

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING OCTOBER 15, 2020
ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING**

CALL TO ORDER A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by Chair Swolgaard.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Kristine Cox, Ken DeWitt, Dawn Janow, Jay Kinney, Tom Swolgaard.

BOARD CONSENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon hearing there were no corrections to the minutes of the October 1, 2020 regular board meeting, Chair Swolgaard stated the minutes stand approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS: MSC: Cox/Janow: I have reviewed the following vouchers, warrants and electronic payments and move that they be approved for payment.

Batch Date	Fund Number & Name	Warrant Numbers	Total Batch Amt	Pre-Approved
10/06/20	001 General Fund 300 Capital Improvement Fund 310 Land Acquisition Fund	20625-20658	46,520.32	10/06/20
10/13/20	001 General Fund 300 Capital Improvement Fund	20659-20692	75,954.29	10/13/20

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Park Services Division: Park Services Division Director Dan Hamlin said staff continues to work on phase II of the pickleball courts project creating interpretive panels, laying bricks, ordering plants and doing concrete work. Part of the concrete work was connecting the pickleball courts to the tennis courts, so that there is an accessible pathway between them. Most of the crew has been working on Haunted Hayride preparations. Trails crew is finishing at Sakai Park with base rock and they have started working on handrails for the boardwalks that need them. Trails crew is starting work at Blakely Heights with the EarthCorps crew. Senior Planner Perry Barrett said the grant for Sakai Park has been raised to the full amount of one million dollars. Scoring for the Hidden Cove II Recreation and Conservation Office grant has been received and the Park District is number three in the award category. It looks favorable that the grant will be fully funded. There will be a meeting with the owners of the Blakely Heights trails regarding signage. Puget Sound Energy will have a community open house which is anticipated to be on November 16. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration contacted the Park District and said the Pritchard Park transfer will be signed off on and completed by the end of the year.

Recreation Division: Recreation Division Director Mark Benishek said that recreation program managers and coordinators are in attendance tonight and will give the departmental updates to the board. Community Outreach Coordinator Emily Swift said that Haunted Hayride is next week, and the staff pumpkin carving is tomorrow. Haunted Hayride under the coronavirus restrictions will look a little different with registrants staying in their own cars and driving themselves, the event is almost sold out. There is a new special event coming up in December called Holiday at Fay for which registrants will remain in their own vehicles and drive a loop decorated for the holidays at Fay Bainbridge Park. Puget Sound Energy is sponsoring both Haunted Hayride and Holiday at Fay this year. Town & Country Markets has donated \$800 worth of pumpkins for Haunted Hayride. Youth & Teen Program Manager Shannon Buxton said she wants to take this opportunity to say she is proud of all the work that staff has done since the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic. Staff has had the opportunity to look at what they do in a different way

