

# ***City of Renton***

## ***Board of Park Commissioners***



### ***Meeting Minutes***

April 8, 2014

4:30 p.m. – City Hall – 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Conferencing Center

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

##### **In Attendance**

The following members were present:

Members: Cynthia Burns, Larry Reymann, Al Dieckman, Mike O'Donin,  
Tim Searing, Troy Wigestrang, Marlene Winter

Staff: Terry Higashiyama, Sandy Pilat, Leslie Betlach, Kelly Beymer, Tom Puthoff,  
Chip Vincent

Chair, Cynthia Burns, called the April 8, 2014, meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. Roll call was taken; all members were present with the exception of Youth Member, Sojin Thompson.

#### **II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Marlene Winter made a motion, seconded by Mike O'Donin, to approve the agenda as presented. All were in favor, motion carried, the April 8, 2014, agenda was approved.

#### **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mike O'Donin and seconded by Al Dieckman to approve the March 2014 minutes as written, all were in favor, motion carried. The minutes were approved as submitted.

#### **IV. BOARD COMMUNICATION**

*City Center—Mike O'Donin*

Since our March meeting the City Center group has not met so there was nothing new to report. The group will meet April 17 and discuss boundaries.

*School Report—Sojin Thompson*

Sojin was not present at the meeting to give an update.

**V. PRESENTATION**

*City Key Initiatives—Downtown Development, Lake Washington Boulevard Corridor, Highlands/Sunset Area—Chip Vincent, Administrator Economic Development*

A. Downtown Development

Chip discussed specific downtown key sites to utilize vacant and underutilized buildings and sites. The former McLendon's Hardware site, Jet City Espresso and the former Cooper Tires site. The owners of Memory Box Inc. are utilizing the second floor of the Western Wear Building and hope to lease the ground level, preferably as a restaurant or brew pub. The Cugini family hopes to use the former McLendon site to include a potential partnership with Wallace Properties to develop a mixed use development, or an educational facility related to Renton Technical College including the Jet City Espresso site has been purchased by Cosmos Development who are intending to develop the site for mixed use with 100 dwelling units and commercial on the ground floor.

He also outlined Utility CIP projects in the City's Economic Development priority areas. These projects include the Downtown area, Highlands area, and Lake Washington Blvd. area totaling \$31,469,065. Total Public Works CIP projects proposed in these same areas between 2015-2018 is estimated at 140.8 million dollars.

B. Lake Washington Boulevard Corridor

Significant change during the last decade has occurred within the Lake Washington Boulevard from the new development with the Landing and associated projects. Current work includes careful consideration of traffic impacts for each project; a transportation consultant will develop a baseline study for the entire corridor from Park Avenue to NE 44<sup>th</sup> Street. Additionally a consultant has been hired to do an origin/destination traffic study to determine where the trips on the corridor are originating from. A map outlining the key properties and project proposals was distributed.

C. Highlands/Sunset Area

Chip reviewed the background of the Sunset area dating back to the 2006 Highlands Task Force. He additionally described the current plans including the "Accessible Playground" opening, the RHA townhomes, and the Boeing/Landing pedestrian connection project to reconnect the Sunset area with the City west of I-405. Plans also include the new King County Highlands Branch Library, and a 111 unit market rate apartment building in Sunset Terrace.

The Sunset Area of Renton is one of the most diverse neighborhoods in the City. The revitalization program will leverage public investment and create opportunities for affordable housing, plus retail investment. Improvements include stormwater drainage systems, new and rehabilitated parks and recreation facilities, new library, better connections to support services for public housing residents, bike and walking paths, etc.. Chip answered questions and thanked the Board for their interest and support.

**VI. DISCUSSIONS/ACTION ITEMS**

Terry did not have sufficient time to discuss the 2014 Board goals and the city-wide employee survey as planned. These will be addressed at a future meeting.

**VII. INFORMATION**

Terry made note of the upcoming events including Arbor/Earth Day, Volunteer Recognition Dinner, Sunset Neighborhood Park Open House, Meadow Crest Playground Sneak Peek planting and the Meadow Crest Grand Opening. She also announced we are currently recruiting for the Recreation Manager position as well as the Neighborhood Special Events Manager position. We have filled Dave Perkin's position with Brandi Burke, formerly of Enumclaw.

Terry thanked the Board members that were able to attend the Employee Recognition Luncheon. Our next meeting will be held at North Highlands Neighborhood Center.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Larry Reymann and seconded by Al Dieckman to adjourn the April 2014 meeting at 6:00 p.m. All were in favor, motion carried, meeting adjourned.

*NEXT REGULAR MEETING*

*TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2014 @ 4:30 P.M.*

*NORTH HIGHLANDS NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER*