

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

Tuesday
January 8, 2019
6:00 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall
Room 1E-113
Bellevue, Washington

BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Kumar, Vice-Chair Trescases, Boardmembers Clark Hamilton, Heath, Synn

BOARDMEMBER ABSENT: Boardmember Unger

PARKS/CITY STAFF PRESENT: Shelley Brittingham, Patrick Foran, Nancy Harvey, Glenn Kost, Shelley McVein, Nathan McCommon (Deputy City Manager), Camron Parker

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeri Albertini, Ann Breese, Dan & Marcia Edwards, Douglas Hoople, Bob & Iris Jewett, Harvey Kriloff, Ashley Kaiser, Chris Lona, Peter & Carolyn Maxim, Dave & Sue McCoy, Rob Mikelsons, Pearl Nardella, Dawn Novak, Erin Powell, Ryan Scott (Boys & Girls Clubs of Bellevue), Ginger Switzer, Sue Thomas, Kirsten Wlaschin,

MINUTES TAKER: Michelle Cash

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kumar at 6:06 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

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

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion by Vice-Chair Trescases and second by Boardmember Hamilton to approve the November 27, 2018 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

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

Ginger Switzer

12649 NE 2nd Street, Bellevue, WA

Ms. Switzer is opposed to the proposed fieldhouse project for Wilburton Hill Park. She called attention to the 97 year old forest in Wilburton and the necessity to keep the tree canopy intact. Ms. Switzer also discussed the current parking challenges at Wilburton Hill Park and added that a fieldhouse would only exacerbate the issue.

Ms. Switzer discussed the proposed diagram of the fieldhouse project that was shown at the Wilburton Community Picnic. She said that the diagram was misleading and hopes that any future diagrams are drawn to scale and will depict the trees that will be cut down.

Douglas Hoople

10637 SE 22nd Street, Bellevue, WA

Mr. Hoople reminded Boardmembers that Phase 2 of Enatai Beach Park was never completed. This project includes a road to the park that allows for non-motorized boat launching. Mr. Hoople explained that the Enatai community believes it is the perfect time to complete Phase 2 of Enatai Beach Park to complement the other ongoing surrounding projects.

Erin Powell

1015 106th Ave. SE, Bellevue, WA

Ms. Powell explained that the Bellecrest Neighborhood Association Board is in solidarity in their support of all of the concerns expressed regarding the proposed fieldhouse at Wilburton Hill Park. Of particular concern are the deforestation and traffic impacts.

Ms. Powell noted that the Mercer Slough Nature Park's access trails are no longer available due to the current construction projects. As a result, people have shifted their desires to experience the nature trails at Wilburton Hill Park. Wilburton Hill Park trails are free and open to the public to enjoy because of the past investments and care that tax payers safeguarded over the years. Ms. Powell feels that a fieldhouse located at Wilburton Hill Park would be a negative impact on the wildlife, trees, ecosystem, peace and enjoyment of the park as a natural area.

Ms. Powell explained that the Hidden Valley Park facility is only 2.1 miles in driving distance from Wilburton Hill Park. She feels that this is an over-saturation of fieldhouse space for the geographic area and suggested that an alternate site closer to the targeted population be considered. Ms. Powell also noted that Kathy Haggert, Boys & Girls Clubs of Bellevue CEO, stated that the Crossroads community is the targeted population for the fieldhouse. She questioned why the fieldhouse would not be placed closer to Crossroads.

Sue McCoy
126 129th Ave. NE, Bellevue, WA

Ms. McCoy recalled promises that were made during the levy process to preserve park spaces. This also included keeping Wilburton Hill Park as green space. Ms. McCoy encouraged Boardmembers and City Council to look into the promises were made to the community and stay true to these promises.

Harvey Kriloff
12638 SE 7th Pl., Bellevue, WA

Mr. Kriloff reviewed the data of Bellevue demographics for residents under the age of 17 and noted that the Wilburton community has the least percentage if this age population, aside from the Downtown community. He suggested that the Sears building be considered as a potential site or that other locations be considered that won't turn open green space into buildings.

5. **COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY COUNCIL, COMMUNITY COUNCIL, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:**

No report.

6. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

No report.

7. **BOARD COMMUNICATION:**

Vice-Chair Trescases enjoyed spending time at the Bellevue Ice Skating Arena at Downtown Park.

Boardmember Heath visited the Bellevue Botanical Garden d'Lights and discussed the parking challenges he experienced at this event. He also recently visited Whistler, British Columbia and discussed a swimming/wellness facility that he enjoyed during his trip. He hopes that Bellevue continues to explore the aquatic center concept.

Boardmember Synn enjoyed the Bellevue Botanical Garden d'Lights event and also visited a few other parks.

Boardmember Hamilton volunteered at the Youth Holiday Party at Crossroads Community Center. He was impressed by so many staff members, including Patrick Alina, Tiberius Puravet, and Gianni Calderon. Everyone that attended the event was treated with care and kindness from the staff.

