

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING September 19, 2024
STRAWBERRY HILL CENTER**

CALL TO ORDER: A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chair Swolgaard.

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

ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA: Add an executive session for real estate and personnel.

MISSION STATEMENT: Chair Swolgaard read the Park District's mission statement: The mission of the Bainbridge Island Metropolitan Park & Recreation District is to build a healthy community through effective, sustainable stewardship of the District's parks and open space, and through the development and delivery of innovative cultural and recreation opportunities.

BOARD CONSENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon hearing there were no corrections to the minutes of the September 5, 2024 regular board meeting, Chair Swolgaard stated the minutes stand approved as submitted.

GENERAL BUSINESS

EIGHT ACRE WOOD PROPERTY TRANSFER: Parks Superintendent Lydia Roush said the Eight Acre Wood property is being anonymously donated to the community through the Bainbridge Island Parks & Trails Foundation who will then transfer it to the Park District for use as a passive use park. The property is 7.62 acres with existing trails in the Rolling Bay neighborhood. The Park District will reimburse BIPTF for appraisal costs and transaction fees which are not expected to be more than \$10,000. The property is being donated with some restrictions and the trails will be limited to pedestrian walking trails only. The Park District can improve the trails, maintain the vegetation on site, and develop trail related facilities including things like viewing platforms, boardwalks, and small bridges.

When the 2008 levy lid lift was passed by voters a provision required a portion of the money collected be spent on land acquisition. The Parkland Acquisition Committee developed criteria to help determine which properties to prioritize for acquisition and identified a need for public land in Rolling Bay. In 2013 the funding was insufficient to purchase properties and so the Park District shifted predominantly to acquiring easements. While the provision requiring a portion of funding be spent on land acquisition ended with the passage of the 2021 lid lift, the 2021 lid lift does fund the existing Land Acquisition Fund and the prioritization criteria are still useful. The Eight Acre Wood property serves a neighborhood center and expands the Park District's trail system which are two of the priorities identified.

MSC: Janow/DeWitt: Motion to approve the donation agreement and accept the assignment of the gift agreement for the Eight Acre Wood property. Commissioner Janow thanked Lydia Roush for looking at the criteria PAC developed and said this property meets two of the criteria and is a great addition. She commended everyone for their work on this transfer and thanked the anonymous donor for making this possible.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HIRING PROCESS: Commissioner Kinney said that when Executive Director Terry Lande informed the board he was planning to retire last year there was conversation and agreement that the board liked the direction the Park District was going. Dan Hamlin, who at the time was the park services director, was named acting executive director which gave him a chance to see if he liked the position and gave the board a chance to see him in the role. Commissioner Kinney said he thinks it has been a success. He and Commissioner Swolgaard have talked with various members of the community, Bainbridge Island Parks & Trails Foundation, Bainbridge Island Land Trust, and Park District staff. Everyone was very supportive of Dan Hamlin and happy with the job he has been doing. The board has had a long time to get to know Dan

Hamlin who started with the Park District in 2006. Commissioner Kinney said he thinks the board has done their due diligence and should have a public vote on hiring Dan Hamlin as executive director at the next board meeting. Commissioner Janow said it would be great to update the executive director job description and evaluate it against Dan Hamlin's experience as provided to the board in his CV. She and Commissioner DeWitt, as the Finance Committee, have met to discuss compensation packages.

TERRY LANDE RECOGNITION: Commissioner DeWitt said Terry Lande was hired as the director of the district that preceded the current metro park district. Over the next two decades Executive Director Terry Lande led the Park District from a small underfunded rural agency to the second largest metropolitan park district in the state. He built the Park District's legacy as a major steward of the island's natural areas and provider of recreational opportunities for residents of all ages. One of his major achievements was the acquisition of the Bainbridge Island Recreation Center which made the facility available to all island residents and helped the Park District meet many of the growing demands for indoor activities. Terry Lande deserves recognition and thanks for his vision, leadership, and tenacity to do what he believed was best for the residents of Bainbridge Island despite sometimes having vocal opponents. Commissioner DeWitt said he thinks it is appropriate to recognize Terry Lande's contributions to the Park District and the community by naming a facility after him. Commissioner DeWitt suggests at the next board meeting that the board consider renaming the Bainbridge Island Recreation Center the Terry M. Lande Athletics and Recreation Center. After some discussion the board agreed to have staff brainstorm additional names and their corresponding acronyms and bring the options back to the board at the next board meeting to rename BIRC in honor of Terry Lande.

