

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

Tuesday
June 12, 2018
6:00 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall
Room 1E-113
Bellevue, Washington

BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT: Vice-Chair Synn, Boardmembers Clark, Deng, Hamilton, Heath¹, Kumar, Trescases²

PARKS STAFF PRESENT: Betsy Anderson, Shelley Brittingham, Bradley Calvert (Community Development), Christina Faine, Patrick Foran, Nancy Harvey, Brad Miyake (City Manager), Camron Parker, Cindy Shelton, Colin Walker

OTHERS PRESENT: Mike Ogliore (Bellevue Downtown Association)

MINUTES TAKER: Michelle Cash

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Synn at 6:02 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

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

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion by Boardmember Trescases and second by Boardmember Kumar to approve the April 17, 2018 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

Motion by Boardmember Trescases and second by Boardmember Kumar to approve the May 8, 2018 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

¹ Arrived at 6:06 p.m./Departed at 7:30 p.m.

² Departed at 7:28 p.m.

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

Mike Ogliore, Bellevue Downtown Association

Cindy Shelton, City of Bellevue

On behalf of the City of Bellevue and the Bellevue Downtown Association, Mr. Ogliore and Ms. Shelton invited Boardmembers to the 27th Annual Bellevue Family 4th celebration presented by The Bellevue Collection. The event is the largest 4th of July celebration on the Eastside and will take place in Bellevue Downtown Park, where families and friends can enjoy food, games, live music, and a spectacular fireworks show.

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

No report.

6. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Mr. Foran welcomed newest Boardmember Paul Clark to the Board. He also provided the following report:

- Toni Esparza, former Executive Director of Eastside Academy, was recently hired to fill Terry Smith's vacant Assistant Director position.
- Boardmembers are invited to attend the upcoming Cultural Competency Foundations class.

On behalf of the Board, City Council and staff, Mr. Foran presented Boardmember Deng with a plaque, commendation, and a framed picture as a token of appreciation for serving on the Parks Board. Boardmember Deng is moving out of state.

Boardmembers and staff expressed their appreciation to Boardmember Deng for her valuable contributions to the city and Board.

7. **BOARD COMMUNICATION:**

Boardmember Deng recently attended the Community Leadership Awards Ceremony. She was enthused by today's youth.

Boardmember Heath recently visited Bellevue Botanical Garden with his family.

Boardmember Kumar attended the Community Leadership Awards Ceremony. She commended Helena Stephens for putting together such an inspiring event. She also discussed the new residential/retail establishments in the Crossroads community. Lastly, Boardmember Kumar discussed her concerns about the dangerous situations she has experienced with off-leash dogs.

Boardmember Trescases distributed a flier about the upcoming Strawberry Festival and encouraged Boardmembers to attend the event.

Boardmember Hamilton attended the Community Leadership Awards Ceremony. He also visited/toured the Highland Community Center. He was impressed by the staff at this facility.

Boardmember Clark recently visited Downtown Park and Goddard Mini-Park. He also concurred with Boardmember Kumar's comments regarding problematic off-leash dogs.

8. **CHAIR COMMUNICATION & DISCUSSION:**

Vice-Chair Synn noted that there has been a lot of focus and media about the growth in Bellevue. He stressed the importance for the Board to be aligned on the vision and values that Parks brings to Bellevue.

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

None.

10. **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:**

A. **Board Elections**

Vice-Chair Synn opened nominations for the Parks & Community Services Board Chair position.

Motion by Boardmember Trescases and seconded by Boardmember Heath to nominate Boardmember Kumar as the Parks & Community Services Board Chair. Boardmember Kumar accepted the nomination.

Vice-Chair Synn requested other nominations for the Parks & Community Services Board Chair position. There were none. Therefore, nominations were closed.

At the question, motion carried unanimously (7-0) to elect Boardmember Kumar as the Parks & Community Services Board Chair.

Vice-Chair Synn opened nominations for the Parks & Community Services Board Vice-Chair position.

Motion by Boardmember Kumar and second by Boardmember Deng to nominate Boardmember Trescases as the Parks & Community Services Board Vice-Chair. Boardmember Trescases accepted the nomination.

Vice-Chair Synn requested other nominations for the Parks & Community Services Board Vice-Chair position. There were none. Therefore, nominations were closed.

At the question, motion carried unanimously (7-0) to elect Boardmember Trescases as the Parks & Community Services Board Vice-Chair.

