

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

Tuesday  
July 12, 2011  
6:00 p.m.

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

**BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair Roland, Vice-Chair Robinson, Boardmembers George, Grindeland, Stokes, and Van Hollebeke

**COUNCILMEMBER PRESENT:** Councilmember Robertson

**PARKS STAFF PRESENT:** Shelley Brittingham, Patrick Foran, Nancy Harvey, Glenn Kost, Helena Stephens

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Will Badart, Leila Curtis, Dallas Evans, Rahul Harikrishnan, Carol Schapira, Amy Spens, Lisa Viereck

**MINUTES TAKER:** Michelle Cash

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**

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

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**Motion by Boardmember Stokes and second by Vice-Chair Robinson to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).**

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Motion by Boardmember George and second by Boardmember Stokes to approve the June 12, 2011 regular meeting minutes of the Parks & Community Services Board as presented. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).**

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

Ms. Brittingham introduced Amy Spens who is the 2011 Teens in Public Service (TIPS) intern at the Bellevue Botanical Garden. TIPS is a non-profit organization that offers youth rewarding work in the form of paid community service internships.

Amy Spens, 10610 Upper Preston Rd. SE, Issaquah, WA  
TIPS/Bellevue Botanical Garden

Ms. Spens is a 2011 graduate from Hillside Student Community School.

During Ms. Spens' eight week long internship at the BBG she will assist the garden staff with ground maintenance, running the volunteer program, and organizing various operations of the non-profit organization.

Ms. Spens discussed the following upcoming events at the BBG:

- Theatre Simple's production of "*Wonderland: Alice Adventures*," which runs July 30-31.
- Music in the Garden, which will be held on August 6.
- "*As You Like It*," which will be held on August 16.
- Art in the Garden, which will be held on August 26-28.

5. **CHAIR COMMUNICATION:**

Chair Roland attended the Symetra Bellevue Family 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. In addition, she thanked Ms. Stephens for allowing her to present awards at the Community Leadership Awards ceremony.

6. **BOARD COMMUNICATION:**

Boardmember Van Hollebeke made the following report:

- Attended the Symetra Bellevue Family 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration, which was spectacular. He commended Parks staff for quickly reclaiming the park after such a large event.
- Met with the Meydenbauer Bay Neighborhood Association and discussed the plans for Meydenbauer Bay Park.
- Enjoyed kayaking around Meydenbauer Bay and used Clyde Beach Park.

Boardmember Grindeland made the following report:

- Attended the Strawberry Festival, which was a great event. She gave kudos to staff for their support and upkeep on the park.
- Toured the Bellevue Youth Theatre and was impressed by the program.
- Attended the Symetra Bellevue Family 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration.
- Enjoyed reading the *Youth Connection* included in the Board packet.

Boardmember Stokes made the following report:

- Attended the Strawberry Festival and was amazed by the diversity at the event.
- Enjoyed the new path at Woodridge Park.

Boardmember George made the following report:

- Attended the Symetra Bellevue Family 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration.
- Enjoyed Robinswood Park.
- Visited the Master Gardeners area next to the Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station where one of the gardeners has been tending her plot for approximately 16 years.

Vice-Chair Robinson made the following report:

- Boated in Meydenbauer Bay and was impressed by the Mercer Island boat patrol.
- Enjoyed Bannerwood Park and Wilburton Park. There were many positive comments voiced about the parks.
- Attended the Symetra Bellevue Family 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration—the Bellevue Philharmonic Orchestra was outstanding.

#### 7. **CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION:**

Councilmember Robertson commended the Parks staff for the great work they do at the various community events. In addition, she reported on the following items:

- Council is formally supporting the Eastside Pathways program.
- A joint School Board/Council meeting will be held in the fall.
- The Council voted to approve funding for Evergreen Court, which is an affordable housing project in the Wilburton neighborhood.
- The Final Environmental Impact Statement for Sound Transit was recently released. Council is having high-level discussions with Sound Transit about the different routes and mitigation measures to determine agreeable solutions.
- Dallas Evans has been selected to fill the open seat on the Park Board. However, due to scheduling conflicts, the Council has not officially appointed him to the Park Board. His official appointment is expected in the near future.
- Boardmember Van Hollebeke has engaged with Allied Waste to bring a composting facility to a multi-family property. He was commended for his efforts.

