



**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS  
September 25, 2023**

PRESENT: Andrea Smith, President  
Tim Reid  
Rosie Ayala, Acting Clerk  
REMOTE: Aaron Pointer  
Michael Liang

IN THE CHAIR: Andrea Smith

PLACE: District Headquarters  
4702 S 19<sup>th</sup> St.

**REGULAR MEETING**

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

Commissioner Ayala was named acting clerk as Commissioner Pointer attended the meeting remotely.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS** None

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Smith moved to change the location of the October 9, 2023 Regular Park Board Meeting to the STAR Center; seconded and passed unanimously.

President Smith commented that the District has two upcoming Co-Create to Recreate events: Norpoint, September 27<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm and Peoples Ctr. October 4<sup>th</sup> 5:30pm

**STANDING COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL REPORTS**

**Business & Responsive Agency Advisory Council**

Commissioner Reid commented that the council met last week. Agenda items included Parks Champion Award nominations, and a discussion related to revenue bond funding.

**Nature & Environment Advisory Council**

Commissioner Ayala commented that this council is scheduled to meet tomorrow.

**Arts & Heritage Advisory Council**

Commissioner Liang commented that at their last meeting the council received a presentation related to the District's outreach and engagement efforts. The public art project for Melanie's Park was also discussed.

Tacoma Parks Foundation

President Smith commented she attend the Tacoma Parks Foundation meeting. Agenda items included discussion about the search process for a new executive director for the foundation.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Executive Director, Shon Sylvia commented on the following:

- On Tuesday, September 19, the Pierce County Council unanimously adopted a resolution in favor of funding recommendations by the Conservation Futures Citizens’ Advisory Board. Among the Board’s recommendations was \$850,000 to Metro Parks for acquisition of the Probst property adjacent to Swan Creek Park.
- The full roof replacement at Peoples Center Natatorium was completed last week in advance of the rain.
- Debbie Russell introduced new employee Abdo Abdelrasoul.

**COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

Curt Mehlhaff commented that he is glad to see the electric trams are finally running at NW Trek, and encouraged the District to publicize the accomplishment.

**MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2023 REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

Commissioner Ayala moved to adopt the minutes as presented; seconded by Commissioner Reid and passed on a vote of 5-0.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**RESOLUTION NO. C72-23:** MEADOW PARK GOLF COURSE BRIDGE REPAIRS (HOLE #13) PROJECT NO J2021-06 FINAL ACCEPTANCE TO WILDWOOD CARPENTRY LLC.

Commissioner Ayala moved to adopt the consent agenda as presented; seconded by Commissioner Reid and passed on a vote of 5-0.

President Smith requested that in the future staff include change order dates in reports.

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

**PURCHASING RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION NO. P73-23: AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF GOOD AND SERVICES FOR METRO PARKS TACOMA**

1. STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY- WASHINGTON CONSERVATION CORPS FOR HABITAT RESTORATION AND VEGETATION MANAGEMENT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$185,000 FOR 2023 & 2024

Commissioner Ayala moved adoption of the resolution; seconded by Commissioner Reid.

Hollie Rogge commented that the District would like to continue to use the WCC crews. She commented on the positive opportunity this provides for youth. Ms. Rogge also noted the MPT staff education role with these crew members.

There was brief Board conversation about local youth being a part of the WCC Crew.

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**

**RESOLUTION NO. R74-23: AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO NEGOTIATE A CONTRACT WITH LANCER HOSPITALITY WASHINGTON FOR OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE FOOD & BEVERAGE OPERATIONS AT POINT DEFIANCE ZOO & AQUARIUM, NORTHWEST TREK WILDLIFE PARK AND OWEN BEACH RECREATION AREA**

Commissioner Ayala moved adoption of the resolution; seconded by Commissioner Reid.

Alan Varsik commented that on the RFP process noting that two responsive proposals were received. Mr. Varsik commented that Lancer has a commitment to sourcing local, engaging in sustainable practices, and making capital investments.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. R75-23: 2023 RECREATION & CONSERVATION OFFICE (RCO) LPM GRANT APPLICATIONS AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION: VERLO SPRAYGROUND FILTRATION**

Commissioner Ayala moved adoption of the resolution; seconded by Commissioner Reid.

Debbie Russell commented that The Recreation & Conservation Office (RCO) is accepting grant applications for the Local Parks Maintenance Program (LPM) in its first year. These funds are

designated for deferred maintenance projects. She briefly commented on the process staff went through in selecting this particular location & project.

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. RR76-23: UPDATING POLICY 000.001 POLICY & PROCEDURES OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Ayala moved adoption of the resolution; seconded by Commissioner Reid.

President Smith moved to amend to update section IV F. to reflect that the executive director shall appoint a board secretary; the motion was second and passed unanimously.

Hunter George commented that the Board and staff have completed a technical and equity review of this policy. He then commented that the following revisions are being suggested:

- Update with more inclusive language including gender neutral pronouns
- Add clarifying definition related to the purpose of this policy
- Update language to reflect more opportunities for community comment
- Add the formality of a motion to approve the location change of a future Regular Board Meeting
- Define the purpose of Committee of the Whole Meetings
- Establish guidelines for remote participation by Commissioners at meetings
- Minor language clean up to provide consistency throughout the policy
- Remove time constraints related to Study Sessions
- Moving Board meeting agenda and meeting details out of the policy and into the procedures

Being no additional comments, the resolution was moved to second reading at the October 9<sup>th</sup> regular Board Meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS** None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** None

**BOARD COMMENTS**

**ADJOURN**

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

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President

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Clerk

Submitted by: Jennifer Bowman, Board Secretary