

City of Renton

Board of Park Commissioners



Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2009

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Tim Searing, called the January 2009 meeting to order. He introduced Councilmember, Terri Briere, who is serving as Chair of the Community Services Committee. Tim will meet with Terri once a quarter to review what issues the Park Board is addressing.

In Attendance

The following persons were present:

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

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

Others: Terri Briere, Pete Maas

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda as presented. All were in favor, motion carried, the January 2009 agenda was approved.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There was no December 2008 meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the November minutes as written. Motion carried, minutes approved. *(Cynthia Burns noted Larry Reymann should be added to those in attendance.)*

IV. CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

Terry Higashiyama noted in the packets mailed to the Board members was a copy of the current Council Committees as well as the regional appointments our Councilmembers serve on.

V. CORRESPONDENCE

An email was included in the packets from Peter Mayer to acknowledge a **GREAT JOB** by the City's Public Works and Parks staff during our recent snowstorm.

VI. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

Terry Flatley, Parks Manager/City Forester, gave an update on the Urban and Community Forestry Development Program Project. He reviewed the Vision and Mission Statement as well as the Program Goals. He answered questions defining an

urban forest and the number of cities that currently participate in this program in our state. He additionally discussed formation of a Citizen Tree Board (a volunteer group of citizens that have an interest in promoting urban forestry in the community). He further explained the next steps in preparing a draft of the Development Plan for the Park Board's review and adoption of the Plan by City Council.

Kelly Beymer, Golf Course Manager, gave a Concessionaire Comparison for 2008 to update the Board on reports and revenue for our new concessionaire at RiverRock. Several golf course restaurants have suffered this last year, the one at Foster has closed. Auburn is struggling and is only open for breakfast six months out of the year. The Riverbend restaurant in Kent does not have a banquet facility and their revenue reports are down significantly from years past. The RiverRock food and service reports are good. There is a 10% decrease in revenue from last year, but that is attributed to the current economy. The restaurant is currently running several promotions and expects to rebound from numerous weather cancellations they experienced during the snowy weather.

Bonnie Rerecich, Resource and Funding Manager, presented the 2008 Volunteer Wrap-up. She noted the Community Services Department received over 26,767 hours of volunteer service throughout our community in every division. Volunteers participated in numerous events throughout the year, as well as participating and providing service at youth activities, the Renton Senior Activity Center, and specialized recreation. Bonnie showed everyone the Graffiti Removal Kit and outlined the steps being taken in graffiti removal program.

VII. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Off-Leash Dog Park

Terry Higashiyama noted \$50,000 was approved in the CIP budget for an off-leash dog park. Staff will be meeting with volunteers to secure additional funding. Todd Black will be working on the design phase.

2009 Budget Update

Staff is looking at further reductions for 2009. We will be conservative the first quarter of the year then revisit 'where' we are. It could be a tough year and we will have to be creative.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

Park Board Retreat

Retreat notes from the November retreat were mailed with the packets. Tim and Terry will refine and bring to a future meeting with an indication of how to proceed from here.

Ron Regis Park update

Leslie Betlach, Parks Director, gave the Board an update on the scaled back projects planned for Regis Park. Design is currently on hold for park improvements. It is unlikely that City funding will be budgeted in 2009 for the proposed 4.5 million dollar project. Staff will evaluate the feasibility of constructing a scaled-down project

utilizing funding from Parks Mitigation Fees and the Custer Fund.

IX. OTHER COMMUNICATION

Tim Searing discussed the possibility of hosting a meeting with other Boards/Commissions from surrounding communities to discuss common issues, such as Trail's connection(s) budget concerns. Frequently cities face common obstacles and by staying connected they can share ideas and resources.

X. INFORMATION

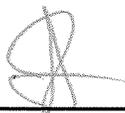
WRPA Board and Commission training will be held Saturday, February 7, 2009. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to Sandy no later than January 22. Cynthia, Tim, and Larry expressed an interest in attending.

The February meeting will be at Fire District 40 (FS13) and the March meeting will be held at City Hall.

There was discussion concerning the increase in vandalism on city vehicles including our vans and maintenance vehicles. North Highlands Community Center was vandalized when it was closed due to snowy weather.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Michael O'Donin made a motion seconded by Larry Reymann to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor, motion carried, the January 2009 meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.



Signature

NEXT REGULAR MEETING
Fire District 40 (Station 13)
18002 108th SE
February 10, 2009, Tuesday @ 4:30 P.M.