

BREMERTON PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

Minutes of December 18, 2018

Commissioner's Present: Tim Baker, Ben Burnette, David Hedger, Elizabeth Wrenn and Maggie Williams

Staff Present: Jeff Elevado, Department of Parks & Recreation Director
Colette Berna, Parks Preservation & Development Manager
Steve Mutek, Parks Operation Manager

I. Meeting Called to Order at 5:31 p.m. by Chair Baker

II. Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the October 23rd, 2018 meeting. Hedger/Williams (M/S/3 yes, 2 abstain-Burnette & Wrenn, 1 absent-Watson)

III. Public Comment: N/A

IV. Business Items:

1) Parks, Recreation and Open Space Comprehensive Plan Update – Draft Survey Review

Ms. Berna led discussion on review of revised survey which was entered into Survey Monkey after Commissioners comments had been incorporated. Commissioners discussed their experience filling out practice survey in Survey Monkey which overall was positive. The survey will be launched in January and the method of advertisement was discussed including social media, City's website, and laminated flyers posted at parks and YMCA.

The proposed public meeting date (announced in the survey) of May 21st was reviewed and agreed upon. This meeting will take the place of the May 28th Commissioner Meeting date (which is the day after Memorial Day).

2) Pendergast Regional Park - Kitsap Public Facilities District (KPFDD) Update

Director Elevado shared updated slides presented to the KPFDD board on December 3rd. Other projects vying for funding include Circuit of the Northwest Race Track, North Kitsap Conference Center, Central Kitsap Sports Complex, and Port Orchard Community Center. The KPFDD is focused on funding new projects that have a scope equivalent to a minimum of \$10 million and is anticipating between \$20-30 million available, dependent on the Legislature. **Director Elevado** reviewed proposed scope of Phase 2 (turf soccer fields with fencing and drainage, install restroom, overlay parking lot, improve concession building) & Phase 3 (addition of one ball field, relocation of dog park, turf 4 ball fields). He also shared discussion with the Kitsap Mountaineers who would like to build (and privately fund) a climbing wall using a portion of the hillside behind the concession building. The official application is due before the end of the year and then the KPFDD will evaluate the proposals and determine which projects they want to see move forward for a final presentation.

3) 2018 Year in Review/2019 Goals

Director Elevado thanked Commissioners for their support and time commitment over the year which is well-respected within the Administration and City Council, who regularly asks if items brought to Council were reviewed by the P&R Commission first.

He highlighted successes from 2018 which included: departmental re-organization, new laborers hired, Manette Park renovations, telecommunication lease approved, high grant rankings for Warren Ave. Playfield and Kitsap Lake Park, Summer Playground program, Senior Trip program, Athletic programs including a new volleyball league, Senior Craft Fair, Arts Commission, Downtown Fountain operation, Special Events, Holiday Lighting, accurate tracking of maintenance costs, and elevating Parks Maintenance wages to the same as Streets Maintenance wages.

Challenges include lack of resources, particularly for facilities. The City has a Public Facilities division which takes care of City-owned buildings including City Hall (1st, 5th, 6th floors), Public Works building, Fire Stations, Downtown Public Library, and Wastewater Treatment plants. Parks & Recreation is the only Department that doesn't have help with their buildings (including the Senior Center) and the 1940's Sheridan Park Community Center is substandard (e.g. poor HVAC system, no hot water in restrooms, leaky roofs, etc.). The goal in 2019 is to put more emphasis on needed facility upgrades which are long overdue.

V. **Staff Reports:**

1) **Manette Park Improvement Project Update**

Director Elevado shared that the grand opening will be held in the Spring. **Commissioner Hedger** suggested event could coincide with Easter Egg Hunt.

2) **Kitsap Lake Update**

Ms. Berna shared scope and timeline of RCO Boating Facility grant along with letter of support for Commissioners to sign. Final presentation will be in February. **Director Elevado** shared progress of Mayor's initiative to improve the water quality of the lake by working with the Water Resources Department to address the weed and algae problem and treat stormwater runoff before entering the lake at the outfalls.

VI. **Commissioner's Comments:**

Commissioner Burnette asked how the new play equipment is working at Lions Park and how basketball has been this winter. **Director Elevado** responded that the net climber and track ride are holding up well and that adult basketball turn-out has increased while the boys league stayed about the same. Also, the gym's wood floor is currently being stripped and refinished. The status of the Warren Ave. Playfield grants was also discussed, which based on high grant rankings is expected to be awarded \$850k in June. **Director Elevado** shared that he's hopeful balance from Manette Park project can be used to get started on A/E for Warren Ave. Playfield early in order to be ready to go out to bid by the end of 2019.

Commissioner Hedger asked about timing of Manette Park shelter which is waiting on electricians to install lighting and will be worked on again after the holidays.

Chair Baker shared that in his work he's seeing a lot of Bremerton housing getting rehabilitated and that it's nice to see the city improving. Discussion continued around different changes happening throughout the city including the hospital moving, which **Director Elevado** noted could become high-density housing.

VII. **Adjournment:** **Chair Baker** adjourned the meeting at 6:58 pm.