

City of Renton

Board of Park Commissioners



Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2009

4:30 p.m.—Renton Community Center

I. CALL TO ORDER

In Attendance

The following persons were present:

Members: Tim Searing, Cynthia Burns, Mike O'Donin, Ron Regis,
Larry Reymann, Al Dieckman

Staff: Sandy Pilat, Leslie Betlach, Jerry Rerecich, Kelly Beymer,
Todd Black, Kris Stimpson, Terry Flatley

Absent

Troy Wigestrund

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Cynthia Burns and seconded by Larry Reymann to approve the agenda as presented. All were in favor, motion carried, the April 14, 2009, agenda was approved.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Al Dieckman made a motion seconded by Mike O'Donin to approve the March minutes as written. All were in favor, motion carried, March 2009 minutes were approved.

IV. BOARD COMMUNICATION

Larry Reymann noted he was working with St. Anthony's School and Bonnie Rerecich on a project for Earth Day/Arbor Day at Liberty Park.

V. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

Speeding-Union Avenue NE

Leslie Betlach reviewed concerns Cynthia Burns voiced regarding speeding near Heritage Park to our Police and Transportation Department. Leslie further reviewed the results of two speed studies conducted by the City's Police Department.

Foundation Funding Service

Jerry Rerecich, Recreation Director, met with First Savings Bank regarding a project they could potentially contribute towards at the Senior Activity Center. It

VII. ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

Staff retreat

Leslie reviewed the budget cuts taken previously for the current fiscal year. Realizing additional cuts would be needed, wage concessions, forfeiture of deferred compensation, or additional contributions to the health plan were requested from the employees. City-wide, all represented groups as well as the non-represented agreed to a combination of concessions to help the City meet their 2% shortfall. Leslie indicated her pride in the sense of commitment and community that all the employees showed by everyone contributing to ensure no one lost their job. The 2170 represented group took furlough days. Four of those days will be taken by the entire membership at the same time resulting in closure of most of the City facilities. The golf course will remain open as well as the community center for a bridge tournament that was previously booked.

Parks and Trail Master Plan

Leslie Betlach indicated the trails plan will be mailed to the members prior to the May 12th meeting for their review and comments. Although this document is going to Council for adoption on May 11, 2009, prior to the next park board meeting, we will be mailing the document for review, seeking comments, and looking for an endorsement of support and approval for this document.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Larry Reymann made a motion seconded by Michael O'Donin to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor, motion carried, the April 14, 2009, meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.



Signature

Next meeting at City Hall Conferencing Center—May 12, 2009

4:30 p.m.

City of Renton
Board of Park Commissioners



Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2009

4:30 p.m.—City Hall — 7th floor Conferencing Center

**MEETING
CANCELLED**

was decided to remodel one of the current rooms into a fitness room. The room will be staffed for training purposes only.

Leslie Betlach reported we requested \$15,000 from the Renton Community Foundation for new receptacles in the light poles at Liberty Park. The receptacles will eliminate cords all over the fields during special events.

WRPA Training Review

Tim Searing reported that he, along with Terry Higashiyama and Park Board members Larry Reymann and Cynthia Burns, attended a WRPA seminar on parks and the economy. He noted the seminar was very good and he was very pleased to see we are serving our constituents according to the priority list defined at the seminar. Tim reviewed data from Hebert Research group noting major population changes in the state, number of park visits, favorite activities of respondents, and interest trends.

Additionally Tim reported on some financials looking at the monthly enterprise figures for the golf course as well as the monthly expenditures for the Community Services Department. Tim indicated he would like to bring slides from time to time to the meetings to follow our revenues and expenditures. The reports reflect why and where we are down in revenues and will show the members the current trends in the economy.

Leslie Betlach indicated staff would be focusing on what services and expenses are absolutely necessary and prioritize safety and liability issues first.

Tree City USA

Terry Flatley reported that Renton had been named a Tree City USA community by The Arbor Day Foundation to honor the commitment to community forestry. This is the first year Renton has received this national recognition. An award will be presented at the Arbor Day event at 9:30 a.m.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

OFF-LEASH DOG PARK UPDATE

Todd Black, Kris Stimpson, and Dana Appel have been working with the volunteer group on the off-leash dog park. This group is very enthusiastic and committed to making this park a reality. They have launched a website, designed a logo, and organized their first fund raiser (Wags and Wines). The group needs to raise \$20,000 before the City will start on the park. The Renton Community Center is selling animal licenses. Todd discussed the plans for the site including a split rail fence that goes into the ground, concrete is not used. The area will have log benches and a separate area for small dogs. This is a two-year plan and hopefully we will begin construction this summer. The group is contacting corporate sponsors to enlist donations.