B. Grand Connection Interstate 405 Crossing

Mr. Calvert explained that in December, 2017 Council adopted the Grand Connection framework Plan Volume 1, addressing the route's identity, aesthetics, public space improvements, and improvements to mobility and connectivity between Meydenbauer Bay and the Civic Center District. Adoption of the plan initiated the process to amend the Comprehensive Plan, update the Land Use Code, and develop design Guidelines. In May, 2018, staff presented Volume 2 of the framework plan which provided an in-depth assessment of the three Interstate 405 crossing alternatives. Mr. Calvert added that the plan discusses important elements of each of the crossing alternatives, including a comparative analysis and next steps to selecting and refining a preferred alternative.

The 405 crossing alternatives include:

- Alternative 1—Sculptural Bridge
- Alternative 2—Linear Bridge
- Alternative 3—Lid Park

Mr. Calvert provided a detailed description of each of the alternatives and their features. The following is a summary of the next steps for the project:

- May-Summer
 - Distribute to Council
 - Open to public comment
 - Presentations to boards, commissions, public, civic organizations
- Summer
 - Council to recommend a preferred alternative
- Fall
 - Begin RFP process for design refinement of preferred alternative

Boardmember Heath inquired if there are any plans to combine a homeless shelter with any of the proposed alternatives. Mr. Calvert clarified that the goal is for the alternative to serve as a civic function. He clarified that Alternative 1 precludes a shelter facility. Boardmember Heath noted that there is a dichotomy between how homeless shelters help the community but no one wants them in the downtown corridor. Boardmember Heath supports an alternative that includes a homeless shelter facility.

Boardmember Clark inquired if there have been any communications with the business community to see if they have an alternative preference. Mr. Calvert noted that staff is working closely with the business community, particularly the Ford dealership and REI. The goal is to ensure that the vision created is a collaborative process.

Boardmembers discussed the cost difference between the proposed alternatives, with Alternative 3 being the most costly option. There was also a general discussion regarding noise mitigation and safety precautions. Ultimately, Boardmembers would like to determine their preferred alternative and forward this recommendation to Council. Boardmembers viewed partnerships for the Grand Connection as vital, particularly regarding funding implications of the project. Hopefully, partnerships can be leveraged for funding and as a revenue stream. Boardmembers would like the alternative option selected to be “grand” and viewed as another signature park within Bellevue. Boardmember Hamilton views Alternative 3 as accomplishing this goal.

Boardmember Trescases asked when the project will be assigned to the Parks Board. Mr. Calvert clarified that once Council determines their preferred alternative they will assign tasks to the various Boards/Commissions.

C. Social Media Strategy

Ms. Harvey is the department’s Website Administrator and typically posts and maintains the website content, as well as works with program staff on the website strategy. Ms. Harvey noted that the city recently conducted an extensive revision of the website to optimize the site for various devices (i.e., cell phones, tablets, etc.).

Ms. Faine is the department’s Public Information Officer and provided an overview of the areas that she oversees for social media.

Mr. Walker is the department’s Marketing Administrator and provided an overview of the various social media tools that the city utilizes. The primary purpose of the social media tools is to promote the revenue-generating programs and build awareness of events. The city’s social media tools include:

- Facebook
- Twitter
- Nextdoor
- YouTube
- Instagram

Mr. Walker discussed some of the ways the Board can help with social media. These include:

- Like, share and retweet content
- Submit content
- Send in ideas

Ms. Harvey reminded Boardmembers to be mindful of the Open Public Meetings Act, Public Records Act, and city guidelines on endorsing positions.

Boardmember Kumar suggested that the city have a selfie campaign to encourage community members to submit selfies.

Mr. Walker encouraged Boardmembers to attend the June 18 Council meeting where the Parks Board will be presented a proclamation to declare July, 2018 Parks & Recreation Month. On behalf of the Board, Boardmember Kumar will attend the meeting to accept the proclamation.

11. **NEW BUSINESS:**

None.

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

Boardmembers would like to discuss the Council update at the next Board meeting. In the meantime, they would also like feedback provided to Council regarding the Grand Connection alternatives, before Council's next meeting.

Motion by Boardmember Clark and second by Boardmember Kumar to authorize the Board Chair and Vice-Chair to summarize the Board's discussion points regarding the Grand Connection and provide this feedback to City Council. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

Motion by Boardmember Kumar and second by Boardmember Clark to extend the meeting until 8:35 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

13. **OTHER COMMUNICATIONS:**

- A. CIP Project Status Report
- B. Cultural Competency Foundations Class – invitation to Board from Mayor
- C. 2018 Youth of the Year Award memo
- D. World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Proclamation (from Council packet)
- E. List of upcoming Parks special events

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

None.

The Parks & Community Services Board approved these meeting minutes on July 10, 2018.

15. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Boardmember Kumar and second by Boardmember Clark to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).