



**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS  
APRIL 11, 2022**

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

**IN THE CHAIR:** Andrea Smith

**PLACE:** MPT Headquarters, 4702 S 19<sup>th</sup> St. Tacoma WA

**STUDY SESSION CHIP IN UPDATE**

Amy Boucher, CHIP In coordinator for the District was present to report on the success of the current CHIP In volunteer program. Ms. Boucher began by reminding the Board of the volunteer opportunities within the CHIP In program which include: Park Watch, Park Volunteers, Garden Clubs, community partnerships and habitat stewards. She noted that in 2021 these programs continued to over 7,700 hours in volunteer time equating to over \$220,000 in value. Ms. Boucher then spoke about how these volunteer programs provide for engaging and meaningful activities around the entire city in all neighborhoods.

Ms. Boucher highlighted and thanked longtime volunteer Albert Styers and The Mission Continues for their continued and long-term volunteer commitment to the parks in the District. Richard Madison was then introduced. He commented that this year marks the 21<sup>st</sup> year of Parks Appreciation Day being held on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Board was informed that this year's sites include Titlow Park, Point Defiance park, Wapato Park, Browns Point Playfield, Charlotte's Blueberry Park, Eastside Community Center and Ryan's Park.

**REGULAR MEETING**

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

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION PROCLAMATION**

Staff members Sarah Oliver, Wendy Spaulding and Jessica Steele commented on the tremendous work done by District volunteers including those at the Zoo and NW Trek. Shana Osmer & Terri Terault were both honored and recognized by the Board for their outstanding volunteer efforts in supporting Metro Parks Tacoma at the Zoo and NW Trek. President Smith then read a proclamation into the record in honor of National Volunteer Month. Board members thanked all the volunteers that give of their time for the District and the community.

**PRESIDENTS REPORT**

President Smith commented that there is Co-Create to Recreate community meeting being held tomorrow evening at Norpoint at 6:30pm.

President Smith recognized and thanked staff members Antonio McLemore, Sheryl Blessing and Robert Doss who appeared on City Line to highlight the Teen Late Night Program.

**STANDING COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL REPORTS**

Joint Municipal Action Committee

Commissioner Ayala commented that JMAC met last week. She noted meeting agenda included conversations about the City’s Vision Zero program. Next month’s meeting will be a quarterly meeting to be attend by agency CEOs.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Executive Director, Shon Sylvia commented on the following:

- There will be a Hiring Fair at People’s Community Center Wednesday April 13<sup>th</sup> from 2-5pm
- Star Center Spring Fling is being held on Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. The free, family event will have an Earth Month/Spring theme to the activities.

**COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

LaTasha Wortham submitted a written comment encouraging the Board to consider forwarding Eugene Mustin and Dr. John Gaines in the appointment process for the vacant commissioner seat.

Lawrence Bucklin commented that he is the chapter president of the Puget Sound Anglers. Mr. Bucklin commented on his concerns related to potential parking challenges this coming summer at Point Defiance as it relates to community events on Dune Peninsula conflicting with boat trailer parking at the Point. He requested that he and others from the fishing community be inloved as planning continues. He also noted that he wishes to see repairs to the Dash Point Pier completed soon.

**MINUTES OF THE MARCH 28, 2022 REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

Commissioner Pointer moved to adopt the minutes as presented; seconded by Commissioner Ayala and passed on a vote of 4-0.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**RESOLUTION NO. C23-22:** APPROVAL OF WARRANTS CLAIM FUND FOR MARCH 2022

Commissioner Pointer moved to adopt the consent agenda; seconded by Commissioner Ayala and passed on a vote of 4-0.

**PURCHASING RESOLUTIONS** None

**PUBLIC WORKS PURCHASING RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION NO. PW24-22: SOUTH END RECREATION & ACTIVITY PLAYGROUND RESURFACING BID#: J2022-07 CONTRACT AWARD TO PLAYCREATION, INC SERVICES**

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

Debbie Russell commented that this resolution was discussed at the last CIC meeting. Ms. Russell commented that the existing SERA playground surfacing consisted of poured-in-place rubber, has weathered to the point of deterioration and currently poses a safety risk in places. She continued by noting that the poured-in-place rubber safety surface products have proven to be problematic in this climate. MPT has researched alternatives and is installing the new turf product as representative of current best practices when renovating playgrounds. Ms. Russell also commented the product has 15-year warranty. Staff indicated the construction will start soon and is scheduled to take 60 days. Commissioner Pointer requested additional information about how the new material responds to heat.

Being no additional comments, the question was called in the resolution passed on a vote of 4 to 0.

**SINGLE READING RESOLUTIONS** None

**SECOND READINGS RESOLUTIONS** None

**FIRST READING RESOLUTIONS** None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** None

**NEW BUSINESS** None

**BOARD COMMENTS** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

EVALUATE THE QUALIFICATIONS OF CANDIDATES FOR APPOINTMENT TO ELECTIVE POSITION

President Smith stated that Commissioner Erik Hanberg resigned from the Park Board effective March 31, 2022. She further noted the Board solicited applications from anyone interested in filling Commissioner Hanberg's position and the Board received 13 applications.

President Smith further commented that the Board will convene into executive session to evaluate the qualifications of the applicants/candidates. Following the executive session, the Board will resume the meeting to discuss and decide which candidates the Board would like to interview and then direct staff accordingly.

President Smith stated that any interviews of the candidates and the final action appointing a candidate to Commissioner Hanberg's vacant position will be in a meeting open to the public.

President Smith stated The Board of Park Commissioners will now meet in executive session for a period of 60 minutes to evaluate the qualifications of the candidates for appointment to elective office (Commissioner Hanberg's vacant position) pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(h). Following the executive session, the Board is expected to consider which candidates the Board would like to interview and direct staff accordingly.

President Smith resumed the Regular Board meeting at 7:20pm

President Smith noted The Board of Park Commissioners desires to continue diversifying the membership of the Board to better reflect the composition of the community. She continued by comment that the Board evaluated the applications, considered a number of factors, including the following:

- Professional Experience
- Leadership Experience
- Government/Public Policy Experience
- Parks & Recreation Knowledge or Experience
- Conservation, Environmental or Zoological Knowledge or Experience
- Business or Entrepreneurial Expertise
- Access to Strategic Partners
- Experience in Being Involved with Culturally Diverse Communities

President Smith commented that the Board would like to thank all of the individuals that applied.

President Smith stated there appears to be consensus from Board Members on interviewing the following individuals for the vacant position: Dean Burke, Julia Kagochi, Michael Liang & Tara Scheidt.

President Smith called for the question and all members of the Board indicated they are favor of interviewing those candidates for the vacant board position.

President Smith requested that staff schedule a special meeting of the Park Board so that the Board may conduct the public interviews, preferably on April 21, 2022. She also requested

that staff then post a more detailed schedule and issue the required notices so that the public may attend.

**ADJOURN**

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

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President

Clerk

Submitted by: Jennifer Bowman, Board Secretary