and find new ways to bring what they do to the community. To serve the different comfort levels of all community members during this time, take home camps in a bag are being offered. Eagledale Pottery Studio programming is going well with smaller class sizes and the number of programs offered is continuing to expand to accommodate interest in participation. Shannon Buxton is continuing to learn more about eSports and the socialization and benefit of online gaming. Gymnastics Program Manager Jason Balangue said that while gymnastics is still very limited by the number of people allowed into their facilities at one time, the programs being offered are going well. He takes pride in being able to continue to deliver programs under the coronavirus guidelines and to see people be comfortable with participating. Participants have done a phenomenal job of adapting to the coronavirus protocols. Sports Program Manager Julie Miller said she has been collaborating with a lacrosse group and Bainbridge Island Football Club to offer programming which is going well. She is also working on updating the field manual to include sports courts and updating the reservation system for both field and sports court rentals. With the rainy season coming a reservation system is being developed for what used to operate as open gym sports programs in the High School lower gym. Outdoor Program Manager Nick Prevo said a new session of mountain bike club rides started this week and there has been a lot of interest. He led a hike recently and participants were thankful for the opportunity to get outside. Interest in the high school sailing program is higher than it has ever been. Work is being done to develop a nature based after school program to be offered in the spring. Marketing Coordinator Allie Smith said she has been working on the upcoming winter/spring catalog, monthly email newsletters and a newspaper marketing insert. She has also been doing website updates, social media and helping with the Haunted Hayride. Aquatic Program Administrator Megan Pleli said Office Supervisor Marjorie LeMaster and the front desk staff are doing a phenomenal job at the Aquatic Center. Bainbridge Island Swim Club coaches have done a great job engaging participants and giving them an outlet during this time. New coronavirus guidelines came out last week and being able to get two swim club members in one lane at a time has raised morale. Bainbridge Aquatic Masters is selling out almost every practice and making all the athletes feel welcome. Lifeguards have risen to the occasion following all the new protocols. Aquatic Program Coordinator Lisa Claesson-Gordon said that the Park District has one of the few aquatic centers in the Puget Sound area offering swim lessons. Swim lessons are now socially distanced with instructors on the deck and parents in the water with their kids and they are going incredibly well. They had an observer from Des Moines come to see how socially distanced swim lessons are being done here at the Aquatic Center due to the success of the program. Active Adult Program Manager Sue Barrington who has also taken over the arts and culture programs said that in person classes are small and therefore competitive to get into. In person class participants are basically getting semi-private lessons at a bargain of a price and participants and instructors are enjoying the format. Online programs have also been well received and are meeting the needs of and serving people with various accessibility issues. She believes there is real value in adopting virtual programming as an ongoing option and has been researching best protocols for virtual instruction to bolster these opportunities. She is working with a volunteer force credentialing program for teens and adults. In the spring a Parks RX program will be launching which is part of a national movement where doctors prescribe time in parks as part of a health regiment. Recreation Superintendent Bryan Garoutte said he is proud of staff and appreciative of board support during this difficult time. Commissioner Janow said she appreciates the enthusiasm and flexibility and is thankful for all the creative ideas which are both energizing and positive.

Administrative Division: Administrative Division Director Amy Swenson said the next audit will start in mid-November and it will be virtual.

Executive Director Terry Lande said that Kol Medina has resigned from the Bainbridge Island City Council and will be moving to Walla Walla. Deputy City Attorney Robbie Sepler is leaving the City of Bainbridge Island. Bainbridge Island is opening a coronavirus test site in November and test results will be returned within 24 hours. The Bainbridge Island

City Manager job posting closes next week and they are hoping to have somebody hired by January 1. Bainbridge Island Fire Department cancelled their annual pancake breakfast. A Bremerton coronavirus test site is opening next week, and a roving coronavirus test site will be opening in Kitsap County as well. The proposed 1/10 of 1 percent tax to be levied for parks and recreation that was brought up at the last board meeting is being lobbied for by the Washington Recreation and Park Association. The first step in the process would be state-wide legislation, which has not yet been passed by the legislature to allow the tax to be levied. The second step would be deciding what agencies want to do locally.

Commissioner Swolgaard said he is proud of the Park District staff and he appreciates all they are doing under the current circumstances.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS:

November board meetings will be on Zoom.

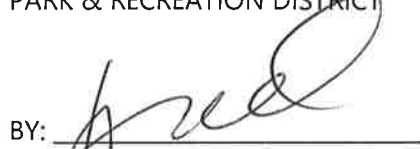
BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:

