



**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
July 10, 2023**

PRESENT: Andrea Smith, President
Aaron Pointer, Clerk
Tim Reid
Michael Liang

EXCUSED: Rosie Ayala

IN THE CHAIR: Andrea Smith

PLACE: District Headquarters
4702 S 19th St.

STUDY SESSION

ADAPTIVE & SPECIALIZED RECREATION UPDATE

Hollie Rogge introduced the presentation by commenting that Metro Parks has been serving this population for over 70 years. She noted that through a partnership with Pierce County Parks & Recreation and Tacoma Public Schools offerings and opportunities have been expanded. Katt Merilo was then introduced and spoke to the Board about the role of each agency. She noted that Pierce County focuses on serving adults with cognitive and developmental disabilities; Tacoma Schools focus on serving youth with cognitive and developmental disabilities via Beyond the Bell and Club Beyond and camps; Metro Parks serves youth and adults with physical disabilities through clubs, socials and classes. Ms. Merilo commented that the MPT program is continuing to work toward expanding adaptive opportunities, strengthen community partnerships and supporting inclusive programming district-wide. She then informed the Board about how the MPT program supports its partners in this area through the sharing of resources, staff training, and developing procedures.

Roxanne Miles, Director of Pierce County Parks and Recreation was introduced. Ms. Miles spoke of the benefits of this collaboration including shared costs, serving more individuals, creating a pool of expertise, and building stronger relationships with participant families. Ms. Miles then commented on the participation increase since the collaboration & post-COVID. The Board was then informed about the program costs and potential policy issues to be addressed in the future such as a non-resident fees for participants, or other matters to address capacity issues of the program.

ADA TRANSITION PLAN UPDATE

Marty Stump was introduced and give an update on the ADA Self-evaluation and Transition Plan. It was noted that a contracted firm was brought on in June 20023 to assit with the self-

assessment which was completed in May 2023. Mr. Stump spoke about the criteria scale being used to address the priority of items identified in the self-assessment. The Board was informed that next steps include final review of the draft ADA Assessments along with Transition Plan development through September of 2023. Public review and comments is scheduled to occur in October of 2023 with a final plan presentation to the Board in November 2023. Staff commented that correction of deficiencies will be addressed via the Capital Improvement Program and operations starting in 2024 and beyond.

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.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

PARKS & RECREATION MONTH PROCLAMATION

Following an introduction highlighting the importance of parks and recreation in the community by Mark Knowlden, Commissioner Smith read a proclamation into the record recognizing July as Parks and Recreation Month in the city of Tacoma.

RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT

This item was postponed until the next Board meeting.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

President Smith reported on the successful Pride event held in Tacoma over the weekend. She also commented that a movie in the park will be held at People’s Park on Friday, July 14th.

STANDING COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL REPORTS None

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Executive Director, Shon Sylvia commented on the following:

- Metro Parks Tacoma and City of Tacoma successfully hosted Tacoma’s Summer Blast on July 4. An estimated 40,000 people attended the event.
- Over the weekend there was a third gun violence incident in our parks in the past six weeks. A follow-up email will be sent to the Board on the action steps being taken by staff to address improved safety.
- Gas Station Park has been open since July 1st and a celebration is scheduled for August 13th 12-2pm.
- The July 12th CIC meeting is canceled

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Mike Monahan commented about the overgrown vegetation & condition of Gold Fish Hill. He submitted a written comment and photos.

Jenn Halverson Kuehn commented on the speed limit signs recently posted in Point Defiance Park. She noted that bicycle community was not engaged with or informed about these changes.

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 26, 2023 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

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

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTION NO. C59-23: APPROVAL OF WARRANTS CLAIM FUND FOR JUNE 2023

Commissioner Pointer moved to adopt the consent agenda as presented; seconded by Commissioner Liang and passed on a vote of 4-0 (Commissioner Ayala being excused).

PURCHASING RESOLUTIONS None

PUBLIC WORKS PURCHASING RESOLUTIONS None

SINGLE READING RESOLUTIONS None

SECOND READINGS RESOLUTIONS None

FIRST READING RESOLUTIONS None

NEW BUSINESS None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

BOARD COMMENTS

Commissioner Reid requested that staff reach out to those who addressed the Board during community comments tonight.

ADJOURN

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:22p.m.

President

Clerk

Submitted by: Jennifer Bowman, Board Secretary