



**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
April 13, 2020**

PRESENT: Tim Reid, President
Erik Hanberg, Clerk
Aaron Pointer
Andrea Smith
Jessie Baines

IN THE CHAIR: Tim Reid

PLACE: Remote call in meeting

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Metropolitan Park District Board of Park Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner Reid at 6:00p.m.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS EARTH DAY PROCLAMATION

President Reid read a proclamation into the record proclaiming April 22nd as Earth Day. He noted this is the 50th anniversary of Earth Day.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

President Reid commented that the Mayor and City Council recently issued a statement regarding anti-discrimination in the City of Tacoma.
Commissioner Smith moved that the Board support the recent Anti-discrimination statement made by the City of Tacoma; seconded by Commissioner Pointer.

The City statement reads as follows:

A Statement From the Tacoma City Council on Anti- Discrimination and COVID-19

We recognize these are challenging times for everyone in Tacoma and our nation. Respect for individuals of all races, ethnicities and national origins is an integral part of our cultural fabric as a city and as a community.

The City of Tacoma's Office of Equity and Human Rights has recently received information about discriminatory acts on valuable residents in our own Tacoma community. Asian Americans and other marginalized groups are experiencing increased instances of overt racism, including verbal and physical assaults in our region and throughout the country.

Facts, not fear, should drive our decisions and actions.

Misinformation about coronavirus propagates fear and hostility that hurts people and makes it harder to keep everyone healthy. It is important to remember that coronavirus does not recognize race, nationality, or ethnicity.

The virus doesn't discriminate, and neither will we.

As we navigate through these trying times, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reminds us that individuals – including those of Asian descent – who do not live in, or have not recently been in, an area of ongoing spread of the virus that causes COVID-19, or have not been in contact with another individual who is a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 are NOT at greater risk of spreading COVID-19 than other Americans.

A report prepared for the U.S. based organizations, Chinese for Affirmative Action and the Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council, stated that nationally, 673 instances of coronavirus discrimination were reported from March 19-25, 2020. Emerging trends include approximately 100 reports daily, with 5.5 percent from limited English speakers and verbal harassment making up two-thirds of reports.

The Office of the Mayor and the Tacoma City Council condemn discrimination of any kind against members of our community. We are stronger as a community when we stand together against discrimination. Our city's diversity is our greatest strength and we will not tolerate discrimination against our residents.

To file a report of discrimination, please file either at the state's [Human Rights Commission](#) or with the City's Office of Equity and Human Rights by calling (253) 591-5045.

Being no additional comments the question was called and the motion passed unanimously.

STANDING COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Greater Metro Parks Foundation

Commissioner Smith noted that GMPF recently met to discuss ideas on how the foundation can support staff during this difficult time.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director, Shon Sylvia commented on the following:

- Pete Mayer was introduced. Mr. Mayer commented that Tacoma Pierce County Health is reporting that there are currently 969 positive cases of COVID 19 and 20 deaths in Pierce County. Mr. Mayer stated that Metro Parks Tacoma has mobilized its ICS structure to deal with this global crisis. Following the Governor's mandate of stay home, stay health all Metro Parks' facilities and programs have been closed. Parks remain open although parking lot gates have been closed. He stated District staff continues to push out messages to encourage and remind visitors of social distancing protocols. Mr. Mayer reported that MPT staff has been active in getting childcare stood up for first responders as agencies have come together to share and coordinate resources. Mr. Mayer reported that the District is anticipating a \$13M shortfall of projected revenues. As a result the District made the difficult decision to lay off part-time & seasonal staff. He further noted that more impacts to staff are likely. It was then reported that District staff continue to work on state and federal side of things to mitigate impacts facing the District. Staff is anticipating that the Governor's May 4th order could be extended and are facing the reality of how different the District may look and operate in the future. Mr. Mayer stated that within the area of capital, modifications to the District's plan are being modified based on the current State mandates to focus on essential and emergency projects.

Shon Sylvia commented that tonight's agenda has purchasing items. He stated that staff is sensitive to the expenditures and has scaled down and made reductions to these items. Mr. Sylvia stated that the sign resolution is being recommend by staff as it has a significant fabrication time and that the work is consistent with the Governor's guidance on manufacturing.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

No community comments received.

Community comment is encouraged to be submitted in advance of the meeting in written form. Please submit written comments to the Board by 5pm on April 13, 2020 by e-mailing them to Jennifer Bowman at jenniferb@tacomaparks.com Comments may also be left on voicemail at 253-305-1091 by 5pm on April 13, 2020. Comments will be compiled and sent to Board members in advance of the meeting.

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 9, 2020 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Commissioner Pointer moved to adopt the minutes as presented; seconded by Commissioner Hanberg and passed on a vote of 5-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTION NO. C19-20: APPROVAL OF WARRANTS CLAIM FUND FOR MARCH 2020

RESOLUTION NO. C20-20: ACCEPTING DONATIONS FROM THE NORTHWEST TREK FOUNDATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF NORTHWEST TREK WILDLIFE PARK

Commissioner Pointer moved to adopt the consent agenda as presented; seconded by Commissioner Hanberg and passed on a vote of 5-0.

PURCHASING RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. P21-20: AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF GOODS AND SERVICES FOR METRO PARKS TACOMA

1. LAMAR ADVERTISING FOR BILLBOARD ADVERTISING IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$115,000

Commissioner Pointer moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Commissioner Hanberg.

Commissioner Hanberg inquired as to the rate amounts being contracted at this time. Staff indicated that this contract does lock in rates. Commissioner Pointer followed up by asking about the timing of the billboards. Staff commented that there could be some flexibility of depending on current messaging amidst current circumstance. Staff also commented that the contract includes timing of billboards ads for Zoolights.

Being no additional comments the question was called and resolution passed on a vote of 5-0.

PUBLIC WORKS PURCHASING RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. PW22-20: POINT DEFIANCE PARK WATERFRONT PHASE 1 SIGNAGE BID NO. J2020-05, CONTRACT AWARD TO EVERGREEN SIGN COMPANY

Commissioner Pointer moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Commissioner Hanberg.

Being no additional comments the question was called and resolution passed on a vote of 5-0.

SINGLE READING RESOLUTIONS None

SECOND READINGS RESOLUTIONS None

FIRST READING RESOLUTIONS None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS None

BOARD COMMENTS:

Commissioner Pointer spoke about the data being collected related to people of color in urban areas testing positive for COVID 19. Staff indicated the TPCHD and UWT is tracking both zip codes and demographic data.

Commissioner Hanberg thanked staff who are keeping things together for the District during this time.

Commissioner Smith inquired as to the frequency of grass mowing. Mr. Sylvia commented that staff is looking at activities like grass mowing from a safety perspective and will be addressing activities of that nature.

President Reid thanked staff for the work District staff is continuing to do during this pandemic.

ADJOURN:

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35p.m.

APPROVED:

President

Clerk

Submitted by: Jennifer Bowman, Board Secretary