

**City of Puyallup**  
**Parks, Recreation and Senior Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Puyallup Council Chambers**  
**Monday, July 8, 2013**  
**5:00 p.m.**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair Jeff Moss, Vice Chair Georga Prossick, Board members Bill Hilton, Mary Butler

**BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Keith Sherrill, Phil Schumock, Debbie Carling

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:** Recreation Administrator Sarah Harris, Activity Center Supervisor Doug McCormick, Pavilion Manager Dick Weber, Administrative Clerk Mary Winter, Associate Planner Chris Beale

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. John Earnest Berry III extended his thanks to the board for their support of the new park.

**CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES**

**Board Action:** A motion was made by Ms. Prossick, second by Ms. Butler, to accept the May 20, 2013 and June 10, 2013 Parks, Recreation and Senior Advisory Board minutes as presented. The motion passed 4-0.

**CONSIDERATIONS AND REQUESTS**

**Park and Open Space Comp Plan Update**

Associate Planner Chris Beale provided a short presentation and update on the Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) plan, provided draft survey questions, and requested input and approval from the board. He recapped the process explaining the PROS plan is an element of the City's Comprehensive Plan, and is approved by the state's Recreation Conservation Office. He noted the current park plan expires in 2014; however, it is being reviewed and updated by the board prior to the City Comprehensive Plan which expires in 2015.

Mr. Beale explained the draft survey questions were limited to approximately thirteen questions some of which had open-ended response areas. He pointed out that questions six and seven are key questions which refer to the satisfaction of the level of services. Questions such as these are required to determining the public's satisfaction with the level of service provided by the number, location and distribution of parks throughout the city.

Mr. Hilton suggested inserting a place for comments immediately after questions six and seven since those are key questions. A brief discussion ensued relating to the term used for water features in the parks and consensus was to use the generalized term, spray park, in the survey.

Board inquiries revolved around alternate ways for citizens to participate in the survey; Mr. Beale expressed hope to have the survey online in the next week and requested board approval to proceed.

**Board Action:** A motion was made by Mr. Hilton, second by Ms. Butler, to move forward with the questionnaire with board proposed amendments and that the board reviews the survey before publication. The motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Beale announced that the first open house for zone #1 parks is scheduled for July 25 at the Community Resource Center from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The drop-in open houses will be well advertised, and he anticipated approximately 125 attendees.

He explained that zone #1 generally covers the area of the valley floor and includes Grayland Park and Memorial Center; Sam Peach Park; the Skate Park; the Recreation Center and Sports Complex; Pioneer Park and Activity Center; and the Riverwalk Trail. He reviewed the current amenities of each zone #1 park and elaborated on planned future improvements to the zone #1 parks which include: Grayland Park and Memorial Center: replacement of the playground equipment; Sam Peach Park: addition of a covered picnic shelter; Skate Park: no planned improvements, but is hoping for input at the open house; Recreation Center: building exterior upgrades; Pioneer Park: a spray pad to replace the aging wading pool, and playground equipment replacement; and Riverwalk Trail. There are many potential future improvements proposed for the trail including connection of a missing segment between Veteran's Park and the 512 overpass; connection with the Foothills Trailhead; additional informational signage; a River Road Esplanade concept; and a bike/pedestrian bridge concept located at the confluence of the White and Puyallup Rivers.

Mr. Beale solicited comments, ideas, or suggestions from the board of other improvements not listed. Additional board conversation relating to Sam Peach Park included the possibility of removing the ball fields from that park and placing them elsewhere or creating a parking plan to alleviate neighborhood impacts for the three month baseball season. It was expressed it would be very difficult to lose that number of fields without having another option.

Regarding the Recreation Center facility, Mr. Beale said the most critical improvement was to repair the building exterior. Other improvements Mr. Beale noted were resurfacing tennis courts, playground equipment replacement and lighting upgrades. Mr. Hilton inquired as to the status of an earlier presentation to the board relating to covering the outdoor tennis courts to make them usable year round and attractive to tournament play, and Ms. Harris indicated she would check into the status of that proposal.

Mr. Beale expounded on the many potential future improvements for the Puyallup Riverwalk Trail explaining he had met several times with the Friends of Riverwalk on this subject. Mr. Beale provided a detailed Riverwalk Trail map showing planned and existing public access improvements. He noted the Planning Commission is currently updating the Shoreline Master Plan, including an at-grade trail access instead of the high-use vehicular Shaw Road Bridge.

Mr. Beale introduced two concepts for the trail: a River Road Esplanade and a footbridge that would connect the Riverwalk and Foothills Trails. The esplanade concept would include a consistent style of railings, benches, pavement type, and amenities to differentiate and enhance the area. Board response to the concept was favorable although many details would need to be worked out, and they felt the six-year plan should be kept in sight. Mr. Beale admitted it was roughly a 20-year concept for improvements; however, any private redevelopment in the area would include required trail frontage improvements which may help the concept become reality. The footbridge idea would probably be cost prohibitive; however, it can be placed in the plan which may provide leverage for grant funding. Concern was voiced to not set any unrealistic expectations. Mr. Beale stated it could be made clear in the plan that it would not be a CIP item in the near future.

Mr. Hilton suggested using the Puyallup Herald and/or the Puyallup Patch for advertising the open houses, and the citizen survey to encourage public involvement.

