



**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
JUNE 28, 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

PRIDE MONTH PROCLAMATION

President Hanberg read a proclamation into the record that recognizes and honors the month of July 2021 as LGBTQ+ Pride Month in Tacoma.

County Councilman Ryan Mello thanked the Board and the Park District for their efforts in making Tacoma an inclusive city.

Troy Christensen representing the Rainbow Center thanked the Board and the District for the support and ongoing partnership.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

President Hanberg stated that the Board will be using the month of July to transition into hybrid style Board meetings. The Board will continue to meet remotely through July with a goal of having technology in place by August.

President Hanberg thanked District staff who worked on getting spraygrounds open for the community in time for the heat wave that hit the region.

STANDING COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Active Lifestyle & Community Wellness Advisory Council

Commissioner Pointer stated this council took a site tour of Swan Creek Park during its last meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Debbie Terwilleger acting on behalf of Shon Sylvia reported on the following:

- Hollie Rogge, Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation introduced the following new & promoted employees: Ryan Brown, Cindell Stacy, William Hirzel, Shana Clarke, Amanda Baugh, and Daesha Richards. Debbie Terwilleger introduced the District's new Chief Equity Officer Norinda Rosario Yancey.
- Parks crews went above and beyond to get all 10 spraygrounds opened ahead of the planned July 1 opening date.

The District did experience a short-term outage at Titlow caused by the UV system, staff were able to get it up and running again and will be monitoring to determine if outside services may be needed.

- Reminder that outdoor pools are scheduled to open July 1st on a limited schedule
- Board Members received notification from staff on Friday about the Governor's Welcome Back Tacoma event. In conjunction with the statewide reopening associated with the lifting of COVID-19 regulations, MPT was approached today by the Governor and the Mayor to make Wright Park available for a Welcome Back Tacoma Event on Wednesday, June 30th 11am-1pm . Although the City is taking the lead on the event here in Tacoma, this is actually a statewide celebration of the end to current COVID restrictions. This is an opportunity for Washingtonians to celebrate the end of this chapter. With three community-led celebrations – Seattle, Tacoma and Spokane, Gov. Jay Inslee will travel to different locations on Wednesday, to celebrate with community and business leaders, elected officials and Washington heroes who helped us through the COVID pandemic.
- The Governor's Office has continued to indicate that the state's economic recovery will undergo a big shift this week. It is staffs understanding that most COVID restrictions will be lifted at the end of the day on Wednesday, June 30th.
Capacity limits: Effective Thursday, all limits on our capacity are removed, although camps remain under their own COVID safety rules. The lifting of restrictions does not necessarily mean we are jumping up to 100% at once. The District will increase capacity around our system where we feel we have an appropriate level of staffing. This has been a very challenging labor market and we are still trying to fill a lot of summer positions.

Mask use: The state mask mandate will remain in place. That means masks are still required for anyone who is not fully vaccinated. Up until this point, the District has required that Metro Parks employees wear a mask when indoors, regardless of vaccination status. The District will remove that requirement effective Thursday, which means employees do not have to wear a mask if they are fully vaccinated and have attested to us that they are vaccinated. Remember regardless of vaccination status if you work in or visit K-12 schools, childcare facilities, and day camps in locations where children and/or adolescents are present face coverings are still required.

Employees will still be required to log their health status and location each day so that we can maintain contact tracing as needed. Employees must wear a face mask or attest to full vaccination. The District will provide supplies so employees can disinfect their personal work areas. The District will strongly encourage employees to continue practicing proper hand washing and other sanitizing practices.

- Thursday, July 8th 10am Franklin Park renaming event
- Saturday, July 10th 10am Dickman Mill re-opening event
- Community Center will be closed on July 5th for the holiday
- Fort Nisqually TikTok now has 35.9K followers

COMMUNITY COMMENTS None

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 14, 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 None

PURCHASING RESOLUTIONS None

PUBLIC WORKS PURCHASING RESOLUTIONS None

SINGLE READING RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. R45-21: W.W. SEYMOUR BOTANICAL CONSERVATORY ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING \$48,488.00 FROM THE CONSERVATORY FOUNDATION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE VIVARIUM

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

Debbie Terwilleger commented that this item was reviewed by the CIC on June 16th. Staff noted these funds will be used for the vivarium that will house frogs at the Conservatory. Staff and the Board engaged in brief conversation about how the frogs will be taken care of.

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

SECOND READINGS RESOLUTIONS None

FIRST READING RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. RR46-21: AUTHORIZING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL TRANSFER OF REAL PROPERTY WITH PIERCE COUNTY RELATING TO DAWSON PARK

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

Board members were reminded that this topic was discussed as a new business item on July 14th and at the COW meeting on July 21st.

Staff commented that 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

Staff further noted 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.

Being no additional comments, the resolution moves to second reading on July 12, 2021.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS None

BOARD COMMENTS

President Hanberg commented on his recent visits to a number of National Parks with his family.

ADJOURN

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45p.m.

APPROVED:

President

Clerk

Submitted by: Jennifer Bowman, Board Secretary