



**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
JUNE 14, 2021**

PRESENT:

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

IN THE CHAIR: Erik Hanberg

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 Hanberg at 6:00 p.m.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT RECOGNITION

Shon Sylvia and the Board of Park commissioners recognized Marina Becker, Director of Parks recreation on the occasion of her retirement after serving 39 years at Metro Parks Tacoma.

DISTRICT ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH TEAM

MPT District engagement and outreach team members Delia Flores and Abigail Vizcara Perez were introduced to the Board. It was noted that this team recently presented at the WRPA conference. Ms. Vizcara Perez commented that the purpose of the evening's presentation is to provide an overview of the teams outreach efforts that includes examples of how Metro Parks has used community outreach to advance racial equity, curating and sharing relevant data to help visualize and analyze inequities in the organization.

Ms. Flores explained a racial equity lens chart covers the definition and the different levels MPT hopes to move through. She stated that starting with applying a racial equity lens to reveal inequities, it moves into assessing inequities that can drive change for more equitable outcomes and continues to make progress by initiating racial justice and implementation of racial equity efforts throughout the organization. Ms. Vizcara Perez continued by noting that meaningful, equitable and inclusive outreach requires a lot of planning and intentionality. This work requires emotional intelligence as it includes people's feelings, thoughts, fears, hopes and dreams. The Board was informed that this team continue to host public meetings, but also found new ways to meet people where they are. Staff stated that when they showed up to grassroots, community led coalitions and made it clear that MPT staff was there to listen first, then they were invited back to present more formally. Ms. Vizcara Perez also stated that this integrated, long range outreach strategy makes the relationship a priority not just for budget development but as part of district wide planning and even the outreach design as it evolves alongside the needs of the city.

Ms. Flores stated the team members are now certified diversity consultants. She remarked that cultural humility allows individuals to enter any conversation with the understanding that each individual is a subject matter expert on their life experiences. Team members emphasized that through hearing about lived experiences trust is built amongst community members and the organization. To that end Ms. Flores spoke of a four phased approach to offer the community a robust internal system for intentional consideration of the feedback received from them and to give them a voice

Ms. Vizcara Perez commented that the District's new organizational structure has allowed for a more collaborative approach for the accountability. She continued by stating that this new team is evidence of the changing culture at our agency.

Commissioners Pointer and Baines thanked the team for their continued hard work.

PRESIDENTS REPORT None

STANDING COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Zoo/Trek Liaison Committee

Commissioner Smith noted that the committee met last week. The committee was informed that things are currently looking good financially for both Zoo & Trek. The committee was also reminded that that strategic plan consultants have begun the listing phase of the planning process.

Join Municipal Action Committee

Commissioners Smith commented that JMAC met last Friday. The committee reviewed the asset mapping tool it has been working on as well as receiving a presentation from Work Force Central. Commissioner Smith noted that the committee engaged in discussion around policy impacting JEDI and community wealth building in Tacoma.

Active Lifestyle & Community Wellness Advisory Council

Commission Pointer commented that this council met on May 27th. At that meeting new members were welcomed. In addition, the committee heard a staff presentation about waterfront planning & the community center pricing models.

Nature & Environment Advisory Council

Commissioner Reid stated the last meeting was canceled; the committee plans to meet again next month at Dickman Mill Park.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director, Shon Sylvia reported on the following:

- Hollie Rogge, Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation introduced the following new & promoted employees: Lisa Ellson, Esper Brand, Mason Sikes, Paris Corrick
- Marina Becker was introduced to give clarifying comments regarding P34-21 that was approved by the Board at the May 10, 2021 Board Meeting. Ms. Becker stated there was a scrivener's error and that the resolution should have read, *contract amendment*, as this is not a new contract. She further stated that the \$68,230 that was approved on May 10th will be an Amendment #2 to Berry Dunn's existing 2019 contract. Increasing it from \$80,000 to \$148,230.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

James McCormick submitted a written comment regarding derelict vessels at Point Defiance Park.

MINUTES OF THE MAY 24, 2021 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

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

CONSENT AGENDA**RESOLUTION NO. C28-21: APPROVAL OF WARRANTS CLAIM FUND FOR MAY 2021**

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

PURCHASING RESOLUTIONS None**PUBLIC WORKS PURCHASING RESOLUTIONS** None**SINGLE READING RESOLUTIONS** None**SECOND READINGS RESOLUTIONS** None**FIRST READING RESOLUTIONS****RESOLUTION NO. RR44-21: AMENDING DISTRICT POLICIES**

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

Hunter George commented that staff proposes to amend the Holiday Accrual and Use policy to add June 19th to the list of recognized holidays, and to amend the Break and Meal Periods Policy to expand overtime eligibility to part-time and seasonal staff who work on the day of a holiday. He noted that The Park Board proclaimed February as Black History Month that included a stated intention of recognizing June 19 as an MPT-recognized holiday.

Mr. George commented that the Holiday Accrual and Use Policy (514.004) currently authorizes 12 paid holidays; this policy update adds June 19 to the list.

In addition, Mr. George stated that MPT follows overtime laws, but the District does not have a specific policy regarding overtime. The amended policy states that part-time and seasonal employees will receive overtime pay for any hours worked on an MPT-designated holiday. It also defines the work week and notes that employees may be eligible for other instances of overtime pay, such as those circumstances governed by the Collective Bargaining Agreement. As a result, the policy's title would be expanded to say Breaks, Meal Periods and Overtime. Staff noted that the overtime policy would take effect with the June 19 holiday and thereafter.

Mr. George also stated that these policy amendments are endorsed by the Executive Cabinet and have been reviewed by legal counsel as well as The IUOE Local 302 representative.

Commissioner Pointer moved to suspend the rules and vote on the resolution at this meeting; seconded and passed unanimously.

Being not additional comments that question was called, and the resolution passed on a vote of 5-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS DAWSON PARK INTERGOVERNMENTAL TRANSFER

Marty Stump, Deputy Director of Planning was introduced. Mr. Stump commented Pierce County has designed certain utility improvements to be constructed adjacent to the North property line of Dawson Park. In order to construct the utilities, Pierce County has requested Metro Parks transfer a strip of land along the North property line (88th St. E.) that is approximately 30 feet wide and 527 feet long, and a strip of land along part of the Easterly property line (18th Ave. E.) that is approximately 5 feet wide and 174 feet long.

Mr. Stump further commented that in exchange for Metro Parks’ transfer of the strips of land to Pierce County, Pierce County is willing to vacate the unimproved right of way known as Van Buren Street. This property exchange would allow utilities to be constructed as planned and the park to become a unified and single parcel. Maps of the property were then reviewed by staff and the Board.

Staff requested a Committee of the Whole meeting on June 21, 2021 to discuss this transfer and to discuss long term property opportunities with Pierce County.

BOARD COMMENTS:

President Hanberg commented he will be out of town and will not be in attendance for the June 21,2021 COW meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: In accordance with RCW 42.30.110 Board members recessed into an executive session for 20 minutes to discuss potential litigation.

ADJOURN:

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35p.m.

APPROVED:

President

Clerk

Submitted by: Jennifer Bowman, Board Secretary