



**MINUTES OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS  
JUNE 21, 2021**

**PRESENT:**

Andrea Smith, Clerk  
Jessie Baines  
Aaron Pointer  
Tim Reid

**EXCUSED:** Erik Hanberg

**IN THE CHAIR:** Andrea Smith

**PLACE:** Remote Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Hanberg at 5:30pm.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

March 15, 2021 Minutes

Commissioner Reid moved adoption of the minutes as presented; seconded by Commissioner Pointer and passed on a vote of 3-0. (Commissioner Hanberg being excused and Commissioner Baines being late).

**DAWSON PARK INTERGOVERNMENTAL TRANSFER**

Staff stated that this agenda items was introduced under new business at the June 14, 2021 Board meeting. Debbie Terwilleger commented that at tonight's meeting staff would like to discuss the near-term property transfer as well as some long term property issues including urban growth area and fee collection.

Ms. Terwilleger reviewed a slide that gave a history of Dawson Park. In 1938 the school district transferred the property to MPT, in 1970 an agreement between MPT and Pierce County Parks was signed transferring management to Pierce County. Then in 2019 the County received funding for improvements at the site that necessitated and engagement and participation with MPT as the property owner in order to execute the project. It was further noted that additional real property actions are now required by both the Park Board and County Council.

Mr. Stump then showed a map of Dawson Park to give an overview of the current utility project taking place at the Park by the County. Metro Parks has been monitor and meeting with the County to make sure project improvements are up to MPT project standards. The County is

removing old tennis courts, improving basketball courts surfacing, adding a new small court play elements, and replacing playground and safety surface as well as adding an ADA compliant perimeter walking trail around the park. Staff stated that these improvements are being funded by Pierce County.

Marty Stump then commented that during plan review, there was a discovery of a real property issues. 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. 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. A map of the areas described were reviewed with the Board members. Staff noted that a resolution for the transfer is planned for the June 28, 2021 park board meeting. This will require two readings with a unanimous vote of the full board.

Debbie Terwilleger commented that are several other mid and long term property transfer discussion that will likely occur in the future with the County. Areas of discussion include Puget Creek Beach, Swan Creek Park (Pioneer Way and Waller Road entrance), and Brown's Point Lighthouse / Dash Point properties. Ms. Terwilleger commented that as growth occurs the County's strategic plan indicates that they need to focus on being a regional park provider so their policy direction is to transfer these smaller local parks to local jurisdictions and providers in the future as the county grows. There was some discussion about the future growth areas and equity considerations that the City is considering as it relates to annexation of areas close to Dawson Park.

Mark Roberts then briefly described that if MPT borders are extended through annexation, the district will need to determine the tax revenue implications as there may already be other junior taxing districts taking up capacity of the tax of those properties.

Commissioner Pointer asked about a small area in South Tacoma that was going to be annexed and how those tax fees were affected. Ms. Terwilleger comment that she believes this was an annexed area in the Manitou Neighborhood about 2 years ago and that the City did an analysis on service and tax implications and included MPT in those discussions. Staff to follow up on those details and will forward to the Board.

## **OTHER**

Commissioner Smith inquired about any action end by the State in order to allow for a return to in person and hybrid board meetings. Mark Roberts indicated that no action is need as some councils and board have begun to transition to in person meetings again. Mark Roberts suggested Board rules and procedures include something to address Zoom meeting participation by Commissioners.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, Commissioner Smith adjourned the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

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President

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Clerk

Submitted by:  
Jennifer Bowman, Secretary