

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT
 REGULAR BOARD MEETING February 6, 2025
 STRAWBERRY HILL CENTER**

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

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

MISSION STATEMENT: Chair Goodlin 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 January 16, 2025 regular board meeting, Chair Goodlin 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
01/10/25	001 General Fund	29224-29240	48,118.83	01/10/25
01/14/25	001 General Fund 300 Capital Improvement Fund 310 Land Acquisition Fund	29241-29268	79,124.73	01/14/25
01/23/25	001 General Fund	29271	15,529.69	01/23/25
01/29/25	001 General Fund	29312-29342	5,144.55	01/29/25
	300 Capital Improvement Fund	Pre-approval	353,890.71	

GENERAL BUSINESS

CONTRACT FOR COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE: Senior Planner Matthew Keough said Framework is the firm that was unanimously selected to assist with the comprehensive plan update during a competitive process. Two board members participated in the selection process. Executive Director Dan Hamlin said the budget for this project is \$100,000 so if the project reaches that amount staff will have to come back to the board to ask for a budget adjustment to spend any additional money. About 25% of Framework’s proposed budget is for public outreach and there are ways that staff may be able to save money by doing some things in house. **MSC: Kinney/Swolgaard: Motion to approve the contract between the District and Framework to work on the comprehensive plan with the edit that terms of payment, which is paragraph two, sub section A will read as follows: the District shall pay contractor for cost reimbursable services hourly plus actual expenses in accordance with attachment A and a total amount not to exceed \$112,264.**

DISTRICT NEWSLETTER: Executive Director Dan Hamlin said staff have been tasked with a monthly newsletter to share information with the community. A mockup of the first newsletter was shared with the board. Commissioner Goodlin asked how frequently the newsletter will go out and Dan Hamlin said it will go out monthly.

STAFF REPORT

Recreation Division: Recreation Superintendent Bryan Garoutte said there have been a lot of class cancellations and facility closures this week due to the inclement weather. Staff are working on refunding and rescheduling programs as needed. Active Net is the new recreation program registration software, and it will be used for summer registration in early May.

Park Services Division: Senior Planner Matthew Keough said the consultants for the ADA transition plan have done two site visits so far; the technical work will happen first followed by public outreach. Commissioner Goodlin asked if staff anticipate changes to the capital improvement project plan resulting from the ADA transition plan and staff said yes. The public comment period associated with the SEPA notice for the Vincint Road to Gazzam Lake Nature Preserve trail permit is currently open.

Executive Director Dan Hamlin said with the recent inclement weather management has been focused on refining organization for handling these weather events. The Ray Williamson pool renovation shutdown has been pushed out and will be no sooner than March 3.

BOARD MEMBER REMARKS:

- Commissioner Swolgaard asked about the status of the sail float in Eagle Harbor. Executive Director Dan Hamlin said regarding the potential replacement of the sail float or the addition to the Waterfront Park dock, the Park District has a deadline at the end of March to pay the mitigation credit fees at the current rates associated with the current project permits.
- Commissioner Swolgaard said he and Commissioner DeWitt and Executive Director Dan Hamlin attended the dedication for the Arbor Trail which connects West Port Madison Road and Dolphin Drive.
- Commissioner DeWitt said the dedication for the Chuck Field Memorial Loop Trail in the Grand Forest East is planned for February 13.
- Commissioner DeWitt said he attended the recent Chamber of Commerce after hours event.
- Commissioner DeWitt said he and Commissioner Kinney attended the Bainbridge Island Land Trust's annual meeting and dinner event at which BILT announced they are kicking off fundraising to work with the Bainbridge Island Parks Foundation to purchase the portion of the Grand Forest East owned by the Bainbridge Island School District.
- Commissioner DeWitt said he was recently in southern California and saw sites several miles from both the Hughes and Eaton fire lines where there were spot fires caused by embers that flew from the main fire. Spot fires are a big concern in the event of fires here as well.
- Commissioner Goodlin suggested that the Park District be even more proactive than normal this year to deter fireworks in parks.
- Commissioner Kinney said the recent article in the Bainbridge Review regarding the fact that the supreme court did not grant review of the recall case was misleading and left out a lot of pertinent information. It was not a surprise that the supreme court did not grant review because they grant review to very few cases. After the Park District acquired Sakai Park, there was a planning process that resulted in multiple suggested uses. The Park District was moving towards development when the COVID-19 pandemic started which caused the board to decide not to ask the public to fund any bonds. At a board meeting in March of 2023 discussing the proposed plan for renovation of the Ray Williamson pool Adam Hunt advocated for the need for facilities now not in another decade. Shortly thereafter he began to advocate for building a field house at Sakai Park which is one of the items that came up in the Sakai Park planning process. In April of 2023 Adam Hunt started threatening to file recall charges against commissioners if they did not move towards a field house. In early May, Adam Hunt filed recall charges against four of the five commissioners. The recall charges were serious and very upsetting. Commissioner Kinney reiterated

additional background information on the recall case shared at a previous board meeting (reference Commissioner Kinney's comment in the minutes from the October 3, 2024 board meeting). He noted that it was omitted from the recent article in the Bainbridge Review that Adam Hunt is an experienced attorney who has had an impressive legal career working for some big law firms doing litigation, making him well versed in civil procedure and sanctions which happen often in litigation. In recent years it has been very expensive for the Park District to deal with citizens who were unhappy with the Park District buying the Bainbridge Island Recreation Center and then with those who were unhappy about not having a field house. On top of attorney fees related directly to those issues, associated public records requests have cost the Park District over \$100,000 in attorney fees alone. Issues have been contentious in recent years, and he hopes the litigation and associated expenses stop occurring. The commissioners were put in a bad position, they did not start the recall litigation process, Adam Hunt did. He noted that Adam Hunt was asking for terms against the Park District at every stage of the legal process which was rejected by the courts every time.

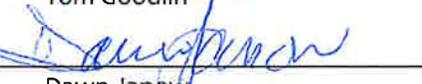
MEETING ADJOURNED to a five-minute recess at 7:09 pm with announced time to reconvene at 7:14 pm. **MEETING RECONVENED** at 7:14 pm.

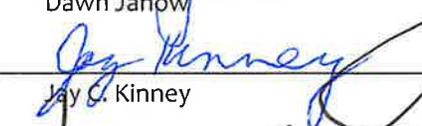
MEETING ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 7:14 pm for discussion regarding consideration of site selection or acquisition of real estate if likelihood that disclosure would increase price per RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) with announced time to reconvene at 7:44 pm.

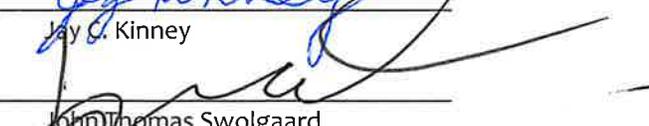
MEETING RECONVENED at 7:44 pm and **ADJOURNED** at 7:44 pm.

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