



**MINUTES OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
July 31, 2023**

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

IN THE CHAIR: Andrea Smith

PLACE: MPT Headquarters 4702 S. 19th St.

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

May 15, 2023 COW Minutes

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes as presented and passed unanimously.

Q2 FINANCIAL REVIEW

Tania Wink opened the presentation by reviewing information for the 2nd quarter related General Fund operating revenues and expenditures. Ms. Wink pointed out that revenues are just slightly under budget due to the timing of funds not yet received from City of Tacoma subsidy per the Interlocal agreement, as well as lag in revenue collection related to sales tax and property tax. Balance sheets for each division were distributed to the Board. Staff noted that the Parks & Recreation Department revenue is reported at 22% higher than budgeted for the 2nd quarter but noted there was slight decrease in the revenue for the Regional Parks Division during the 2nd quarter. The department remains on track as compared to what was budgeted. Ms. Wink then shared information related to the expenditures of the general fund noting that all areas are under budget thus far.

Ms. Wink then reviewed the enterprise funds budgets. She indicated that the ZEED budget revenue detail, highlighting that the Zoo's revenue is reported as being under budget due to lower than projected sales tax revenues and wet weather during the spring that impacted attendance. The Board was informed that Meadow Park Golf Course and the Point Defiance Marina are reporting revenues in the 2nd quarter that are just over 7% above their target.

Shon Sylvia commented that staff would now be reporting on highlights of the work plan status and emergent issues for the 2nd quarter. Within the department of the Office of the Executive

Director, Hunter George stated that Childcare Licensing reform pilot project continues to be a focus. He noted the challenges that exist in these areas, as well as the work being done with others to identify strategies for the Department Child Youth & Families and the Legislature to consider. Shon Sylvia then followed by commenting on the JMAC partnership work conducted in the 2nd quarter related to standing up the Late Night Program, work with youth employment, and work related to implementing the District's Equity Note. Mr. Sylvia then commented on other partnership work during the 2nd quarter including continued work with the City on location of Fire Station 7, working with Tacoma Public Schools & The City on a possible future Joint Operations Complex, and work with the Aspen Institute to study the landscape of youth sports and physical activity in Tacoma-Pierce County. Hunter George then commented on the current work that is being done with Tacoma Public Schools and the City of Tacoma as it relates to the District's Interlocal agreements with each agency.

Within the Department of Business Administration and planning (BAP), Tania Wink highlighted the status of how the department continues to make progress in the area of ensuring responsible financial management. Ms. Wink reviewed data that demonstrated the increase in contracts initiated, accounts payable efficiencies, new hiring and recruitments, and IT help desk tickets.

Sandra Eliason was then introduced and spoke about the work plan items within BAP to broaden outreach & engagement with underrepresented populations. She noted the work is being done with more intentionality as more in-person and online opportunities for getting information and providing feedback have been created for the community. Ms. Eliason highlighted the Social Pinpoint on-line tool, and the Language Access improvements staff has implemented to welcome and accommodate non-English speakers.

Marty Stump then spoke to the efforts that the Planning Division took on to continue to integrate sustainability through asset planning & management. Mr. Stump noted that during the 2nd quarter there was increased collaboration internally on the preventive & major maintenance program. Mr. Stump also informed Board members that the procurement of the asset management system along with the selection of the consultant team to guide MPT in the development of the Climate Action Plan also occurred during the 2nd quarter. Staff noted that emergent issues that resulted in priority shifts were in response to partnership projects including Stanely Playfield & Peck.

Mark Knowlden was then introduced to speak about the 2nd quarter Parks & Recreation work plan. Mr. Knowlden stated that within the area of providing safe and secure parks, P&R staff have reworked the manager on duty program as a way of improving response to community concerns. He also noted that the scope of the Park Ranger program has moved forward as individuals have been hired and are in training now to be to be deployed as park guides into the field, he noted that this work is occurring along with strategic deployment of contracted security vendor and video monitoring in targeted areas. Mr. Knowlden then stated that during the 2nd quarter staff continued to focus on youth as they expanded the Beyond The Bell and Club B Programs, expanded the summer playground & lunch program, and expanded the Summer Team Late Night Program. In regard to providing quality and accessible and equitable programming in the community, during the 2nd quarter, Parks and Recreation increased its free Community

Center memberships for youth 18 & under, developed and enhanced senior activity programs, and reimagined the flower and garden show to expand access to all. Staff then reported on emergent issues including challenges with park maintenance due to new management and reorganization. Mr. Knowlden also commented on a renewed emphasis on facilitating community partnerships.

Rick Dietz representing ZEED was then introduced. Mr. Dietz informed the Board that ZEED continues to work in the area of conservation culture and partnership. He noted that during the 2nd quarter the endangered leopard frog project was very successful. He also commented briefly on the success of the red wolf program. The Board learned that ZEED has also been improving accessibility to the community by increasing number of discounted tickets provided to reduce income barriers via the Wild Access Program. ZEED staff also commented on the success of storytelling to the community noting the successful social media presences that continues to increase. Mr. Dietz commented that operational revenue was influenced in the 2nd quarter by poor weather through spring break as well as the lack of trams operating at Northwest Trek. He also stated that sales tax revenue has been below budgeted amounts. Mr. Dietz followed by noting that expenses have been adjusted to help overcome these revenue challenges.

Board members and staff discussed how these quarterly presentations can be improved upon in the future.

OTHER

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, Commissioner Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

APPROVED:

President

Clerk

Submitted by:

Jennifer Bowman, Secretary