



**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
July 8, 2024**

PRESENT: Andrea Smith, President
Aaron Pointer, Acting Clerk
Rosie Ayala
Matthew Mauer

EXCUSED: Tim Reid

IN THE CHAIR: Andrea Smith

PLACE: Metro Parks Tacoma District Headquarters, 4702 S. 19th St, Tacoma WA 98405

REGULAR MEETING

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

It was moved and seconded to excuse Commissioner Reid from the meeting and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Pointer was appointed as acting clerk as Commissioner Reid was excused.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

PROCLAMATION IN CELEBRATION OF PARKS & RECREATION MONTH

After a brief introduction from Mark Knowlden, Commissioner Ayala read the proclamation into the record that honors and recognizes July as National Parks & Recreation Month. The District's Park Guide staff were present to receive the proclamation. Jess Crask addressed the Board noting the work that is done by the Park Guides.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

President Smith commented that she attended the pool soft opening events at Kandle Park and Stewart Heights Park.

STANDING COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Active Lifestyle & Community Wellness Advisory council

Commissioner Pointer stated that the last meeting was held on site at the Rhododendron Garden at Point Defiance. He noted that two new council members joined the meeting.

Nature & Environment Advisory Council

Commissioner Mauer commented that at the last council meeting the agenda included a discussion related to the proposed Fire Station 7 land surplus.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Shon Sylvia, Executive Director commented on the following:

- 4th of July Summer Blast was a successful event, attendance was a steep increase over the last few years, as staff estimate over 70,000 people enjoyed the waterfront activities. The City of Tacoma, particularly leadership from the Tacoma Police Department and the Fire Department are very happy with this year’s setup and with the event’s safety, security and traffic plan.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS None

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 24, 2024 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

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

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTION NO. C47-24: APPROVAL OF WARRANTS CLAIM FUND FOR JUNE 2024

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

PURCHASING RESOLUTIONS None

PUBLIC WORKS PURCHASING RESOLUTIONS None

SINGLE READING RESOLUTIONS**SECOND READINGS RESOLUTIONS**

RESOLUTION NO. RR40-24: ADOPTION OF REVISED, NEW AND REPEALED DISTRICT POLICIES

This resolution was moved and seconded at the June 10, 2024 Regular Board Meeting.

Being no additional comments, the question was called, and the resolution passed on a vote of 4-0 (Commissioner Reid being excused).

FIRST READING RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. RR48-24: ADOPTION OF THE MPT SYSTEM AND STRATEGIC PLAN 2024-2030

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

Alisa O’Hanlon Regala opened the presentation by reviewing the process used in developing this plan. She commented and described the strategic directions of this plan including people, program, place and pathways as follows:

People: This strategic direction discusses and recommends strategies for how the MPT organization and services align with the diversity and changing demographics of our community. Strategic Actions:

- Bolster our youth in sense of belonging and incorporate their voices.
- Build a diverse workforce and organizational culture.
- Continue robust community engagement.
- Provide a balanced CIP that reflects diversity and cultivates inclusivity.
- Partner to create integrated, seamless service delivery.

Program: This strategic direction discusses the comparative ratio of services MPT provides among its three mission areas and recommends strategies for balancing investments across the vast array of community needs and doing so with economic sustainability. Strategic Actions:

- Enhance cost recovery to ensure sustainable service provision.
- Build facilitative programming skill.
- Balance the program mix among service lines, mission areas, and target audiences, especially considering achieving sustainable service provision and equitably meeting community needs.
- Provide an ecosystem that attracts all youth to daily, engaging physical activity.

Place: This strategic direction examines how our community uses and participates in its park and recreation spaces and recommends strategies to support community in deepening its engagement with these public places. Strategic Actions:

- Engage community to caretake spaces.
- More flexibility in allowed uses; design for multi-use spaces.
- Help youth deeply connect with the place they live.
- Deepen community’s sense of connection with public spaces.
- Distribute spaces and programs equitably to facilitate equitable participation.
- Encourage spending time outdoors in public spaces.

Pathways: This strategic direction builds especially on the philosophy of a “City in Park”, a phrase adopted in the plan that signifies MPT’s intention to focus on providing amenities, facilities, programs, services, and experiences in a manner that is accessible and reinforces the criticality of green infrastructure to the health of people, wildlife and planet. Strategic Actions:

- Invest in streets/ROWs as intentional spaces not just connectors.
- Advocate for green infrastructure and natural space with urgency to rival urbanization and climate change. Inspire and engage stewardship of and awaken connection to natural environment.

- Prioritize public space as lifeblood for community connection.
- Integrate plans for a greener, more resilient, nature-infused community.

Austin Hochstetler addressed the Board about the great work involved in building the plan and moving forward with its implementation.

Commissioner Mauer suggested that future board actions cite or refer to the plan’s strategies.

Being no additional comments that resolution was moved to second reading.

NEW BUSINESS None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

BOARD COMMENTS

ADJOURN

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:53pm.

President

Clerk

Submitted by: Jennifer Bowman, Board Secretary