



**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
August 12, 2024**

PRESENT: Andrea Smith, President
Aaron Pointer, Acting Clerk

Rosie Ayala

EXCUSED: Tim Reid
Matthew Mauer

IN THE CHAIR: Andrea Smith

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

STUDY SESSION PARKS SAFETY UPDATE

Mark Knowlden spoke briefly about the effort and success of the Park Guide Program.

Daniel Mero was introduced and reminded the Board on the 3-tiered approach to safety and security in the District. Mr. Mero then commented on the responsibilities of each- Park Guides, contracted security and law enforcement. Daniel Mero commented that the Park Guides primary function is proactive policy education and to respond to and represent MPT at incidents on park grounds. He then commented that contracted security role includes the locking of gates and restrooms across the District, responding to incidents and gaining voluntary compliance from guests in violation of park code. The third tier is comprised of commissioned officers who take care of emergency services and ordinance enforcement.

Mr. Mero then reviewed several graphs and GIS data commenting on analysis that is showing some gains in complacency due to the presence of Park Guides and the tiered approaches to the safety in parks. He also highlighted how the Park Guides have used their relationship building and knowledge of the parks to improve safety and security as well as continuing to grow and develop with, outreach to individuals experiencing homelessness in our parks.

Mr. Mero concluded the presentation by acknowledging the Park Guides and thanking the Board for the opportunity to engage in this work.

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 Commissioners Reid and Mauer from the meeting and passed unanimously.

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

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS None

PRESIDENTS REPORT

President Smith commented positively on her recent visit to Kandle Pool.

STANDING COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL REPORTS**Joint Municipal Action Committee (JMAC)**

Commissioners Ayala and Smith commented that agenda items at last week's meeting included Strategic Plan Update from MPT, along with CEO report-outs on agency long-range plans, and a Summer Late Night update.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Debbie Russell sitting in for Shon Sylvia, commented on the following:

- A Board COW is scheduled for August 19, 2024.
- Staff is preparing an emergency declaration related to the failed boilers at Norpoint.
- APCC has given Korsmo Construction notice to proceed on their new center.
- A CIC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 14, 2024.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Written comment was received from Heidi Stephens in opposition to surplus and sale of property to the City for a future Fire Station #7.

Gwen O'Rourke commented on the community center members concerns related to lack of a water exercise instructor as well as some maintenance issues in the pool and locker rooms.

Tresa Evans commented that her car was recently locked in a park lot after dusk, but noted the chain was loose and she was able to exit the lot.

MINUTES OF THE JULY 22, 2024 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Commissioner Pointer moved to adopt the minutes as presented; seconded by Commissioner Ayala and passed on a vote of 3-0 (Commissioners Reid & Mauer being excused).

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTION NO. C50-24: APPROVAL OF WARRANTS CLAIM FUND FOR JULY 2024

RESOLUTION NO. C51-24: APPOINTING CHRIS DAVIS, ISAAC THOMAS, AND KATELYNN HAAS TO THE ACTIVE LIFESTYLES & COMMUNITY WELLNESS ADVISORY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. C52-24: PDZA PACIFIC SEAS AQUARIUM (PSA) BAJA BAY EXHIBIT REPAIRS PROJECT NO. J2022-36 FINAL ACCEPTANCE TO PEASE CONSTRUCTION, INC.

Commissioner Pointer moved to adopt the consent agenda as presented; seconded by Commissioner Ayala and passed on a vote of 3-0 (Commissioners Reid & Mauer being excused).

Commissioner Pointer recognized and thanked new members appointed to the advisory council.

PURCHASING RESOLUTIONS None

PUBLIC WORKS PURCHASING RESOLUTIONS None

SINGLE READING RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. R52-24: METRO PARKS TACOMA / TACOMA PUBLIC SCHOOLS INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS FOR FIVE (5) COMMUNITY SCHOOLYARDS (REED, STAFFORD, MANN, WHITMAN AND LARCHMONT)

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

Marty Stump commented that this resolution was discussed at the last CIC meeting. Mr. Stump stated that this authorizes the form of ILAs between Metro Parks Tacoma and Tacoma School District for the joint development and operation of five new Community Schoolyards located at Reed, Stafford, Mann, Whitman and Larchmont Elementaries to support the construction and maintenance of each project. This also authorizes the Executive Director to enter into the necessary agreements with TSD, the execution of the agreements and appropriation of \$250,000 each from the 2014 UTGO Bond Funds to support the construction of the projects, Mann, Whitman and Larchmont.

President Smith commented that she is pleased to see the community using these spaces.

Being no additional comments, the question was called and the resolution passed on a vote of 3-0 (Commissioners Reid & Mauer being excused).

SECOND READINGS RESOLUTIONS None

FIRST READING RESOLUTIONS None

NEW BUSINESS

METRO PARKS TACOMA/ TACOMA PUBLIC SCHOOLS MASTER AGREEMENT

Hunter George commented that this Master Interlocal Agreement serves as the parent agreement between the two agencies.

Mr. George commented that Metro Parks and Tacoma Public Schools (TPS) first signed a master ILA in 2001, and a new version followed in 2013. He noted that last year, that 10-year Agreement was rolled over for one year to allow more time for discussion. The Agreement expires August 31, 2024. Mr. George stated the Tacoma School Board is scheduled to vote on the updated Agreement on August 22nd.

Mr. George commented that this master agreement sets the structure for the inter-agency partnership. It sets these overarching goals which include:

- Encourage joint use of facilities, grounds and staff for recreation and educational programming.
- Expand joint and cooperative capital ventures.
- Maximize use of public facilities and properties for community benefit.

Mr. George noted that more discussion on this agreement is scheduled for the August 19, 2024 COW meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

BOARD COMMENTS

President Smith invited Alan Varsik to comment on the recent passing of Suki the elephant.

ADJOURN

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

President

Clerk

Submitted by: Jennifer Bowman, Board Secretary