

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING FEBRUARY 21, 2019
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND AQUATIC CENTER**

CALL TO ORDER A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 4:32 pm by Chair Kinney.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Lee Cross, Ken DeWitt, Jay Kinney, Michael Pollock, and Tom Swolgaard.

ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA: Add 20.2 to Unfinished Business: "Procedure for Special Board Meeting" with possible motion.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

BOARD VACANCY FINALIST DETERMINATION: Chair Kinney said he and Commissioner DeWitt are on the board's Personnel Committee. They met to go over the applications and bring a recommendation of finalists to the board. He said this is a starting point, after which there will be discussion to determine if any additional names should be added. He asked Commissioner DeWitt to present the list of recommended finalists. Commissioner DeWitt noted that he has not discussed the applicants with anyone other than Commissioner Kinney in a committee meeting. He said there were fourteen applicants, all excellent candidates, but indicated only one could be selected. He read the names of the applicants: Ted Jones, Victoria Reilly, Jessica Christianson, John Baker, Rachel Pritchett, John Johnston, Dawn Janow, Jeffrey Stewart, Ariel Birtley-Ross, Sean Cunningham, Ross Eide, Susan Loftus, Bill Touchette, and Helaine Honig. He said the Personnel Committee's recommendation for the finalists are: Victoria Reilly, Rachel Pritchett, Dawn Janow, and Bill Touchette. Commissioner Cross recused herself from any discussion of the candidates saying she felt it was best done by those who would be serving with the new commissioner. She offered to leave the room. The Park District's attorney Hayes Gori said this was not necessary provided she does not participate. Board discussion followed. Commissioner DeWitt noted that each of those nominated as finalists have been involved with or have contributed to the Park District in some capacity over the years. He disclosed that he has known Bill Touchette as a park commissioner as well as professionally in the real estate field. Commissioner DeWitt made a motion that the board accept these four candidates as finalists for the board vacancy. The motion was given a second by Commissioner Swolgaard. Chair Kinney said the addition of any more names would be addressed through a separate motion. A lengthy discussion followed. Commissioner Pollock mentioned several people were intimidated from applying because the notice said to turn the applications into Executive Director Terry Lande and they didn't think they'd get a fair shake. Commissioner Pollock viewed this as a procedural issue and questioned why the applications were not turned into the board since the board is tasked with making this decision. He also questioned the timing of the process and indicated his preference to delay filling the position until after the filing period. With so few open seats and incumbents having a tremendous advantage, he feels it is essentially the four of them who are electing the new commissioner when making this appointment. Chair Kinney said the statute which governs the board's actions gives them 90 days to fill the seat. If they don't, the authority to fill the vacancy will move to the county legislative authority, and if not filled at this level, the decision will move to the governor. Chair Kinney said if the board does not fill the position, it will be done for them. Regarding an incumbent having a great advantage, he does not think this is necessarily true. He commented on the value of having a person in office so people can see what that individual contributes and how they function. He noted appointments are done at local, state and federal levels without a public vote, and thinks the position must be filled. Commissioner Pollock said Commissioner Cross has not resigned since she is still here on the board. Commissioner Swolgaard said Commissioner Cross would like to leave now but has agreed to stay on until someone is appointed. Commissioner Swolgaard said Commissioner Pollock is not there for every board meeting. He mentioned that if Commissioner Cross was not on the board and another commissioner got sick, if Commissioner Pollock was not there, the board meeting would have to be cancelled since three are needed for a quorum. Chair Kinney noted that waiting to fill the position until after the filing period, would mean anyone appointed would serve only until 2020. He

provided an opportunity for Commissioner Pollock to make a motion. When no motion was made, Chair Kinney moved onto other issues raised by Commissioner Pollock saying he does not buy that others were intimidated by sending their applications to the Executive Director; he was not contacted by any individual indicating this. Commissioner Pollock said he was reporting what he heard. Commissioner Kinney said he would be happy to listen to anyone's concerns and would assure them that this decision is being made by the board. Commissioner Pollock objected again to the process saying the implication was that Terry Lande would have a hand in making the decision, and it should be clear to anyone applying that the board is making the decision. Executive Director Lande said upon receipt of an application, an email was sent to the applicant acknowledging receipt and thanking them for their submission. The materials were passed through him on to the board. He said he works for the board and his job is to do what the board needs to have done administratively; his job is not to provide input into the applicants. Commissioner Pollock indicated again that in appointing someone to the vacant position, the board is giving a tremendous advantage to that person as an incumbent and is essentially electing the new commissioner rather than having a democratic process. Commissioner Pollock said he does not agree with the path moving forward. Chair Kinney said there will be an open and fair election and there is nothing undemocratic about what they are doing. He noted Commissioner Pollock won the last election and he was not an incumbent. Commissioner Pollock commented about his opponent. Commissioner Cross objected to this saying she is concerned Commissioner Pollock's remarks had risen to a personal level and were not appropriate. Commissioner Pollock objected to her comments saying she had recused herself from this discussion. Chair Kinney said she had not discussed any candidates, and this is what she had recused herself from. He said there was a motion on the table and called for a vote. **MSC: DeWitt/Swolgaard: That the board accept as finalists for the board vacancy: Victoria Rielly, Rachel Pritchett, Dawn Janow, and Bill Touchette. (Yay: Swogaard, DeWitt, Kinney – Nay: Pollock)** Chair Kinney asked if anyone wanted to add anybody else to the list of four candidates. No names were added by any commissioner.