Boardmember Stokes suggested that Eastside Pathways make a presentation to both the Parks Board and Human Services Commission. He is pleased the City Council is supporting this program. Councilmember Robertson suggested that the Park Board and Human Services Commission have a joint meeting to gain different perspectives and discuss Eastside Pathways. She will work with the Human Services liaison to help facilitate this meeting.

In regards to the Environmental Impact Statement, Boardmember Van Hollebeke questioned the Board's role regarding the 4f analysis. Councilmember Robertson explained that Parks staff is evaluating the EIS. Since there are tight deadlines, the Park Board will most likely not have a role in commenting on the statement.

8. **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:**

A. Welcome to New Boardmember

*Tabled until the next Board meeting.*

B. Board Elections

- Chair

Chair Roland opened nominations for Board Chair.

**Motion by Vice-Chair Robinson to appoint herself as the Board Chair.**

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

**At the question, motion carried unanimously to elect Vice-Chair Robinson as the Board Chair (6-0).**

- Vice-Chair

Chair Roland opened nominations for Board Vice-Chair.

**Motion by Vice-Chair Robinson to elect Boardmember Grindeland as the Board Vice-Chair.**

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

**At the question, motion carried unanimously to elect Boardmember Grindeland as the Board Vice-Chair (6-0).**

Mr. Foran and other Boardmembers expressed their appreciation to Chair Roland for her efforts and leadership as the Board Chair.

C. Bellevue Youth Court

Judge Carol Schapira thanked the Park Board for its support of the Youth Court program. She explained that Youth Court is a variety of diversion court. The youth that are successful through the program are allowed to have their legal matter dismissed. Judge Schapira added that the experience of being judged by peers is an essential part of the program.

Ms. Stephens explained that Bellevue's Youth Court program is highly regarded nationally. The program is the first and only youth court program in King County. Partners for Bellevue's Youth Court include:

- King County
- Probation Division
- City Attorney's Office
- WA State Youth Court Association
- National Youth Court Association

Ms. Stephens showed a video of the Bellevue Youth Court program that was featured on KOMO 4 News. In addition, she explained that the Youth Court pilot project began in 2008 and ends in 2012. There have been 36 respondents with approximately 43 cases heard through Youth Court. Approximately 342 volunteers have participated in the Youth Court program.

Ms. Stephens, Ms. Curtis, Mr. Badart, and Mr. Rahul discussed the following Youth Court elements:

- Oversight
- Training & Court Associations
- Attorney Mentors
- Youth Roles
- Case Management

Ms. Stephens clarified that the Youth Court volunteers are middle school and high school aged students. The respondents are 18 years old and younger.

Boardmember Van Hollebeke questioned why the program focuses on restorative justice, rather than retributive justice. Mr. Badart explained that the Youth Court jurors are not allowed to impose extra fines or impose jail time—community service hours are the main punishment for respondents. Mr. Badart added that imposing community service hours allows the offender to give back to the community and makes the offender think about his/her actions. Other punishments may include apology letters and/or counseling. Mr. Badart felt that all of these actions make the punishment restorative. Mr. Harikrishnan added that the Youth Court volunteers have an opportunity to speak with respondents to see how the program has affected them. This provides volunteers further background knowledge and helps the jury provide impactful decisions.

Boardmember Van Hollebeke asked Mr. Badart and Mr. Harikrishnan what their peers think of the Youth Court program. Mr. Harikrishnan felt that the Youth Court program needs further advertising so people are more aware of the program. Mr. Badart felt that some peers don't believe the program is legitimate, while other peers think the program is a true benefit to the community.

Boardmember George's son has been involved in the Youth Court program as a volunteer juror and prosecutor. In her opinion, everyone that participates in the program is extremely professional and articulate. In addition, she is appreciative to the professional attorneys and

other adult volunteers that participate in the program for their willingness to improve the good of the community.

Councilmember Robertson questioned if the recidivism rates for Youth Court program volunteers been evaluated. Ms. Stephens clarified that the youth who volunteer to serve on the Youth Court are not offenders. She also said that no formal surveys have been conducted targeting the youth offenders. However, she explained that the youth quickly learn how the juvenile justice system works. She will add a volunteer recidivism evaluation to the program survey so this information can be tracked.

Councilmember Robertson and Park Boardmembers would like further information about the fall volunteer recruitment for the next Youth Court session.

