



**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
AUGUST 9, 2021**

PRESENT:

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

IN THE CHAIR: Erik Hanberg

PLACE: Metro Parks Tacoma Headquarters

STUDY SESSION ENDANGERED NORTHERN LEOPARD FROG PROJECT

Marc Heinzman, biologist at NW Trek was present to inform the Board about the Northern Leopard Frog Conservation Project being led at NW Trek. Mr. Heinzman began by providing information about the decline of the frog species in the western states. He noted that reasons for the decline included climate change, habitat impacts, and predators. Staff noted that there have been efforts to improve habitats but more needs to be done. Mr. Heinzman then spoke of the grant of \$20,000 through the State Wildlife Grant that has made this project possible. Next staff described work over the last couple of months that including egg collection, tad pole rearing and the eventual release of these frogs last week. Several slides were reviewed that showed frogs being tagged and released. In total 480 frogs have been released as a result of this conservation project. Mr. Heinzman commented that staff is hoping to repeat the project in 2022.

REGULAR MEETING

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

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Q2 BUDGET UPDATE

Chief Financial Officer, Erwin Vidallon opened the presentation by commenting that District-wide the year to date variance is favorable by \$5M. Mr. Vidallon then reviewed a table noting the variance by fund as follows: General Fund \$570,559, Regional; Park & Attraction \$1.29M and ZEED \$3.4M. Mr. Vidallon explained that most savings in the quarter has resulted from salaries & benefits, and timing of expenditures.

Mr. Vidallon then commented on tax revenue. He pointed out that property tax collection is tracking very close to budget. The Board was informed that sales tax is tracking much higher than the projected budget as the District had planned conservatively as the region begins to rebound from the impacts of COVID.

The Board was then taken through a number of slides that broke down quarterly revenue and expenses by business units for Operations, Parks & Recreation and administration and ZEED. Items of note included great performance by the golf course, Boathouse, and Fort Nisqually. Mr. Vidallon also called out a positive variance of \$119,000 in revenue received from the

Greater Metro Parks Foundation related to the Eastside Community Center Lease commenting that the lease payment will be made in November. Within the area marketing, some revenues expected from some sponsors have yet to be received to date, staff is working with sponsors on the timing of payments. However, expenditures compared to budget continues to be favorable realizing a savings of approximately \$155,000 to date.

Mr. Vidallon commented that within the ZEED budget a few items including that new tram payments have been delayed based on delivery changes, and the Zoo continues to do well on revenue side due to admissions.

The presentation concluded with a look at 2nd Quarter results from the capital budget. Mr. Vidallon comment that capital has increased in expenditures by approximately \$4.4M compared to 1st Quarter. He noted most of the expenditures were invoices paid for projects from the Regional Parks category by about \$1.3M and Waterfront Parks & Facilities with an increase of approximately \$2.6M. Remaining budget of approximately \$26M remains healthy based on what's planned.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Commissioner Hanberg noted that the Board is wearing masks tonight to continue to model healthy behaviors for the community.

STANDING COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL REPORTS None

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Shon Sylvia commented on the following:

- Staff is putting the final touches on the installation of new equipment in the Board room. Staff will get trained up in anticipation of an August 23rd Hybrid Board meeting.
- Meadow Park continues its record breaking year. Through July, the golf course has already met 76% of its yearly target of total golf rounds played as compared to its adopted budget. July 2021 has been the busiest month ever.
- Two successful national night out events were held last week at Peoples and another in partnership with Salishan.
- Commissioners are invited to attend the Bald Eagle Bronze Sculpture unveiling Thursday, August 19th at 6 pm at NW Trek
- Board Retreat is scheduled for August 20, 2021
- Fort Nisqually Bridge encampment is returning August 13th & 14th
- STAR Center Movie Series continues August 13th and 20th - Lawn opens at 7:30pm, Movies begin at dark

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Curt Mehlhaff commented on the lack of life at the Titlow shoreline. He requested that the District continue to seek ways to positively impact the local environment.

MINUTES OF THE JULY 26, 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. C52-21: POINT DEFIANCE PARK WATERFRONT PHASE 1 FINAL ACCEPTANCE OF GUY F ATKINSON CONSTRUCTION LLC, CONTRACT #2015150J/ GCCM RFQ071727

RESOLUTION NO. C53-21: POINT DEFIANCE PARK WATERFRONT PHASE 1 SIGNAGE FINAL ACCEPTANCE OF EVERGREEN SIGN COMPANY CONTRACT #202037J/ BID NO. J2020-05

RESOLUTION NO. C54-21: APPROVAL OF WARRANTS CLAIM FUND FOR JULY 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 None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS None

BOARD COMMENTS

Commissioner Reid commented that his advisory council will be visiting Dickman Mill Park during their next meeting.

Commissioner Smith commented that she attended the Shakespeare in the Park recently held at Dune Peninsula and Wright Park.

Commissioner Pointer requested statistics on the number of employees that have attested to being vaccinated.

President Hanberg acknowledged the comments of Mr. Melhaff earlier in the meeting inquiring how the District can be helpful in impacting habitat at Titlow. President Hanberg also noted that the movie *Dune* is opening in October. He suggested future events at Dune Peninsula that could coincide with movie showings.

ADJOURN:

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

APPROVED:

President

Clerk

Submitted by: Jennifer Bowman, Board Secretary