PROCEDURE FOR SPECIAL BOARD MEETING: Chair Kinney asked the board to define actions for the special board meeting on 2/28 that will bring the board to a point where the commissioners can take a vote on replacing Commissioner Cross. He said the finalists will be there for the board to interview and that discussion will take place in open session. Out of the discussion, he said there will be a motion. Commissioner DeWitt suggested a round robin approach to the questions with all the candidates being asked the same question at the same time. The board agreed to this. Chair Kinney passed out a list of possible questions. The board reviewed and discussed them. No time limit per question will be given. **MSC: DeWitt/Swolgaard: That an invitation be sent to the four candidates that have been selected as finalists to be interviewed at the February 28, 2019 special board meeting, that the interviews be conducted with the candidates together in public session, that the interviews work off the questions developed this evening, that other questions can be asked, and that after the interviews and any discussion, the board vote to offer the position to one of the four candidates.** Commissioner Swolgaard suggested the questions be rotated among the candidates so the same candidate does not always get the first question first. The board agreed to this since it would be fairer to the candidates. Chair Kinney then asked whether the board wanted to discuss the qualifications of the four finalists now. The board agreed it would be better to wait and allow the candidates to speak first during the interviews.

MEETING ADJOURNED to a break at 5:15 pm, with announced time to reconvene at 6:00 pm which is the published time for resuming the rest of the February 21, 2019 board meeting. **MEETING RECONVENED** at 6:00 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS No comments were provided.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS Comments were taken during the agenda item.

BOARD CONSENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Chair Kinney tabled approval of the minutes for the February 7, 2019 regular board meeting. Commissioner Pollock questioned whether the minutes accurately reflect some of what was said and wanted a copy of the audio recording. Other commissioners asked for the following revisions: 1) p. 4: change \$10,000 to \$10,000,000; 2) p. 4: add "on 2/28/29" after "special board meeting".

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS: MSC: DeWitt/Cross: 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 Amount	Pre-Approved
1/22/19	001 General Fund 300 Capital Improvement Fund	17787-17815	38,639.08	1/22/19
2/12/19	001 General Fund 300 Capital Improvement Fund 310 Land Acquisition Fund	17873-17897	50,860.14	2/14/19
2/19/19	001 General Fund 300 Capital Improvement Fund	17898-17948	48,249.85	2/15/19

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (continued)

FOLLOW-UP ON AQUATIC CENTER FEASIBILITY STUDY: Recreation Division Director Mark Benishek introduced Joe McRitchie with Coates Design Architects who provided an overview of their 1/17/19 board meeting presentation at which time the board was presented with six options for the site. Coates Design Architects determined the sixth option to be most feasible and developed it more fully. It can accommodate three pool sizes and allows for the repurposing the Ray Williamson Pool into a sports court. After reviewing cost estimates and taxpayer subsidies from the January 17 board meeting, Joe McRitchie presented a conceptual work plan outlining next steps. These include: 1) Presentation of the feasibility study to the School Board for their review and requirements; 2) Pre-design; 3) Funding; 4) Design, engineering, permitting; 5) Bid and construction. Questions and comments were taken. In response to a question about the mechanical space needed for solar power, it was noted that while solar would reduce the load on mechanical power it would not reduce the size of the mechanical area needed. It was also noted that geo-thermal is more expensive and it can take some time before a return is seen.

Tom Goodlin, island resident, encouraged the board to approve the feasibility study tonight and approve the project as soon as possible. He said the 2017 feasibility study indicated the Ray Williamson Pool needs repairs and will not last. He noted that while this is an expensive project, there is a unique opportunity now to acquire funds through the Kitsap Public Facilities District and they are interested in the 52-meter pool option. He urged the board to get started. There are community members willing to participate and this will give time to raise funds and work with the School District.

Paul Weber, island resident, encouraged the board to move forward with the project. While he understands it is a large amount of money, there is existing infrastructure, staff in place who can handle an addition to the existing structure, and great coaches who can grow programs if given more space. The reason for undertaking this project is the physical and mental well-being of children and adults in this community. He thinks there are a lot of people who will support the project, and that putting together a package that people will support is doable.

