



**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
JANUARY 24, 2022**

PRESENT: Andrea Smith, President
Aaron Pointer, Clerk
Erik Hanberg
Tim Reid
Rosie Ayala

IN THE CHAIR: Andrea Smith

PLACE: Hybrid Remote Meeting

STUDY SESSION

Sandra Eliason began the session informing the Board about the work staff is undertaking in order to collaborate with other agencies in Tacoma in order to propel the outreach and engagement work in the community. Renee Meschi was introduced as the program manager for the Equity Action Collaborative. Ms. Meschi commented that the public does not always differentiate between local municipal agencies and that any one of our organizations can impact belief and trust in our organizations. She highlighted that when agencies coordinate that there is more opportunity and less risk. Ms. Meschi then informed the Board that that collaborative work in the areas of equitable community engagement can help local municipalities in Tacoma reach goals together through shared data, calendars, policies, surveys and best practices. She stated that this collaboration includes structures to support shared positions, online engagement platforms, collaboration tools and baseline data.

Ms. Meschi noted the shared goal of the collaboration is diverse engagement, especially in historically marginalized & excluded communities. She continued by stating that building a Community Engagement Framework together by coordinating surveying efforts, data sharing agreements, adopting processes to jointly communicate follow up with each other will build community trust. In addition, it will minimize the risk of survey fatigue that leads to low engagement & low trust.

Ms. Meschi then shared that using participatory processes through the collaborative will allow the agencies involved to continue to grow as regional leaders in participatory budgeting, planning and policy making. It was noted that doing these things separately can cause mistakes and confusion for constituents. She further explained that standardizing best practices amongst the agencies in the collaborative creates a better experience for community participants. Ms. Meschi also discussed the shared goal for the collaborative as it relates to incentives and compensation. She explained that fairly valuing lived experiences means fairly compensating and standardizing community compensation such as gift cards, consultation and insurance umbrellas. She continued to note that there is a risk when different processes and rates are used when valuing community expertise as our current systems are not set up to easily work with individuals and community groups.

The presentation concluded with Ms. Meschi speaking about the shared training, tools and templates for the collaborative . She noted the benefits and stated that a commonly informed community coupled with meaningful actions to build trust and minimize fatigue in relationships with diverse community groups is a goal.

Commissioner Hanberg asked several clarifying questions about the how the structure of the collaborative works. Discussion ensued about how an agency amabassdor position for each agency could work. Commissioner Hanberg stressed the need for diversification in these roles.

Commissioner Ayala commented that she is grateful for the work that is being undertaken to take this collaboration to the next step.

Commissioner Pointer stated that he feels trust is so important in keep up relationships in the community.

Commissioner Smith commented that she feels this will be funding well spent to continue to improve community engagement.

Sandra Eliason concluded the presentation stating that staff will be bringing a resolution forward for Board consideration at the next meeting related to funding a shared position for the collaborative project manager.

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Metropolitan Park District Board of Park Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner Hanberg at 6:15 p.m.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS None

PRESIDENTS REPORT

President Smith commented on the success of the virtual Fort Nisqually Burns Dinner that she attended last Saturday. During the event the success of online programming through the Fort's volunteer program.

STANDING COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Arts & Heritage Advisory Council

Commissioner Hanberg noted that at the last meeting the council elected is 2022 chair. The council also discussed temporary art work at Eastside Community Center and Wright Park. Commissioner Hanberg commented that the council is currently recruiting new members.

Nature & Environment Advisory Council

Commissioner Ayala stated that while recruiting new members the council is also looking at skills and competencies of membership on the council.

Joint Municipal Action Committee

President Smith commented that at the January 14th JMAC meeting the committee confirmed their areas of focus for 2022 will be JEDI, Health in all Polices and Community Wealth Building. The committee also received a presentation related to the Tacoma Equity Index.

Active Lifestyle and Community Wellness Advisory Council

Commissioner Pointer noted that this committee is scheduled to meet this Thursday.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT None

COMMUNITY COMMENTS None

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 10, 2022 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 None

PURCHASING RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. P4-22: AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF GOODS AND SERVICES FOR METRO PARKS TACOMA

1. MCROBERTS SEAFOOD FOR VARIOUS SEAFOOD (ANIMAL FOOD) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$91,783.00
2. WASHINGTON CITIES INSURANCE AUTHORITY (WCIA) FOR PROPERTY, LIABILITY AND AUTO INSURANCE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$802,586

Commissioner Pointer moved to adopt the resolution seconded by Commissioner Ayala.

Alan Varsik commented that the Board passed resolution P2-22 approving a purchase from Pisces Seafood. Staff was then informed when the order was placed that Pisces Seafood could no longer supply the herring that is needed. He noted that staff will now need to use another vendor (McRoberts) who is able to provide the seafood, however, the average price per pound increased by \$1.79/pound.

Debbie Terwilleger commented that WCIA provides insurance for the District. She further commented that although there is an anticipated increase, individual member rates may vary based on claim losses from the previous year. Ms. Terwilleger commented that for Metro Parks Tacoma, Auto Physical Damage, Equipment Breakdown, Crime/Fidelity, and Property have increased as expected. However, the District’s liability premium decreased about \$139,000 due to lower claims experience in 2021. She stated that the overall total assessment decreased by about \$69,000 compared to last year.

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

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 Pointer commented on the weekend football games.

ADJOURN

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

President

Clerk

Submitted by: Jennifer Bowman, Board Secretary