D. Parks Levy Update

Mr. Kost provided a recap of the 2008 Parks & Natural Areas Levy and the projects that were approved with this levy. Levy projects include:

Project	Status
Property Acquisition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Newport Hills/Tyler Acquisition</li> </ul>	Ongoing
Synthetic Sportsfields <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wilburton Hill</li> <li>Newport Hills</li> </ul>	Complete Complete
Trail Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coal Creek bridges, stairways, signage &amp; trailhead development</li> <li>Lewis Creek bridges &amp; boardwalks</li> <li>WCC trail crew</li> </ul>	Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing
Lewis Creek Park – Picnic Area	Under construction
Bellevue Youth Theatre	In permitting
Bellevue Botanical Garden	Bridge contract awarded 7/18; WSTG on hold; VC in permitting
Neighborhood Parks	Bridle Trails Park recommendations approved & Pashchinskiy property acquired
Surrey Downs Park Development	On hold, pending result of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>District Court</li> <li>Light Rail alignment</li> </ul>
Airfield Park Development	Master Plan SEPA
Downtown Park Development	No action

Mr. Kost reviewed the projected levy implementation schedule through 2017. In addition, he discussed the unfunded capital needs (non-levy), including:

- Off-Leash improvements
- Meydenbauer Bay Phased Development

- Aquatic Facility
- Bel-Red Parks
- Downtown Park System
  - Ashwood Park
  - Community/Multi-Cultural Center
  - Property Acquisition
  - Urban Trail System

Boardmember George inquired if property has been identified for a Lake Sammamish park. Mr. Kost confirmed that the Spady property has been acquired. However, there are significant topography considerations for this parcel. Mr. Foran added that the master planning process for this park will be complex. The cabin on the property is a historical landmark.

Vice-Chair Robinson questioned why finalizing the Downtown Park was not higher on the priority list. Mr. Kost explained the complexity of connecting the circle at Downtown Park. The main concerns are funding and relocation of parking.

Mr. Foran explained the CIP matching money noting that the Park levies were never intended to pay for all of the projects. Boardmember Van Hollebeke reminded Boardmembers that their role is to advocate for levy matching funds. Councilmember Robertson stressed that the Council's top priority is to honor the levy promises.

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

A. Eastgate Corridor Study

Boardmember Stokes reported that the Eastgate/I-90 Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) will have two meetings in September. The committee has developed preliminary assessments to assist with the decision making process.

B. Network on Aging

Vice-Chair Robinson explained that the Bellevue Network on Aging was pleased with Council's decision to continue funding Evergreen Court. In addition, she reported on the following:

- The Network on Aging's booth at the Strawberry Festival was a success.
- The World Health Organization recently identified a checklist to determine global age-friendly cities. The checklist includes outdoor spaces and buildings, transportation, housing, respect and social inclusion, civic participation, community and health services.

C. Other Groups

None.

10. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

None.

11. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Future agenda items

None.

**Motion by Boardmember Stokes and second by Boardmember Grindeland to extend the meeting until 8:05 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).**

12. **OTHER COMMUNICATIONS:**

- A. CIP Project Report
- B. Memo from Myrna Basich, City Clerk, to Boards and Commissions re 2011 City Council Elections
- C. Email from Paul Waggoner re Highland Drive medians

13. **INFORMATION:**

- A. List of upcoming Parks special events
- B. Softball game flyer (Bellevue All-Stars—seniors vs. City)
- C. Youth Connection—Summer Edition
- D. September 13—next scheduled regular Park Board meeting (No regular meeting is scheduled for August)

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

Lisa Viereck, 11272 SE 60<sup>th</sup> Street, Bellevue, WA  
President, Newport Hills Community Club

Ms. Viereck thanked Boardmembers and the city for the new turf fields at Newport Hills. She explained that there was resistance from the homeowners during the initial phase of implementing the fields. However, at the recent 4<sup>th</sup> of July homeowner's picnic there was general consensus that the fields were fabulous.

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

Ms. Viereck explained that Robert Parish was recently appointed by the Newport Hills Community Club as the Homeowner Chair to work with the city regarding the Tyler property. The association and Mr. Parish look forward to establishing the vision and facilitating community meetings for this property.

15. **ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion by Boardmember Stokes and second by Boardmember Van Hollebeke to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).**