

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT
 REGULAR BOARD MEETING January 16, 2025
 STRAWBERRY HILL CENTER**

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

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

ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA: There will be no executive session.

MISSION STATEMENT: Vice-Chair Janow 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.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jerry Elfendahl spoke about development and use of the cement structure from the lumber mill that existed at what is now Blakely Harbor Park.

BOARD CONSENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon hearing there were no corrections to the minutes of the January 2, 2025 regular board meeting, Vice-Chair Janow stated the minutes stand approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS: MSC: Kinney/Swolgaard: 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
12/23/24	001 General Fund	29188-29192	1,041,369.80	12/23/24
01/03/25	001 General Fund	29194-29223	62,382.42	01/03/25
	001 General Fund (Dec. Payroll)	EFT & 3407-3410	373,078.04	
	001 General Fund (Dec. Payroll Benefits and Taxes)	EFT & 10050-10056	202,000.11	
	300 Capital Improvement Fund	Pre-approval	54,261.48	
	300 Capital Improvement Fund	Pre-approval	179,818.78	

GENERAL BUSINESS

AQUATIC CENTER SCHEDULING DURING THE RAY WILLIAMSON POOL RENOVATION CLOSURE: Aquatic Program Administrator Jenette Reneau said the first day of the Ray Williamson pool closure is currently scheduled to be Monday, February 17. Before the holidays staff announced the schedules for Bainbridge Island Swim Club, Bainbridge Aquatic Masters, and Bainbridge Island Water Polo during the Ray Williamson pool closure and met with the groups to give them time to digest the changes. The schedule for the Don Nakata pool during the Ray Williamson pool closure is now posted for members of the public to view and plan for. There are two public meetings planned for February 6 and on February 10 Jenette Reneau will be on the pool deck to chat with members of the public about their needs. If people are flexible, considerate of others, and willing to share then everyone will get to swim but it will not look like it normally does. There are scheduled times for people with injuries, disabilities, and special needs to use the pool. However, their space needs can be very specific and may need to be addressed individually. Only family swim, open swim, water exercise, and swim lessons are going to have the same amount of time on the schedule as they did on the pre-closure schedule. The plan is to open at 4:00

am but if enough users do not show up that early the opening time will be adjusted. There will be two mini lap lanes in the dive tank to augment the existing lap lanes. The temperature of the Don Nakata pool will not change, the Kitsap County Health District has strict rules about temperature for pools used by kids under 5 years old. Staff are aware that despite their best efforts not all users will be pleased with the schedule. The schedule will likely need to be adjusted, and staff are promoting the message of flexibility and collaboration. The schedule will also be adjusted for every season. At this time, staff believe it would be fiscally irresponsible to use the Bainbridge Island Recreation Center pool to augment the Don Nakata pool schedule during the closure due to heating and staffing costs.

BOARD COMMITTEES AND LIAISONS: Commissioner Janow said the board needs to pass a motion to finalize decisions made at the previous meeting regarding committees and liaisons. **MSC: Swolgaard/Kinney: Move that Jay Kinney and Tom Swolgaard be the Bainbridge Island Parks & Trails Foundation liaisons, that Ken DeWitt and Tom Swolgaard be the Trails Advisory Committee liaisons, that Dawn Janow and Jay Kinney be the Ad Hoc Comprehensive Plan Committee from January 16, 2025 to March 1, 2026, and that the Dog Advisory Committee, Ad Hoc Sakai Site Planning Committee, and the Ad Hoc Forest Management Committee be dissolved.**

RESOLUTION 2025-01: CLAIMS AGENT: Executive Director Dan Hamlin said this resolution appoints him as the claims agent for the Park District and updates the address to the Strawberry Hill Administration Office. **MSC: Kinney/Swolgaard: Move to adopt Resolution 2025-01 to change the claim agent for damages with Kitsap County.**

RESOLUTION 2025-02: BOARD POLICIES: Executive Director Dan Hamlin said staff made all the adjustments as requested by the board and the revised board policies are ready for adoption. **MSC: Kinney/Swolgaard: Adopt Resolution 2025-02 to revise the board policies for the District's policy manual.**

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE POLICY DISCUSSION: Executive Director Dan Hamlin said some of these items used to be in the board policies. This document establishes citizen advisory committees in an operational policy as they report to staff who in turn report to the board, although board members may serve as liaisons to a citizen advisory committee. After some input and discussion, staff were directed to bring the policy back to the board for an additional review.

