the reason I would like to install a motion censor activated light in the grove of trees to protect the new Memorial Monument. I have pictures of vintage type equipment that would do the job. I would appreciate your advice on how to proceed with enforcement of park rules and your support on getting the light installed this summer. I have sent this message to you and Lynne as you both seem to be the council members most sensitive to park issues.

Thank you for your continuing support,  
Bob

"Lest We Forget"

**Project To Restore The World War 1 Memorial Monument  
In Bellevue's Downtown Park**

A Dedicated Project of the Memorials Committee of VFW "Lake Washington" Post 2995  
In partnership with the City of Bellevue & Bellevue Parks and Community Services Dept.

**Robert "Bob" Shay, Committee Chair & Post Chaplain**

**Former PH3, USNR-R**

Voluntary military service, 1964 to 1970

**From:** Bradley, Geoff

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 30, 2015 3:09 PM

**To:** rshay@quest.net

**Cc:** Foran, Patrick; McVein, Shelley; Smith, Terry; Miyake, Brad; Berens, Mary Kate; Harper, Laura; Kost, Glenn; Robertson, Jennifer S.; Robinson, Lynne; Kost, Glenn; Harvey, Nancy

**Subject:** FW: Problems at the Downtown Park...

Dear Mr. Shay,

Thank you for your email. We appreciate your concerns for safety and letting us know about the park code violations occurring at the Downtown Park. In response we have instructed the summer Park Ranger Program to emphasize additional patrols to the Downtown Park. Although Park Rangers do not have enforcement authority to issue citations for park code violations, they can inform citizens on park rules and regulations, request voluntary compliance, and follow up with Police or other appropriate code enforcement staff as needed. We apologize for any inconvenience you may have experienced in contacting the summer Park Ranger Program. The

program runs 7 days per week, from 8am – midnight, Memorial Day through Labor Day. If you need assistance in the future during these times, please feel free to contact them directly at 425-864-1899. Although they may not always be able to answer, if you leave a message they will respond ASAP. You may also contact Laura Harper, Park Ranger, 452-452-7225, [lharp@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:lharp@bellevuewa.gov) anytime with issues regarding park code violations. We will follow up with Police to help facilitate communication between the Park Rangers and Police.

Although personal barbeques are prohibited at the Downtown Park *only* on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, citizen provided personal barbeques or self-contained stoves are otherwise permitted under section 3.43.240 of the ***Parks and Recreation Facility Code***. The Parks and Recreation Facility Code (BCC 3.43) is conveniently located on the right hand side of the Parks and Community Service Webpage, <http://www.ci.bellevue.wa.us/parks-community-services.htm>. We will check the park rules sign located at the end of NE 2<sup>nd</sup> to make sure this is consistent with the code. Patrons using said personal self-contained stoves are responsible for the safe removal of any cooking residuals generated from their use.

I have also cc'd Glenn Kost, Parks Planning Manager, to review your request for a motion sensor activated light.

*Geoffrey Bradley  
Environmental Programs Supervisor  
Bellevue Parks & Community Services  
PO Box 90012  
Bellevue, WA 98009-9012  
425-452-2740 (office)  
425-864-1969 (cell)  
425-452-7221 (fax)*



**From:** Anna M  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 02, 2015 1:47 PM  
**To:** Sabochik, Carrie  
**Subject:** RE: High Adventure camp next week

Hi Carrie,

Just wanted to let you know that Kody, Nathan & Benjamin will not be at camp tomorrow, July 3 and therefore, a bike won't be needed for Nathan.

Our boys have attended many different camps through many different organizations over the past 5+ summers ... and they have never had such a good time at camp! They have loved the activities of this high adventure camp and all the swim time at the lake too! It's been lovely to pick up two-tween boys and 1-teen boy that is in such a great mood from all the fun they had that day. :)

In addition, if there happens to be 3 spaces that come available for the week of July 27-31, I would gladly register them!

And either way, could you please advise as to when the registration is typically released for non-residents (we live in Clyde Hill -- but I believe that is considered non-resident now)? I'd like to put a note on my calendar to register early to make sure they get a space in your camp next summer.