Boardmember Clark enjoyed spending time at the Bellevue Ice Skating Arena at Downtown Park. He also visited Ashwood Park and suggested that Boardmembers tour Wilburton Hill Park in preparation for any fieldhouse discussions.

8. **CHAIR COMMUNICATION & DISCUSSION:**

Chair Kumar enjoyed the Youth Holiday Party at Crossroads Community Center. She commended the Crossroads Community Center staff for such a wonderful event. Chair Kumar also reported that she will be attending upcoming workshops to rename the Eastside Rail Corridor as well as preview designs for the Eastside Rail Corridor ridge. She will provide reports as needed to Boardmembers. Lastly, Chair Kumar visited Wilburton Hill Park.

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

No reports.

10. **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:**

A. **Potential Boys & Girls Clubs of Bellevue Fieldhouse Partnership**

Mr. Foran provided an overview for the proposed Boys & Girls Club of Bellevue (BGCB) Fieldhouse Process Map. He reminded Boardmembers that Council directed the Parks Board to prepare a process map to determine if the city should further proceed with this concept. Mr. Foran inquired if the proposed map reflects the appropriate decision points and correct sequence. Due to workload constraints, Mr. Foran also proposed a revised timeline for the process.

Chair Kumar, along with Boardmembers Hamilton, Clark, Synn, and Vice-Chair Trescases expressed their overall support and approval of the process map.

Boardmember Heath suggested that a box be added at the beginning of the process to hear from the BGCB so they can confirm their commitment to the fieldhouse project. He is concerned about the turmoil within the community and thinks the BGCB should confirm their interest before any steps of the project proceeds. Vice-Chair Trescases noted that it may be difficult for the BGCB to confirm their commitment level without the project being identified for capital campaign purposes. Mr. Foran suggested that the BGCB partnership be discussed under the “partnership structure” portion of the process map.

Boardmember Heath asked why other sites are being considered if the BGCB has already worked with staff to develop a preliminary proposal for Wilburton Hill Park. On the contrary, Chair Kumar thought that the BGCB had a wider net of locations that they were considering and that a specific site had not yet been determined. Boardmember Heath does not feel that the process is balanced or consistent. Vice-Chair Trescases thought that the initial proposal specified Wilburton Hill Park for the fieldhouse. Then, Council provided direction for the Parks

Board to establish a process to evaluate community need, public benefit, and site identification (if the community need and public benefit criteria are validated).

Boardmember Heath requested that the BGCB confirm their support of the fieldhouse project prior to evaluating the community need or public benefit. Mr. Foran explained that it is premature to ask the BGCB to commit to the project prior to determining the community need or public benefit.

Boardmember Synn requested clarification on the process that was used for the BGCB/Hidden Valley Park partnership. He suggested that the process be applied to the fieldhouse proposal and that lessons learned also be considered. Mr. Foran noted that although the projects may seem similar, each project is unique because they have their own set of circumstances. Vice-Chair Trescases reminded Boardmembers that there was information in the November Board Packet that provided historical information about the BGCB/Hidden Valley Park partnership

Boardmember Hamilton reminded Boardmembers that the proposed process map is intended to be at a high level. If more detailed steps need to be added after the process map has been approved, the Board will be able to do so.

Boardmember Clark requested further clarification about staff's bandwidth. Mr. Foran noted that the fieldhouse project will be very time consuming. Boardmember Clark questioned if the fieldhouse project should be a higher priority than Ashwood Park or other already scheduled park projects.

Vice-Chair Trescases asked staff to clarify the primary purpose of Hidden Valley Park Fieldhouse. Mr. Foran noted that Hidden Valley Park Fieldhouse's primary public benefit from the City's point of view focuses on adult programming, during the hours that the BGCB doesn't use the facility to provide programming for youth.

Boardmember Synn suggested that the proposed process map include touchpoints between each phase of the process and include threshold questions so that the Board would know when it is ready to advance to the next step.

Boardmember Heath requested that another step in the process map be added to ask Council to define the scope of the project. He added that Council did not make a formal motion for the Parks Board to create a process map and requested that they approve a formal Resolution before any further action be taken. He also would like to ask Council if they want the Parks Board to evaluate Wilburton Hill Park as a starting point for the fieldhouse project or should the Parks Board evaluate all potential sites. Boardmember Heath called attention to an email submitted by Boardmember Unger that highlighted specific questions. Other Boardmembers were in agreement that Council has already provided their direction to the Parks Board and a formal motion from Council is not necessary.

Boardmember Hamilton views the Council's direction as very clear. He supports the proposed process map because it emphasizes the importance of community input. The process is the guide to answering if there is value in joining the BGCB to build an indoor athletic facility.

