



**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
July 22, 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

STUDY SESSION STATE OF PLAY PROJECT UPDATE

Shon Sylvia opened the presentation by introducing Jennifer Brown Lerner of the Aspen Institute, Patricia Shults of the Names Foundation, and Scott Heinze, local advisor to Aspen Institute. It was noted that the Aspen Institute was founded in 1949, the Institute seeks for a more just society and drives change through dialogue, leadership, and action to help solve the most important challenges facing the United States and the world.

Patricia Shults then commented that the Names Foundation mission is to support sports & athletics and a health community.

The Board was informed that The Aspen Institute Sports & Society Program develops, applies, and shares knowledge that helps build healthy communities through sports. Ms. Shults commented that that Aspen Institute recently analyzed the landscape of youth sports and physical activity in Tacoma-Pierce County. The Board was also informed about the multiple methods used in order to inform the report including individual interviews with more than 70 stakeholders and community members whose work touches the lives of children; 14 focus-group discussions with young people, coaches, sports administrators and parents; surveys conducted of youth; media accounts; and existing reports, policy analyses and publicly available data collected by the Aspen Institute.

Jennifer Brown Lerner then spoke the theory of change resulting from the report to have significant impacts to the community in the future. Ms. Brown Lerner then spoke about key findings of the report, noting the most significant is the commitment to the Whole Child Initiative being the community's greatest asset. Other key findings include that Pierce County youth are less physically active than youth around the state and the nation, youth have strong interest in sampling individual and nontraditional sports, a need to focus on coaches training. Scott Heinze was then introduced to speak about recommendations resulting from the key findings including set tangible goals, continuing to align with TPS on school-based sport clubs & leagues, recruiting and training coaches/recreational professionals on SEL to promote good

mental health, using sports and recreation to help address mental health crisis, increasing field access and provide new venues and built infrastructure, and holding center on policy, funding & advocacy.

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Metropolitan Park District Board of Park Commissioners was called to order at 6:08 p.m. President Smith read a land acknowledgement.

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

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

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

TRAILS DAY PROCLAMATION

After a brief introduction from Debbie Russell, Commissioner Mauer read the proclamation into the record that honors and recognizes July 27th as Pierce County Trails Day. Larry Leveen, Executive Director of Forever Green accepted the proclamation and thanked Metro Parks for their role in providing and promoting trails for the community.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

President Smith requested a moment of silence in held in honor of park supporter Matt Driscoll.

President Smith commented positively on the Shakespeare in the Park event last weekend.

STANDING COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Nature & Environment Advisory Council

Commissioner Mauer stated the council is scheduled to meet tomorrow.

Arts & Heritage Advisory Council

Commissioner Ayala commented that this council met last Wednesday. Agenda items included a District brand update and their desire to be involved in the planning of a cross- council gathering.

Tacoma Parks Foundation

President Smith commented that she attended the Foundation's last meeting where there was an update on MOUs being entered into with Foundation Board Members. President Smith also noted the Foundation continues to work on recruitment.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Shon Sylvia, Executive Director commented on the following:

- A Board COW is scheduled for July 29, 2024 , 5:30pm – Agenda will be focused on Proposed SERA Surplus/ FS7. The second reading of the resolution RR41-24 is tentatively scheduled for August 12, 2024.
- MOSAIC is this coming Weekend July 27 & 28th from 12noon-7pm in Wright Park

- National Night Out Celebration is coming up on August 6th from 4pm to dusk at People’s Community Center. The event is free and includes live music, dance performances, food, a 3x3 basketball tournament and much more.
- Tania Wink was introduced to give an update on District bond rating and UTGO bond sale status. She noted that in preparation for issuing the remaining \$40M in bonds to support the District’s capital program, Moody’s and S&P Global have reinstated and issued updated ratings, of Aa2 and AA-, respectively. Staff are working with Bond Counsel and financial advisors to issue the bonds, which the Board authorized on November 27, 2023. Staff anticipates that the bond proceeds will be available in early August.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS None

MINUTES OF THE JULY 8, 2024 PUBLIC HEARING

MINUTES OF THE JULY 8, 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 None

PURCHASING RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. RR49-24: AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF GOODS AND SERVICE FOR METRO PARKS TACOMA

1. GATEWAY TICKETING FOR POS MAINTENANCE, SUPPORT AND ENHANCEMENTS INCLUDES ANNUAL SOFTWARE/HARDWARE SUPPORT, WEB STORE HOSTING, UPGRADES AND PRODUCT ENHANCEMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$254,996.68 FOR 2024-2026

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

Alan Varsik commented that this resolution will allow for continued relationship with Gateway Ticketing at the Zoo and NW Trek. He spoke to the value and service received from Gateway. Commissioner Mauer suggested that staff take a look at moving all District POS systems under one vendor if possible.

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

PUBLIC WORKS PURCHASING RESOLUTIONS None

SINGLE READING RESOLUTIONS none

SECOND READINGS RESOLUTIONS

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

This resolution was moved and seconded at the July 8, 2024 Regular Board Meeting.

Debbie Russell spoke about the themes of the plan being incorporated into the District’s work and the fact that the plan is being incorporated in the City’s comprehensive plan. She also noted that letter of support from the Mayor that was sent to the Board.

Board members thanked staff for the work on the plan and expressed appreciation that it will be integrated into the City’s plan.

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 None

NEW BUSINESS None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

BOARD COMMENTS

Commissioners Mauer and Ayala commented positively on the recent Sister City they attended last week.

ADJOURN

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:34p.m.

President

Clerk

Submitted by: Jennifer Bowman, Board Secretary