Please pass my sincere thanks along to the ladies that ran the camp this week. They did such an outstanding job and even readjusted some of the activities due to the extreme heat!

Thank you again!  
Anna M



**From:** Peter G  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2015 12:49 PM  
**To:** Gonzales, Steve  
**Cc:** Mittelstaedt, Theodore  
**Subject:** BPR Camps

Steve & Ted,

My children have been going to your Sports and Summer Camps for over 19 years. First my oldest three who are now in their twenties and now my two youngest who are still enjoying the programs. During all this time you have had numerous employees that stand out and make a difference and currently the one I feel that over the years has made such a strong impact is Brooks. Whenever I show up he is always engaged with the kids and truly gets involved with the activities.

My children come home and speak so highly of him and how he works and talks with them. He is truly an asset to BPR and I appreciate the work he does for you and the community.

Hopefully he stays in the mix for years to come.

Again thank you both for the great work and the great programs you continue to offer.

Peter G

**From:** Mittelstaedt, Theodore  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2015 3:03 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** RE: BPR Camps

Thanks for your kind words. They will be shared with Brooks and our Sr. Manager. We really appreciate the comments and your dedication to our programs and services

Have a great day

Ted



Comment from a renter of the Winters House- 7-15-15:

“I loved the Winter’s House! It was perfect!!! Michele was superb to work with. She was fast, efficient, funny, helpful, etc.! Would do it again in a heartbeat! And working with Karen Klett (Bellevue Historical Society) again was a real treat as well. Everyone said they had a great time and I guess that’s all that matters. Thank you Everyone!”



**From:**

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 15, 2015 12:02 PM

**To:** Gonzales, Steve

**Subject:** Re: Youth Sports Summer Day Camp - Water, Water & More Water July 13-17

Mr. Gonzales,

As per our conversation yesterday I want to write this as our personal experience with the local camp programs through Bellevue Parks and Recreation. We have a son, Giorgio, who has been involved, not only in activities at Crossroads Rec Cntr., but also in summer camps in Bellevue at various locations. First of all, the success of the camps must fall on the staff, and the staff we have met and have daily watched interacting with the youth at the camps is no less than absolutely exceptional. It seems they truly enjoy the kids as well as their jobs. When dropping off or picking up our son, the campers are always engaged in fun activities and a congenial attitude permeates. I see staff so often individually going over to the kids, and often taking time just interacting with them. There is never disorder, arguing etc. The staff is energetic, friendly and in control of the campers. As a teacher I realize it is not easy to keep so many youngsters engaged for extended hours, yet they do an excellent job at that. The kids are not only engaged with the varied activities, but with staff members as well.

As our son entered the 1st day of camp, for instance, a lively young counselor came to greet him in such a friendly manner that he felt at home immediately. Additionally, other staff who remembered him came over immediately addressing him by name and again making him feel so at home. It is interactions like this which sets these Bellevue camps apart from others.

Another exceptional individual employed by Bellevue Pks. and Rec. is Tiberius who works in the Crossroads Community Center. Time and again when I needed help he has answered questions, gone beyond the call of duty and given me answers. He always calls back immediately and addresses problems in a timely manner. Truly a wonderful example of the employees you hire.

If I can ever give you more input, please feel free to call. Our interactions at so many levels with the City of Bellevue have been exceptionally positive.

Sincerely,  
Patti O.



**From:** Shari S

**Sent:** Monday, July 20, 2015 8:04 AM

**To:** Gonzales, Steve

**Cc:**

**Subject:** RE: Youth Sports Summer Day Camp - Water, Water & More Water July 13-17

Hi Steve,

Kyler & Carson had a great time at camp last week! This is our 4<sup>th</sup> year with Brooks and we wouldn't have it any other way. Although our family likes the other folks you have working for you, every time I have dropped or picked up the boys, Brooks is always on his feet, cheerful, calm, and FUN! He's always interacting with the kids and engaged regardless of how much they must all wear him out!

We've done a lot of camps and programs over the years from i9 to Skyhawks to golf, etc. and Brooks is by far our favorite coach. If he left COB tomorrow, we'd follow him to other youth programs! As you know we have also done soccer and other sports when Brooks is coaching and now that the boys are getting older, we're needing to branch out into select sports otherwise we'd stay with Brooks full-time!