In response to a board question about how much more staff would be needed for a 52-meter pool, Mark Benishek said there would be an immediate need for of 2-5 additional lifeguard and custodial staff due to the larger pool size. As programs grow, he said additional fulltime staff could be added; these positions would be offset by more program revenues. In response to a board question, Executive Director Lande said the School District asked that there be no

presentation of the plan to the School Board until after the school bond election. Now that the bond has passed, arrangements are being made to make the presentation. It was noted that the pool project is tied to the School District's master plan currently being updated and that the master plan must accommodate the project if it is to move forward. Executive Director Lande said there are four issues related to the School District that must be considered: 1) Size and cost of project; 2) Amount of operational costs; 3) Code issues and lot coverage requirements; 4) Negotiation of an agreement. Terry Lande suggested the Capital Facilities Committee meet with staff to develop a timeline of next steps and then bring this to the full board.

Kirk Robinson, island resident/former commissioner, said it is important to remember that the pool discussion came out of the Sakai Park planning process and it might be a disservice to those invested in the potential uses for the park if the pool project moves forward too quickly, leaving behind any project for Sakai Park. He suggested the two projects be looked at in conjunction with each other so there is an awareness of the implications each has for the other.

It was noted by staff that the Sakai Park feasibility study is currently underway with Jones & Jones Architects and is expected to be done in several months. Executive Director Lande said his hope is that the two projects will be looked at side by side, so the board can make decisions while considering each. He also noted that if a pool does not work out for the School District site, it may be necessary to revisit the Sakai Park site as a possible location for a new pool.

MSC: Cross/Pollock: To accept the Coates Design Architects feasibility study for the Aquatic Center. The board expressed thanks to Coates Design for a great job.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:52 pm for a five-minute break. **MEETING RECONVENED** at 5:57 pm.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Park Services Division: Division Director Dan Hamlin said lots of clean-up is underway due to the large snowfall; he and staff attended recent meetings with City of BI staff and police that were very productive; recent vandalism in the Battle Point Park restroom was extensive; he has attended several Park District canine classes to provide information to class participants on dog policies, enforcement, and use of dogs in parks; the Dog Advisory Committee met and is continuing to look at the possibility of using under-utilized areas in parks for occasional off-leash use; the dog committee will bring a report to the board with their recommendation.

Recreation Division: Division Director Mark Benishek reviewed department highlights: there are 90 people in 4 walking groups; basketball open gym on Sunday evenings is growing and is run entirely with volunteers; Costco is a new sponsor of the mEgga Hunt; the snowshoe trips are a great hit; adult adaptive offerings have expanded into pottery; due to the recent snowstorm, the KPF pool presentation has been rescheduled to March 25.

Administrative Division: Senior Planner Perry Barrett said RCO did an inspection of the Hidden Cove Park dock and was impressed with the project; a routine letter was received from the Dept. of Ecology confirming Blakely Harbor Park will be a MTCA clean-up site; the road at Pritchard Park leading to the superfund site will wind back and forth taking out a number of significant trees; staff has contacted COBI in an effort to reduce the amount of trees coming down; efforts to obtain park zoning may be directed to a change in code versus the comprehensive plan. Executive Director Terry Lande said he had a good meeting with the BI Parks Foundation executive director; the Park District was closed several days due to snow; he commended staff who came in to plow and keep temperatures from falling too low at the Aquatic Center.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS:

February 28, 2019, 7 pm: Special board meeting to interview finalists for board position.

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:

- Commissioner DeWitt pointed out the new platform/bird blind at Blakely Harbor Park and mentioned he will be attending the annual retreat of the COBI Multi-Modal Transportation Advisory Committee.
- Commissioner Cross mentioned an IGWG meeting is coming up. Commissioner Kinney is the new board liaison to this group.
- Commissioner Swolgaard said the last Trails Advisory Committee meeting was cancelled, and that a work party will be held at Fairy Dell Park this weekend. He inquired into the status of the Blakely Bridge. Staff said the project will be going out to bid soon. Scheduling was too tight to meet the February fish window, so the next fish window is in August.
- Commissioner Swolgaard followed up on Terry Lande's earlier suggestion about having the Capital Facilities Committee meet with staff to develop a timeline of next steps for the Aquatic Center project. The board agreed that the committee should move forward with this and that there was no need for a motion since this is a responsibility the Capital Facilities Committee already has.
- Commissioner Swolgaard asked if the lid of the bunker at Sakai Park could be used for a pickleball court and was told obtaining a permit for this would be difficult. Executive Director Lande said he talked with the director of the United States Tennis Association last week who said they may be interested in contributing funds towards several new tennis courts, possibly at Strawberry Hill Park.
- Commissioner Kinney asked for an update on the IFS waiver program that was brought to the board's attention by an island resident at the 12/6/18 board meeting. Recreation Division Director Benishek said staff has been researching the program and has been in touch with the women who would like to see this service provided by the Park District. As part of their research, staff has contacted other park districts that participate in the IFS program and will bring a report to the board in several months.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:45 pm.

Elizabeth R. Shepherd
Terry M. Lande
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN
PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT

BY: _____

Jay C. Kinney

BY: _____

John Thomas Swolgaard

BY: _____

Kenneth R. DeWitt

BY: _____

Lee Cross

ATTEST: _____

Michael Pollock