### **CIP Project Prioritization**

Mr. Moss summarized the prioritizations of projects made at the last meeting noting a majority of the 2013 Capital Improvement Project items were approved. The items included the Riverwalk Trail Phase 4; the Recreation Center exterior repair; land acquisition for a Riverwalk Trail easement; and Pioneer Park play equipment replacement. Ms. Harris added that a change to the 2013 prioritization included a request of \$550,000 for the design, purchase and installation of the Pioneer Park spray park and play equipment replacement. Ms. Harris confirmed the board's choice of the potable to surface water system for the Pioneer Park spray park. She also confirmed that the irrigation project at Manorwood Park was not approved, as it was felt a park plan should be in place before installation of an irrigation system.

Ms. Harris introduced the new Property and Facilities Manager, Mr. Deke Jones, to the board. Mr. Moss indicated that regular updates from him would be greatly appreciated by the board.

In response to a question, Ms. Harris pointed out that a new item on CIP list is the property acquisition to address the increased need for ball fields. This idea is a topic of the next City Council study session. She elaborated that there is not much land left in the area which is appropriate for this type of use. Ms. Harris pointed out deficiencies in the current PROS plan for soccer fields and regulation baseball fields. She expressed program limitations due to the lack of athletic fields in the city for soccer, lacrosse, ultimate Frisbee, football, etc. A brief discussion on this topic included a comment by Ms. Prossick, that she felt it was the board's duty to research and make recommendations to the council; however, Ms. Harris explained the topic was brought up by a council member and is only a discussion item at this time. In response to a question, Ms. Harris explained the reason for relinquishing use of the county's Lidford Field was due to the reduction of the Parks Department's seasonal part-time staffing.

Ms. Harris brought this to the board's attention in the event that this topic is mentioned at the upcoming parks open houses. She inquired if the board would support the council's discussion. Mr. Moss felt it was a worthy discussion for the council.

**Board Action:** A motion was made by Mr. Hilton, second by Ms. Prossick, to support the council's discussion of land acquisition for additional athletic fields, and offer to help in any way. The motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Moss indicated the board needed to continue working through the prioritization of the parks and recreation CIP projects and to plan out for the 2014-2019 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan. Ms. Harris confirmed there needs to be a proposed CIP budget. Mr. Moss suggested continuing with scheduling study sessions to discuss the CIP items in depth.

Regarding the spray park, Ms. Harris is communicating with two companies, Vortex Aquatic Structures International Inc. and Waterplay Solutions Corp. about their products. She provided informational emails from them as well as a citizen comment related to the spray park.

Mr. Moss requested clarification on the boards' decision of installing only one spray park, the location, and the type of system. Brief discussion ensued and consensus was that Pioneer Park was the most sensible location because there is a current water feature that needs to be replaced; there is already available parking, something which Bradley Lake Park lacks; and the mid-grade system was chosen because of the recycle/re-use aspect.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **Recreation Report**

Ms. Harris highlighted the athletic programs which have concluded; detailed the activities of the ongoing day camps including the help of ten teen volunteer counselors; and the recent use of Facebook marketing of Bradley Lake Park and the Summer Concert Series.

### **Senior Activities Report**

Activity Center Supervisor Doug McCormick reported on several June activities including the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program; Learning to play Mah Jongg; Northwest Adventures trip; and the Computer Users' Group. Mr. McCormick elaborated on the USDA and State of Washington Nutrition Program explaining that it provides \$40 worth of vouchers to qualifying seniors to redeem at local farmers markets, roadside stands and community agriculture programs.

### **Parks Report**

Ms. Harris outlined many tasks performed by the parks maintenance crews such as: various playground inspections and repairs; irrigation maintenance at Woodbine Cemetery; fertilization of ball fields; replacement of backstop padding at the Recreation Center field; removal of a cottonwood tree blocking the Riverwalk Trail; and placement of gravel at the Veterans Park parking area.

### **Upcoming Events**

Mr. McCormick noted upcoming events at the Activity Center: AARP defensive driving classes; the monthly Pancake breakfast; free diabetes testing; and the Activity Center's annual summer picnic.

Ms. Harris indicated the following events would be forthcoming through the Recreation Department: the wading pool opening; the Tuesday noon and Thursday night concerts in the park; and the July 20<sup>th</sup> movie and concert event at Bradley Lake Park. The day camps and specialty camps are currently ongoing; and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Season Adult Softball begins July 21<sup>st</sup>. She also noted the upcoming open house for zone #1 parks on July 25, and the city council meeting on July 16.

### **BOARD COMMENTS – FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Mr. Moss commented on the recent parking lot paving at Veterans Park noting it looked to be a professional job; however, it seemed the materials used were of poor quality. He expressed concern that the board was not apprised of this action as they have been with all other aspects of the park. Ms. Harris was unsure of the progression of this action and didn't think it was meant to be permanent; however, she would check into it. Mr. Hilton pointed out the effective and efficient manner in which the Veterans Park lot was paved noting the use of readily available (low cost) materials and the timely manner in which staff completed the job.

#### **Future agenda items:**

Mr. Moss suggested that discussion of additional parking for Bradley Lake Park be added to an upcoming agenda. Ms. Harris indicated she would do some research and suggested a board tour of Bradley Lake Park to examine the various sites for a concert stage concrete slab; a splash park; and a restroom. She also suggested stopping at Wildwood Park to view the proposed dog park area.

**Board Action:** A motion was made by Ms. Butler, second by Ms. Prossick to adjourn. The motion passed 4-0.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 6:34 p.m.