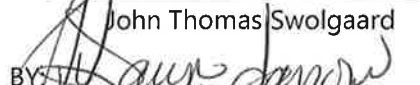
- Commissioner Kinney said he enjoyed hearing from the staff tonight and it is wonderful to see the energy and hear about everything staff is getting done.
- Commissioner Kinney said he went and saw a ballfield with a grandstand and is thinking about how that could be incorporated into Rotary Park someday and acknowledged that it is a discussion for the future.
- Commissioner Janow said the Bainbridge Island City Council passed a resolution in support of the Wild Fish Conservancy being awarded the lease in Rich Passage currently held by Cooke Aquaculture.
- Commissioner Janow said she toured the Fort Ward Community Hall and would highly encourage any commissioners who have not yet toured the facility to do so.
- Commissioner Janow said she was out at Battle Point Park and it was packed, and that it is a great feeling to see it so busy.
- Commissioner Cox said it is great to see the staff and put faces to names and hear about all the wonderful things they have been doing. She said this is the most optimistic that she personally has felt in a long time.
- Commissioner Cox said she wanted to thank Aquatic Program Administrator Megan Pleli for her work. Commissioner Cox's children and all the Bainbridge Island Swim Club kids and parents are happy to now have two swimmers per lane protocols, which almost doubles their swim time. While things are not back to normal, she believes things are on the right trajectory and said that all the kids are being diligent in practicing social distancing. There was an inter squad time trial and there will be another one in a few weeks with 76% of the swim team members getting the chance to race which is very exciting for them.
- Commissioner DeWitt asked about the status of the Aquatic Center with the Kitsap County Health District based on the Governor's updated guidelines that came out last week. Recreation Division Director Mark Benishek said staff have been in contact with both Kitsap County Health District and the Washington State Department of Health. Aquatic Program Administrator Megan Pleli said one of the provisions in the updated guidance is that large facilities can ask for permission to allow more swimmers into a facility at one time. There was a health inspection and the Kitsap County Health District brought out people to train on how well the Aquatic Center is handling coronavirus guidelines. The Aquatic Center put in a request to be allowed up to 75 swimmers at one time and that request has been approved by the Kitsap County Health District. Commissioner DeWitt said this update shows that staff has been handling the situation well and said that it is great news.

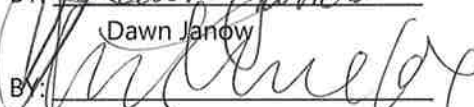
- Commissioner DeWitt said he walked the trail at Sakai Park and that it is coming along well. He is wondering about the status of the Sound to Olympics portion of the trail. Park Services Director Dan Hamlin said his understanding is that Engineering Project Manager Mark Epstein with the City of Bainbridge Island is still working on the permit and that it will be completed soon. Commissioner DeWitt asked Dan Hamlin to thank the crew working on the trail and let them know he appreciates what they are doing.
- Commissioner DeWitt asked who was awarded the small craft concession rights on the Waterfront Park dock by the City of Bainbridge Island. Recreation Division Director Mark Benishek said that Exotic Aquatics won the award.
- Commissioner DeWitt inquired about the status of park programmatic permits. Park Services Division Director Dan Hamlin said there was a meeting with Senior Planner Peter Best at the City of Bainbridge Island and work is moving forward with programmatic permits for Blakely Harbor Park.
- Commissioner Swolgaard reported that his grandsons are lobbying to install a roof over the skate bowl. Commissioner Janow said she would like to see a roof over the roller hockey rink. Executive Director Terry Lande said a dome over the roller hockey rink would allow for a large indoor space with is especially needed now due to the coronavirus pandemic. Commissioner Swolgaard asked what it would take to get a roof over the skate park and said there are at least two groups on the island who are willing to fundraise and they would like to come to a future board meeting to make a presentation. Executive Director Terry Lande said he will work with Commissioner Swolgaard to put a presentation from these groups on a future agenda.

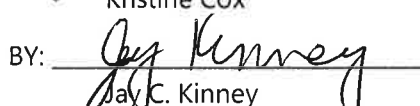
MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:01 pm.

Helen M. Stone
Terry M. Lande
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN
PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT

BY: 
John Thomas Swolgaard

BY: 
Dawn Janow

BY: 
Kristine Cox

BY: 
Jay C. Kinney

ATTEST: 
Kenneth R. DeWitt