

# ***City of Renton***

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



### ***Meeting Minutes***

January 13, 2015

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

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

##### **In Attendance**

The following members were present:

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

Absent: Sojin Thompson (unexcused)

Staff: Sandy Pilat, Leslie Betlach, Kelly Beymer, Dana Appel, Kris Stimpson, Steve Brown, Stefanie Coleman, Peter Renner, Carlene Balcomb-Bartok

Chair, Cynthia Burns, called the January 13, 2015, meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. Roll call was taken; all members were present with the exception of Youth Member, Sojin Thompson. Sojin's absence was noted unexcused.

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

Marlene Winter made a motion, seconded by Larry Reymann to approve the agenda as presented. All were in favor, motion carried, the January 13, 2015, agenda was approved.

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

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

**IV. BOARD COMMUNICATION**

City Center Plan—Mike O’Donin

Mike indicated the next City Center Plan Meeting will be on February 12, 2015.

School Report

None

**V. ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

Kelly Beymer reported that Terry Higashiyama is in attendance at the Mayor’s/Administrators Retreat so unable to attend this evening’s meeting. Kelly made note of the upcoming One Night Count, city teams as well as volunteers escorted by Police go out at approximately 2:00 a.m. and do a count of the homeless in the area.

On Friday, January 16, 2015, at 3:00 p.m. at the Park Avenue Park Maintenance Shop we will be celebrating Jeff Nasset’s retirement after 30 years of service with the City. Jeff has served as a Lead Park Maintenance Worker and worked closely coordinating with the Volunteer Program. Kelly invited the members to attend.

The Neighbor to Neighbor Forum Workshop will be February 7, 2015. Troy asked for start time and additional information. Sandy offered to email Troy the details.

Update on problem with Boeing smokers on the Trail. Since Boeing imposed rules not allowing smoking on their property it has been a problem that employees exit the gate on their breaks and lunch hours and stand on the trail in sizeable groups smoking. Boeing staff realizes this causes problems for patrons of the trail as well as additional cleaning by our staff. In an attempt to curb this problem, the gate the employees currently use to access the trail will be closed for re-entry, forcing them to walk around a considerable distance to regain access. Hopefully this will deter the activity.

Kelly asked Steve Brown, Parks Manager, to introduce the Parks Maintenance Supervisors. Steve introduced Dana and Stefanie. Dana has been employed by the City since 1991 and has worked both at Coulon Park/Trails as well as the neighborhood parks. Stephanie came to us from the City of Lakewood and also has experience with golf course maintenance. She indicated she was enjoying her new position and appreciative of our great staff resources.

## **VI. STAFF REPORT**

Leslie Betlach reported on locations we are or will be removing hazardous cottonwoods at. Hopefully this will be completed by the end of the week. We have several to remove at Riverview Park and over 100 older diseased trees, including cottonwoods and alder at various locations. Leslie acknowledged the participation of Boardmember Mike and Larry on the Lower Cedar River Habitat Assessment Grant Stakeholder Meeting happening on January 27<sup>th</sup>. She was very pleased with the time they are willing to donate for the cause and thanked them.

Additionally, two requests (one to the House and one to the Senate) will be submitted in January for the Phase One development of the Sunset Neighborhood Park. This is a coordinated effort with the City's lobbyist.

She also relayed information on the legislative requests being made for Sunset Park including a request to the governor to include the Park in the state budget. Leslie will meet with the legislators, along with the Mayor, Jay, and Preeti. The funding requests are for park development only.

### **Riverview Park Bridge Replacement**

One hundred percent (100%) of the drawings are complete, it is our hope to have the permit bid in by February 4 allowing a summer construction date.

## **VII. PRESENTATION**

Peter Renner re-introduced Greg Stroh, Facilities Manager, to the Board. Greg previously did a presentation on the security cameras throughout the city. Currently our camera quality has vastly improved with technology advancements in the last couple years. Greg fed into a live site to demonstrate real time monitoring of various intersections, the Transit Center, Skate Park, inside the Senior Center, 200 Mill and the library. Location priorities are determined by 'what the current hot spots are'. Some cameras are permanently mounted while some are mobile. There are approximately 200 cameras in the city currently. These cameras have been key in numerous arrest and convictions due to their accuracy.

### **Graffiti Abatement**

Carlene Balcomb Bartok, Graffiti Abatement Coordinator, introduced herself explaining she has been in this position a total of five years, the program was initiated in 2008. She showed a picture of the clean-up cans provided free to the public. Other efforts that contributed to the program's success include education and outreach as well as offering a \$300 reward. She further explained some of the hardest hit areas and how she works with WSDOT and property owners to get rid of the graffiti as quick

as possible (that seems to be the biggest deterrent). This year we experienced 980 tags compared to 1, 993 last year. The expulsion program is of great assistance to Carlene's efforts.

**VIII. INFORMATION**

Kelly noted that our February meeting would be expanded to include discussion on the Board's 2015 goals and a review of the By Laws. She requested the members bring any input to the meeting for prioritization.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Larry Reymann and seconded by Al Dieckman to adjourn the meeting at 5:55 p.m. All were in favor, motion carried, meeting adjourned.

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*Signature*

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

Extended Meeting 4:30-7:00 p.m.

February 10, 2015

*City Hall Conferencing Center--7<sup>th</sup> Floor*