The boys had a BLAST last week and I just wanted you to know how much they enjoyed being with Coach Brooks! Thanks for having him on your team. I was really worried when Heather left, Brooks would leave.... See you guys again in August.

Best,  
Shari



**From:** Merrick V [<mailto:>]

**Sent:** Saturday, August 01, 2015 6:15 PM

**To:** Parker, Camron

**Subject:** Bellevue Parks and Open Space System Plan suggestion

Hi Camron,

I saw the current request for suggestions to add to the next Bellevue Parks plan. Being an avid hiker in the Newcastle area, I wanted to make a suggestion which I think will help to connect some well used trails in that area which are now separated by neighborhoods and roads. I have marked in blue on the attached snip of the Bellevue parks map for Newcastle (from 2010) an area which is comprised of nothing but woods and open space now, but could be established with a connecting trail that would create a more interconnected trail system connecting many more miles of trails through the Newcastle area.

Please consider this suggestion as you make updates to the next Bellevue Parks and Open Space plan.

Also, the fairly-recently re-opened Primrose Trail loop next to the Coal Creek trail is a gem (how did they construct that massive bridge over the creek in such a remote place?). It is now one of my favorite walks. Please convey my appreciation for the effort that went into refurbishing this trail to the Bellevue Parks team that did so.

Thank you,  
Merrick V



**From:** Lisa K  
**Sent:** Friday, August 07, 2015 1:43 PM  
**To:** Gonzales, Steve  
**Subject:** Thank you Steve!!!

Dennis, Lisa, Merrick, Greyson  
Bellevue, Washington  
Friday, August 7, 2015

RE: Bellevue Parks & Recreation Youth Sports Camps

Dear Steve Gonzalez,

Our two boys, Merrick & Greyson have attended several of your camps through Bellevue Parks & Recreation. We wanted to let you know that they have thoroughly enjoyed being a part of your programs. The camps are well organized, fun and active opportunities for our young men to get exercise and make new friends. The field trips are great too!

We especially wanted to thank the great coaches that supervise these fun and active events. More specifically, please convey our sincere appreciation to the following coaches for their exceptional demonstration of leadership and fun management:

- \* Brooks
- \* Karissa
- \* Jordan (JoJo)
- \* Darius
- \* Coulon
- \* Elery
- \* Vivian

One of the greatest compliments we can give is that we will continue to enroll our boys in future camps, as well as proactively recommend your programs to other parents with young children.

Sincerely,

Dennis & Lisa K  
Merrick & Greyson K



**From:** Balducci, Claudia  
**Sent:** Friday, August 07, 2015 11:32 AM  
**To:** Linda Martin  
**Cc:** Council  
**Subject:** Re: Highland Center staff

What a heartfelt and moving testimonial to our awesome Highland Center staff! We will make sure their management and the staff themselves receive this wonderful appreciation. Thank you so much for taking the time to write it!

Claudia

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Robertson, Jennifer S.  
**Sent:** Friday, August 07, 2015 11:21 AM  
**To:** Linda Martin  
**Cc:** Miyake, Brad; Nunnelee, Sandra J.; Mccool, Kim; Foran, Patrick  
**Subject:** Re: Highland Center staff

Dear Ms. Martin,

Thank you so much for taking the time to write to us about your happiness with the Highland Center and its programming. We value this program and I am so pleased that your son has found such a welcoming and satisfying experience there. I am copying our City Manager and our Parks Director so that they will see your "kudos" and share these with the line staff.

Take care.  
Sincerely,

*Jennifer Robertson*  
City Councilmember, City of Bellevue  
425-452-7810 (office)  
425-516-5877 (cell)

On Aug 7, 2015, at 10:48 AM, Linda Martin <> wrote:

Greetings. I asked the receptionist at the Highland Center to give me an email address of someone I could write to about the Highland Center staff. My son, Lucas Martin, is a 19 year old young man with autism. He has participated in the Highland Center after school program in the past, and this summer he is participating in their summer camp program.

