

City of Renton
Board of Park Commissioners



Meeting Minutes

June 11, 2013

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

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

In Attendance

The following members were present:

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

Staff: Terry Higashiyama, Sandy Pilat, Leslie Betlach, Kelly Beymer,
Kris Stimpson, Vanessa Dolbee, Erica Conkling

Chair, Larry Reymann, called the June 11, 2013, meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. Roll call was taken; Troy Wigestrund was absent.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Cynthia Burns made a motion, seconded by Mike O'Donin, to approve the agenda as presented. All were in favor, motion carried, the June 11, 2013, agenda was approved.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Marlene Winter and seconded by Al Dieckman to approve the May 2013 minutes as written. All were in favor, motion carried. The minutes were approved as submitted.

IV. BOARD COMMUNICATION

Election of Chair

Larry Reymann asked for nominations for Chair for the upcoming year. Marlene Winter nominated Cynthia Burns, Mike O'Donin seconded the motion. Tim Searing made a motion to close the nominations; it was seconded by Al Dieckman. All present

voted in favor of Cynthia Burns serving as Chair for the next year.

Terry Higashiyama presented Larry Reymann with a certificate thanking him for his two years of service as Chair.

V. CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

Highlands Library

At the June 3, 2013, meeting Council approved the schematic design for the new Highlands Library of approximately 15,000 square feet.

VI. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

City-Wide Comp Plan Update

Staff recommends the Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails element be reformatted to reflect the work completed for simplifying and consolidating policy languages in addition to amending the section titles to maintain consistency between the adopted sub-plans and the City's Comprehensive Plan.

There was a presentation on the upcoming 2015 Required Comprehensive Plan Update. This plan provides the blueprint for City decisions and actions and established policies for growth and development for the next 20 years. The Growth Management Act was adopted in 1990 and the implementation is guided by 13 goals. Countywide Planning policies are developed and amended through the Growth Management Planning Council. The City and King County must collaborate on planning and a member of our City Council represents Renton. Vision 2040 establishes a growth strategy for four counties and identifies regional growth centers (one is in Renton).

We want to ensure public involvement in the development of the plan and to write policies that are consistent with state, regional, and county planning efforts and that will provide clear direction for City decision making in the future.

The required elements include land use, transportation, housing, utilities, capital facilities, shorelines, parks and economic development. The projects roles will be divided by staff, Parks and Planning Commission, the Council and the public.

The Parks element will define an estimate of park and recreation demand for 10 years, evaluation of facilities and service needs, and evaluation of intergovernmental coordination opportunities to provide regional approaches for meeting demand. Proposed goals include areas to provide the opportunity for the community to connect to, participate in, support and encourage a healthy environment and active lifestyle. Additionally to support a city where residents and visitors can recreate and

exercise contributing to a healthy lifestyle and where using an integrated trails/road network, becomes a realistic transportation alternative.

The following policies are proposed:

- ❖ Expand parks and recreational opportunities in new and existing locations with an identified need, in order to fill gaps in service and keep pace with future growth
- ❖ Create a connected system of parks, corridors, trails and natural areas to provide nearby and accessible opportunities for recreation and non-motoried transportation
- ❖ Cultivate strong, positive partnerships at the local and regional level with public, private and non-profit organizations in order to unite community efforts to develop and sustain the park system
- ❖ Create a distinct identity that celebrates the natural historic and diverse character of the community through park and facility design, recreation programming, interpretation and education
- ❖ Ensure long-term economic and environmental sustainability in a system planning, design, operation, maintenance and decision making
- ❖ Promote healthy and active lifestyles and build community through programs that are inclusive, fun and accessible for a diverse population
- ❖ Protect, conserve and enhance the area's diverse natural resources, for a long-term health of ecosystems, and for the enjoyment of future generations

A public hearing is tentatively set for October.

Benson Hill Community Plan

A presentation on the Benson Hill Community Plan included discussion regarding three phases of public engagement, Vision, Plan Elements and Action Strategy. This plan was a partnership between the City of Renton and many Benson Hill residents, businesses and community stakeholders. It will provide a means for the City and community to address emerging issues and allows the residents and businesses to shape their future. The presentation provided information on demographics, schools and parks in the area. The following aspects need to be addressed:

- ❖ Uneven social equity
- ❖ Disjointed neighborhoods
- ❖ Lack of focused activity
- ❖ Park and community center need
- ❖ Limited non-motorized mobility

An implementation table provided a condensed list of actions for the City and community members. Some strategies may take 20 years or longer to implement,

requiring resources that do not currently exist. Immediate needs include recognition of a Plan Advisory Board, enhancement of Cascade Village, design for 116th Ave SE improvements, expand trail and sidewalk network and provide traffic calming on neighborhood streets. Additional information and documentation can be viewed on the City's website.

Museum Update

Liz Stewart, Museum Manager, reviewed the Renton Historical Society Membership survey. The survey's intent was to identify who are our members, what do they like about us, what we could do to better meet their needs and interests in the future. Surveys were sent to 450 members. Twenty-five percent responded, which is a great response. Some insights gained included, more email notification and other online services; provide info on current events that are relevant, and suggestions for the newsletter in a historical context.

Questions to answer now are:

- ❖ If 34% of existing members have not attended any events in the last year, how do we involve them in a meaningful way in the life of the Museum?
- ❖ How do we attract the next generation to support future activities and operations?
- ❖ And how do we recruit new membership?

VII. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Terry Higashiyama gave an overview of the June 7th fund raiser for the Meadow Crest Playground.

Information regarding the upcoming summer events was provided.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

Terry noted Council approved reappointment for another term for Tim Searing and Marlene Winter.

IX. CORRESPONDENCE

A Proclamation was issued designating July as Parks and Recreation Month.

X. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the June meeting at 6:15 p.m. All were in favor, motion carried, meeting adjourned.

Tour of REACH Center

July 9, 2013 Meeting—Tour of Bellevue facilities

No August meeting

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

September 10, 2013 @ 4:30 P.M.

City Hall Conferencing Center--7th Floor
