

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

Tuesday
July 13, 2010
6:00 p.m.

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

BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Roland, Vice-Chair Robinson, Boardmembers George¹, Van Hollebeke, LaPine², and Stokes

BOARDMEMBER ABSENT: Boardmember Grindeland

COUNCILMEMBER PRESENT: Councilmember Robertson

PARKS STAFF PRESENT: Shelley Brittingham, Melissa Brown, Dan DeWald, Nancy Harvey, Alex O'Reilly, Terry Smith

OTHERS PRESENT: Terry Foulon

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 (4-0).

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion by Vice-Chair Robinson and second by Boardmember Stokes to approve the June 8, 2010 regular meeting minutes of the Parks & Community Services Board. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

¹ Arrived at 6:12 p.m.

² Arrived at 6:01 p.m.

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

None.

5. **CHAIR COMMUNICATION:**

None.

6. **BOARD COMMUNICATION:**

Vice-Chair Robinson recently enjoyed the Symetra Bellevue Family 4th celebration.

Boardmember Stokes made the following comments:

- Attended the Strawberry Festival.
- The new Bellevue PTSA Officers are interested in the Parks activities throughout the community.

Boardmember Van Hollebeke visits the Downtown Park on a regular basis and is anxious to see the Meydenbauer Bay Park expansion.

7. **CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION:**

Tabled until later in the meeting agenda.

8. **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:**

A. **Welcome to new Boardmember**

Boardmembers welcomed the newest addition to the Parks Board, Mark Van Hollebeke. Boardmember Van Hollebeke is a resident in Downtown Bellevue and a Philosophy Professor at Pacific Lutheran University. Boardmember Van Hollebeke expressed his appreciation to the Board interview committee and staff members for their guidance and efforts through the interview process.

B. **Human Services Needs Update**

Ms. O'Reilly discussed the importance of the 2009-2010 Human Services Needs Update. She noted that this update is of particular importance due to the effects of the recession. The data collected through the update process is used to guide the Human Services Commission in developing its recommendations for the allocation of limited funds.

Ms. O'Reilly explained that the Human Services Needs Update guides recommendations for the allocation of 2011-2012 human services funding from all sources. Data sources include:

- Community surveys.
- Focus groups.
- Key informant interviews
- Additional studies and reports.

Key indicators of the community's needs are the unemployment rate, the lack of affordable housing, an increase in the number of citizens in need of emergency financial assistance, increased reports of domestic violence, a growing number of adults without health insurance and increased demands on school lunch and food bank programs. Additional pertinent trends are the growing number of older adults, increasing ethnic diversity, and an increase in families living at the poverty level.

Ms. O'Reilly noted that funding applications are currently being reviewed. The Commission will assess the extent to which programs are addressing the needs of Bellevue residents most affected by the economic recession, while ensuring that a broad spectrum of services are still available for those who need them. In addition, the Commission looks for opportunities to leverage other financial contributions and is concerned that the safety net has been weakened by reductions in funding from multiple sources.

Mr. Smith discussed the relationship between the Park Board and the Human Services Commission and suggested the two entities might benefit from more opportunities to share information. Boardmembers expressed interest in this idea.

Vice-Chair Robinson commended Ms. O'Reilly for her efforts and support of human services.

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION:

Item 7: Continued from above

Councilmember Robertson reported that the City Council has been reviewing the following items:

- Meydenbauer Bay Waterfront Plan recommendation.
- City budget.
- Sound Transit options.

There was a brief discussion regarding the population that would benefit from the hospital station for Sound Transit.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

Item 8: Continued from above

C. Natural Resources' ArcGIS

Ms. Brown provided an overview of the Natural Resources inventory database, which covers approximately 100 parks, 80 miles of greenways and trails, 150 acres of right-of-way streetscapes, and 9,000 streetscape trees.

Ms. Brown discussed the benefits of having a natural resources asset inventory database. The inventory database is an invaluable tool to manage various Park resources, track changes over time, provide instant up-to-date data for planning purposes, and generate maps for management and contractors. This database is managed through a program called GIS—Geographical Information Systems, which is a standard database program utilized by natural resources organizations worldwide. Ms. Brown explained that the system allows the user to enter detailed information (i.e., tree species, health, pruning, tree status, inspection records, etc.). The information is accessible citywide, which helps improve customer relations as well as many other benefits.

Ms. Brown highlighted that Bellevue is a leader with the Natural Resources inventory database and has been asked by other municipalities to give presentations about the software and its capabilities.

Mr. DeWald clarified that the inventory information is GPS coordinated, which assists with identifying legal boundaries. In addition, most inventories are layered with other City maps (i.e., Utilities), which allows the City to utilize the same mapping system.

D. Board Retreat Planning

Boardmembers concurred that the Board Retreat should be held on a Saturday for a half-day. Ms. Harvey will send out potential retreat dates. Boardmember George encouraged Councilmember Robertson's attendance at the retreat. She commented that previous Councilmember liaison attendance has been valuable at the planning retreats.

9. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Mr. Smith called attention to the numerous events listed in the Board packet. In addition, he noted that a special board meeting has been tentatively scheduled for August 17.

10. **ONGOING/OLD BUSINESS:**

A. **Boardmember committee/liaison reports**

Vice-Chair Robinson reported that State Attorney General Rob McKenna recently made a presentation to the Bellevue Network on Aging regarding elder abuse. She noted that legislation was recently adopted for mandatory reporting by professionals who witness elder abuse.

11. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. **Future agenda items**

Boardmember LaPine suggested that park safety be added to a future agenda item. Mr. Smith confirmed that this has been added to the list of future agenda items.

12. **OTHER COMMUNICATIONS:**

A. **CIP Project Report**

B. **Email and article re Mercer Slough canoe program**

C. **Email re parks and trails**

D. **Email and TV story re skate camp**

13. **INFORMATION:**

A. **List of upcoming Parks special events**

B. **August 17 – Potential special meeting**

C. **September 14 – next scheduled regular Park Board meeting**

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

Terry Foulon, 64 Cascade Key, Bellevue, WA

Ms. Foulon discussed the changes on her property that mimics the recent changes within the park (between the swim beach and her property). The changes noted have been negative water quality, orange matter (most likely iron oxide), sedimentation, swamping inside the park, and perched water. Pictures of the wildlife area were distributed to Boardmembers.

Ms. Foulon determined that the Newcastle Beach Park Stormwater Initiative includes routing water from I-405, tributary to Coal Creek, to/through Newcastle Beach Park. She clarified that there is an existing stream inside the park (LW 9.8), which has an existing cubic feet per second (CFS) of approximately 2.2. Once the project is complete, the stream will have a CFS of approximately 23.

Ms. Foulon explained that a water hydrologist was hired to review the project and concluded that if the projected water flow continues, the Newcastle Beach Park will look like Mercer Slough in ten years.

15. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Vice-Chair Robinson and second by Boardmember George to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).