Because of the autism, Lucas has had a lot of trouble finding good recreational programs that accommodate him properly. Even programs for special needs people have demanded more of him than he can handle, for example transitioning from one activity to another too frequently and/or too rapidly, or not allowing him to sit out activities when he needs down time.

After 2 really unpleasant summers in one of the local special needs summer programs which really did not accommodate his disability, Lucas has been having a very wonderful time at the Highland Center summer camp this year. The contrast is amazing. It's been a pleasure to watch his personality blossom, and the sheer happiness he so often expresses around his summer camp experience. This is the type of thing that can happen for a person with a developmental disability when properly accommodated.

I am so impressed with the Highland Center staff, I just had to write to someone and tell them what a gem you have here in the heart of Bellevue. From the minute you enter and encounter Monica Gordon on the front desk, the experience is a good one. She is always so friendly and helpful. She is also always calm, and I think that calmness is contagious to the folks around her. She really sets the tone for a relaxed and accepting atmosphere in the Center.

I've known for some time that Kim Indurkar is a great program manager, and that she is very sensitive to the needs of folks with developmental disabilities. I've always been impressed with her quiet and determined dedication to the people she serves. She is also very good at communicating with parents, caregivers, transportation staff, and her own staff. She is knowledgeable, a very effective leader, has acquired, trained and supervised a great staff, and makes sensible programming decisions. I was very happy to hear she was promoted when Dan Lassiter moved on because she is very, very good at what she does.

Mary Boyle, who has been running the summer day camp Lucas is in, is another great find. She works very hard to make sure the camper's disabilities are being properly accommodated, along with all her many other duties, and it is very much appreciated. Lucas would not be having such a stellar experience this summer if it weren't for Mary.

The other direct staff this summer have been awesome as well. I'm not sure who is paid and who is volunteer, but they're all great. They engage Lucas, they communicate about things he is interested in, and in a way he can understand. They actually get to know him as a person, and they seem to enjoy their work – always a plus. Although I have trouble keeping all their names straight, every one of them is valuable and appreciated.

The Highland Center is such an extremely important resource in the world of people with developmental disabilities here, and these folks are the ones that make the magic happen. They provide an excellent model to surrounding communities of what a community center for people with developmental disabilities can and should be. I hope the City of Bellevue realizes just how

important the Highland Center and its staff is to so many people with developmental disabilities and their families in the area. Their important work deserves attention and support.

Sincerely,

Linda Martin

Support Services Supervisor

Bridge Disability Ministries

12356 Northup Way, Ste. 103

Bellevue, WA 98005-1956

Phone - 425-885-1006 Ext. 118

Check out our Facebook page!

<http://www.facebook.com/BridgeDisabilityMinistries>



**From:** Rosemary  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 11, 2015 10:13 AM  
**To:** DeWald, Dan  
**Subject:** A comment about Canbar landscapers

Hi,

I live down near Lake Sammamish and often use the Lake to Lake trail - the portion from the trailhead (at about 600 SE) up into Lake Hills. The past 2 mornings I've come across a team from Canbar landscaping - they are laying new bark on the trail.

These guys are awesome. Using only wheelbarrows, they're climbing and descending the rugged hillside, laying a thick new layer of trail surface. They've been polite each time I passed with my dog, and are accomplishing a tremendous amount. Please pass-on my kudos to the person responsible for that contract.

Also, a note - at the other end of where this trail hits the lake, down near Phantom Creek, a Bellevue Parks team did the same work. That team had the luxury of gas-propelled mini dumpers. I can't imagine why that equipment couldn't have been scheduled for use at this end - the climb is far more dramatic down here.

Regards,

Rosemary D

Hi Rosemary,

Thank you for the nice email regarding the Canbar crew. Several residents have commented on the tremendous job they are doing. As per the wheel barrows, that was Canbar's call. We are with you - the motorized option is the way to go.

Chris Vandall, Trails Program Supervisor is the project lead for all of Bellevue's trails and their improvements. I have cc'd Chris on this email. Thanks again for being a supporter of Bellevue's trails and for the nice email! It is sincerely appreciated.

Dan DeWald  
Natural Resource Manager  
Bellevue Parks  
425-452-6048