Boardmember Hamilton thinks the proposed process map ensures that all voices are heard and all relevant details are gathered. The process is proof of the Board's desire to conduct a thorough competent review, and the Board is qualified to conduct such a review and to provide the Council with a thoughtful recommendation. Boardmember Synn agreed with Boardmember Hamilton's comments, noting that once the overall process map is determined it can essentially be applied to any project.

Boardmember Heath would like any response to Council to stress that the project is not focused solely on Wilburton Hill Park. Vice-Chair Trescases clarified that the proposed process map allows for multiple sites to be considered but Wilburton Hill Park cannot be ruled out at this time. Mr. Foran added that if community need and public benefit are affirmed and the project moves forward, the 'Site Identification' process allows for 'Additional parameters/sites'.

Boardmember Heath explained that he spent many hours researching the BGCB fieldhouse project. He recommended that the process include a way of working through different available products. He also suggested that the city evaluate and consider non city-owned and private properties. Boardmember Heath added that Council and the Parks Board are making an exception for a private party. The goal should be to integrate the fieldhouse into the long-term plans that the city is currently developing.

Boardmember Synn reminded Boardmembers that Council asked the Parks Board to complete a process map for the fieldhouse project. Therefore, this task needs to be completed. Vice-Chair Trescases added that it is not the Parks Board's job to be working on behalf of the BGCB to identify and establish private partnerships for their fieldhouse project.

Boardmember Heath stressed the importance of inventorying all comments that have been received regarding the fieldhouse project. Mr. Parker confirmed that all comments are being cataloged. Boardmember Heath feels the proposed process is not the appropriate process for the project.

Motion by Vice-Chair Trescases and second by Boardmember Hamilton to approve the proposed BGCB Fieldhouse Process Map as discussed with the following edits:

- **Adjust the proposed timeline**
- **Add clarity to the Community Need and Public Benefit processes about the BGCB commitment**
- **Add touchpoints after Community Need and Public Benefit**

Boardmember Heath expressed dissatisfaction with the overall process for creating the Process Map.

Boardmember Synn suggested that the name of the BGCB Fieldhouse Process Map be changed to reflect the BGCB partnership. Vice-Chair Trescases explained that Bellevue already has partnerships with the BGCB and the discussion is regarding a partnership for a fieldhouse. Therefore, she recommended keeping the name as proposed.

At the question, motion carried (5-1).

B. Park Construction Projects Update (Surrey Downs & Meydenbauer Bay Parks)

Mr. Kost provided a project update for Surrey Downs and Meydenbauer Bay Parks. Aerial photos were shown marking some of the progress of each project. Construction of Surrey Downs Park is nearly complete with a target opening of second quarter 2019.

Motion by Vice-Chair Trescases and second by Boardmember Clark to extend the meeting until 8:40 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

Construction of Meydenbauer Bay Park should be complete in Spring, 2019. A soft opening is anticipated for the beginning of March, 2019.

11. **NEW BUSINESS:**

None.

12. **PROPOSED AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING:**

The February meeting agenda will include the following items:

- Update on Bellevue's Environmental Stewardship Initiative
- Visit Bellevue Tourism Economic Development Study

Boardmember Hamilton discussed some information that he recently received from Jurassic Parliament regarding parliamentary procedures and Robert's Rules of Order.

13. **OTHER COMMUNICATIONS:**

- A. CIP Project Status Report
- B. Email from Chris Lona re proposed fieldhouse
- C. Email from Dawn Novak re proposed fieldhouse
- D. Email from Dave McCoy re proposed fieldhouse
- E. Email from Diane Switzer re proposed fieldhouse
- F. Email from Daniel Renn re proposed fieldhouse
- G. List of upcoming Parks special events

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

Chris Lona

12424 NE 2nd Street, Bellevue, WA

Mr. Lona asked if there would be a fee required to use the proposed fieldhouse. He also asked if there is currently a fee charged to use the Hidden Valley facility. Lastly, Mr. Lona asked if there is currently a cloud over the fieldhouse process, since Wilburton Hill Park has been the primary focus.

Dawn Novak

618 124th Ave. NE, Bellevue, WA

Ms. Novak expressed her appreciation to Boardmembers for their community service. She asked that all sites be considered for the proposed fieldhouse project and that one of the guiding principles be to preserve the tree canopy.

Erin Powell

1015 106th Ave. SE, Bellevue, WA

Based upon Councilmember frustrations and the disheartening process for the homeless shelter, Ms. Powell requested that Wilburton Hill Park be removed from consideration for the BGCB fieldhouse project. The project is not consistent with what the neighborhood wants, which is a park with nature trails and a natural park that is beloved by its neighbors.

Ms. Powell suggested that Boardmembers consider North Bellevue Community Center as a preferred site for the proposed fieldhouse. This site is mentioned in the Bellevue Parks & Open Space System Plan as lacking a gymnasium. Ms. Powell encouraged Boardmembers to be creative and find a win/win solution for all.

15. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Boardmember Synn and second by Boardmember Hamilton to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).