STAFF REPORT

Recreation Division: Aquatic Program Administrator Jenette Reneau said the Don Nakata pool at the Aquatic Center is back open after a planned closure to replace the pool liner. Recreation Superintendent Bryan Garoutte said the recreation division is working on the winter/spring program catalog. Youth & Teen Art & Enrichment Program Manager Shannon Buxton has given notice that she will be retiring mid-November after 34 years with the Park District.

Park Services Division: Park Services Superintendent Lydia Roush said the pollinator garden at Gideon Park is going to be revamped. Staff are also working to prepare Battle Point Park for the upcoming Haunted Hayride. Park Services Superintendent David Harry said the new bathroom building for Battle Point Park has been delivered and the septic system is still under review by the Kitsap County Health District. He met with the pickleball community to finalize the bid details for turning the shared tennis courts at Battle Point Park into dedicated pickleball courts. The Ray Williamson pool renovation contractor is now about 80% done with the interior demolition for Phase I. The contractor for the Sakai Park tennis courts has finished the site preparation work.

Acting Executive Director Dan Hamlin said staff are looking at medical insurance options for 2025. The party for retiring Executive Director Terry Lande has been moved to October 14 from 4:00-6:00 pm at Bainbridge Island Recreation Center.

BOARD MEMBER REMARKS:

- Commissioner Goodlin said it was brought to his attention that there is a chain link fence with barbed wire at the top at Nutes Pond. He talked to Acting Executive Director Dan Hamlin about it and staff have been directed to evaluate what it will take to remove the barbed wire or the whole fence.
- Commissioner Goodlin said he heard that the Eagledale Pottery Studio participants are aware that BARN may be starting a pottery program. Acting Executive Director Dan Hamlin said staff are in discussions with BARN about the possibility of partnering on the new pottery facility they are considering building.
- Commissioner Janow said the September issue of Parks & Recreation Magazine is about equity and celebration of inclusion and she looks forward to seeing how that will be brought into the budget process.

- Commissioner DeWitt said he attended the recent Chamber of Commerce After Hours event.
- Commissioner Swolgaard said he attended a work party at Strawberry Hill Park recently and pulled scotch broom.

MEETING ADJOURNED to a five-minute recess at 6:43 pm with announced time to reconvene at 6:48 pm. **MEETING RECONVENED** at 6:48 pm.

MEETING ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 6:48 pm for discussion of real estate and personnel with announced time to reconvene at 7:18 pm.

MEETING RECONVENED at 7:18 pm and **ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 7:18 pm for continued discussion of the above items, with announced time to reconvene at 7:23 pm.

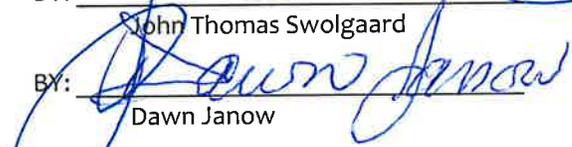
MEETING RECONVENED at 7:23 pm and **ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 7:23 pm for continued discussion of the above items, with announced time to reconvene at 7:28 pm.

MEETING RECONVENED at 7:28 pm and **ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 7:28 pm for continued discussion of the above items, with announced time to reconvene at 7:33 pm.

MEETING RECONVENED at 7:33 pm and **ADJOURNED** at 7:33 pm.

Helen Stone
 Dan Hamlin
 BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN
 PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT

BY: 
 John Thomas Swolgaard

BY: 
 Dawn Janow

BY: _____
 Kenneth R. DeWitt

BY: 
 Jay C. Kinney

ATTEST: 
 Tom Goodlin