

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

Wednesday, May 5, 2021 5:30pm, via Zoom

Present:

Ken Balsley, Sarah Daniels, and Aram Wheeler

Excused: Erwin Vidallon

Unexcused: Troy Kirby

Staff: Jen Burbidge, Justin Beard, Scott Devlin, Sue Falash and Samra Seymour

Public: John Anderson, Jeff Bowe, Heather Mary, and Jackie Means

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 pm, by Chair, Sarah Daniels

Additions or deletions to the Agenda

Commissioner Daniels proposed changes to the agenda; remove 8c-Lacey Depot Reservation Application and add item 8e Chevron station update under New Business and move 8e before 5a.

Commissioner Balsley made a motion to approve the agenda as amended and Commissioner Daniels seconded.

Motion carried.

Announcements & introductions

None

Minutes

Commissioner Daniels made a motion to approve the April 7 minutes, and Commissioner Wheeler seconded. Motion carried.

Calendar

No updates

Item 8e Chevron Station Update:

Samra Seymour, Associate Planner for the City of Lacey gave an overview on the process for Chevron Station Update.

- The application was a private development application made back in early April.
- The application is currently under review, a conditional use permit that will go through the City's Hearings Examiner who will make a recommendation to City Council.
- There will be a public hearing the hearing examiner will take written comments, comments from the public, staff and the applicant side. Community & Economic Development Department will be holding an information webinar in a couple of weeks; the date and time will be provided to the Park Board.
- Park Board members should give input to Jen.

Correspondence

- a) Gas Station Meridian Campus.
- b) Greg Cuoio Park & Greenways Master Plan. In the future correspondence will be forwarded to HBB.
- c) Pickleball. Jen implemented \$5/hour per court for court rental when a group is charging admission for use.
- d) Skateboard Recycling Bin. Jen reported the City is willing to try this. Brian is working with Scott Devlin, Parks Maintenance Supervisor.

Citizen/Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda

Megan Hall and Naomi Bell, staff from the Timberland Regional Library, shared a project and some slides, Story Trails, a partnership that brings children's picture books stories to a temporary display on local trails.

- Worked with Jeannette Sieler to identify a park to place displays.
- June 1-August 31 at Wonderwood Park to coincide with the Summer Library Program, which promotes literacy.
- The book for this summer is, Hanks Big Day, a story about a bug.
- There will be between 18 -20 frames. Under each frame, there will be a literacy activity.

Jen Burbidge and Scott Devlin approved the project for Wonderwood Park and asked the library staff to check on the signs periodically.

Old Business

- a) Greg Cuoio Park & Greenways Master Plan/HBB Landscape Architects
Juliet Vong, shared a sneak peak of the May 12th open house presentation. She will attend the next Park Board meeting to give a recap.
- b) COVID-19 update "Healthy Washington-Roadmap to Recovery" Jen met with Thurston County Public Health yesterday to see if the City's approach for 3rd of July "Park & Watch" format makes sense to them. Although the City will not be allowing people into the park property, folks will be gathering in the parking lots so the City's messaging will be to attend responsibly. Festivals, Fairs, and Parades guidance was released by the governor's office. Event and rental staff are interpreting it but the City is unsure if Thurston County will go back to Phase 2. The governor will update in two weeks..
- c) Lacey Cares/Parks outreach update
Jen reported Lacey Cares outreach is going really well. The survey will be open until the end of May. Parks specific outreach will begin in June. Jen had a meeting yesterday with the consultant and his recommendation is to build on community input received through the Lacey Cares initiative, and assemble an Outreach Team (OT) to further explore public priorities and preferences related to parks, culture and recreation. Commissioner Daniels and Commissioner Wheeler both confirmed they are willing to join the OT.

New Business

- a) Free Little Library Proposal

Heather and Jackie gave a presentation from Troop 45298.

Jen reported that she and maintenance staff reviewed the proposal and determined the only location that would be approved at Wonderwood Park is on the Sunset entrance side of the park due to less vandalism on that side and the fact that that side of the park is often underused.

Jen reported that a maintenance agreement would need to be established for the structure, and asked that the group come back and present to the Park Board after the project is installed.

- b) PSDGA DISC Golf Course Expansion-Justin Beard and John Anderson

- Jen stated we are looking to recommend moving forward with the disc golf pending the survey work and the cost of the survey work.
- Justin shared some history of the disc golf and the nine hole course.
- Justin shared the final revision that didn't make it into the packets.
- John Anderson gave an overview of the revised disc golf course expansion.

Commissioner Balsley made a motion to accept the staff recommendation to approve the PSDGA Disc Golf Course Expansion pending the survey if required by the City. Commissioner Wheeler seconded.

Motion carried.

- c) Lacey Depot Reservation Application-removed from agenda
- d) Youth Council and Commissioners update. Shannon Kelly-Fong, the City's new Assistant City Manager has revamped the Youth Council format and City Council approved the changes. Students from the Youth Council will serve on Park Board, Historical Commission, Planning Commission and Library Board and report back to Youth Council.

Director's Report

- a) Staff Presentation-none
- b) Sports Commission update-Jeff Bowe, Experience Olympia & Beyond. Gave an overview of what the Sports Commission does and shared a presentation.
- c) Programs & Special Events, Sue gave highlights of what is happening in the Parks, Culture and Recreation Department:
 - Aquatics staff is busy with lessons, hiring and training staff
 - Youth & Teen Programs staff busy with Day Camp. Numbers are currently at 25 to 30 students per week.
 - NTSD will help fund two Playground Pals sites so we can offer those free programs for kids in the community.
 - RAC is busy with Cal Ripkin, State league and church leagues. The City will host a 12-U fastpitch tournament July 2-4, which brings many people to the Lacey community.
 - Athletics will offer outdoor volleyball and sand volleyball leagues.
 - Special event staff are working hard on the 3rd of July event.
- d) Construction Updates.
 - Food truck plaza by the Lacey Depot is going really well.
 - Gold Star Family monument permit was approved by WSDOT
 - Thurston County Historical Commission has a project that will come before the Park Board since it is located at the RAC..
- e) Planning.
- f) Grants & Budgets.
- g) Volunteers.
- h) Miscellaneous.

Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Balsley reported that he is meeting tomorrow at the RAC with staff regarding a joint project between Lacey Historical Commission and Thurston County Historical Commission to put a historic marker at the RAC.

Chair's Report

Commissioner Daniels was asked to participate in Conversations with the Council as Park Board Chair along with Councilmembers Miller and Steadman and Julia Vong from HBB Landscape Architects. The topic was the Greg Cuoio Park & Greenways Master Plan project kickoff talking about perspectives, public comment process and getting ready for the Open House May 12 at 6:00pm.

Committee Reports

a) PARC Foundation. Jen reported that in 2019, PARC Foundation reached out to park department directors to find out what City needs were and how they could better, more efficiently benefit the community with their support. The conversation was then put on hold due to COVID-19, then started back up again recently.

- Community outreach and engagement has been identified as a priority for Lacey and therefore one time funding could be used to have PARC Foundation help with the effort.
- The deliverables in the draft contract are focused on outreach such as including City marketing items in PARC Foundation monthly digital newsletter, website, etc. In addition, help with grant applications is included in the draft. Jen also reported there's a volunteer group in Lacey taking shape this year to focus on fundraising for the new Museum & Cultural Center project.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 7:17 pm.

Next meeting: Wednesday June 2, 2021 at 5:30pm via Zoom.