GRANT OPPORTUNITY FROM WASHINGTON STATE ARCHIVES: Executive Services Manager Helen Stone said staff would like to apply for a grant from Washington State Archives. The category of the local records grant program the Park District will be applying for is digital imaging. **MSC: Swolgaard/Kinney: Motion to authorize staff to apply for the Washington State Archives grant.**

STAFF REPORT

Recreation Division: Recreation Division Director Madison Collins said after the recent move of administration staff to the Strawberry Hill Administration Office, staff offices at Bainbridge Island Recreation Center have been rearranged and there is additional activity space for members. Recreation staff are in conversation with the Battle Point Astronomical Association about programming opportunities. Recreation Superintendent Bryan Garoutte said the boys and girls gymnastics teams have started their competition seasons.

Park Services Division: Park Services Superintendent David Harry said he met recently with City of Bainbridge Island staff and their contractor regarding the new Sakai Park entrance, and there is a plan to improve it. Park Services Division Director Lydia Roush said the volunteer program manager position has been filled. Staff are having an arborist come out and getting a quote to work on the trees by ballfield three in Strawberry Hill Park so it can be extended. After investigation, staff suspect a patch of sword ferns in Fort Ward Park that appear ill have a fungus referred to as sword fern die-off. The cause of the fungus is unknown, but the occurrence has been reported to the state and shared with community partners. Over 12,000 pounds of creosote log material that had washed up on the beach were removed from Fay Bainbridge Park by the

Department of Natural Resources. The bid to turn the tennis courts into pickleball courts at Battle Point Park is out and the bid for the bike park in Strawberry Hill Park is going out at the end of the month.

Executive Director Dan Hamlin said he is working with marketing staff on a regular newsletter for the public. The Strawberry Hill Administration Office hours will be established for 30 hours a week when the new position is hired as that person will be at the front desk. Staff are attempting to contact the organizer of the Dirty Chilly, which is an off-road version of the Chilly Hilly, because it impacts trails.

BOARD MEMBER REMARKS:

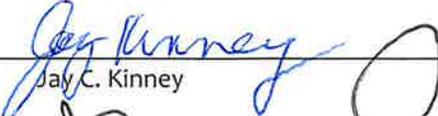
- Commissioner Kinney reported that he saw the trees that blew down in the part of Strawberry Hill Park where the bike park will be built, as staff expected would happen after the thinning project which was completed last year.
- Commissioner Kinney said he attended the pickleball group’s recent meeting and what they want to see is covered courts. They understand it would be very difficult to get approval for covered courts at Battle Point Park. There was a conversation about the possibility of building covered courts at Strawberry Hill Park.
- Commissioner Swolgaard asked about the status of the Battle Point Park restroom replacement and Park Services Superintendent David Harry gave a brief update on the project.
- Commissioner Swolgaard said he attended the recent work party at Blakely Harbor Park.
- Commissioner Janow said after witnessing the wildfires in Los Angeles last week she has been thinking about how the Park District can prevent or mitigate a wildfire situation. Park Services Division Director Lydia Roush said staff have been in contact with Bainbridge Island Fire Department Fire Chief Jared Moravec and he approved of staff’s plan to create fire breaks both laterally and vertically to reduce the fuel capacity around the edges of parks. Staff are also taking into account target areas where extra debris should be removed. The Park District has a lot of property and boundary lines, but staff are working to address this. Commissioner Janow suggested sharing that work with the public.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:10 pm.

Helen Stone
Dan Hamlin
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN
PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT

BY: 
Tom Goodlin

BY: _____
Dawn Janow

BY: 
Jay C. Kinney

BY: 
John Thomas Swolgaard

ATTEST: 
Kenneth R. DeWitt