

**City of Puyallup
Parks, Recreation and Senior Advisory Board
Special Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 23, 2013
5:15 p.m.**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Jeff Moss, Vice Chair Georga Prossick, Board members Debbie Carling, Phil Schumock, Bill Hilton, and Keith Sherrill

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Mary Butler

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

CONSIDERATIONS AND REQUESTS

Parks CIP Prioritization

Ms. Harris reviewed the budget fund amounts of a typical year for the Parks Capital Improvement Projects, explaining that approximately \$550,000 comes from impact fees and sales tax which is dedicated to parks. Ms. Harris explained that for 2013 there was approximately \$1.7 million for the Riverfront Trail Phase IV; however, since the project was scaled back, the board recommended and council approved a re-allocation of \$550,000 for the Pioneer Park spray park and playground equipment replacement. This left \$1.15 million for the trail project; however, the trail project is expected to cost approximately \$400,000 leaving \$750,000 to roll into next year for a total of \$1.265 million available for 2014 Capital Improvement Projects.

Ms. Harris reviewed the remaining items on the prioritization list and expressed the need to have a finalized priority list from the board for the 2014 budget process. She presented two ideas suggested by Public Works Director Rob Andreotti: to include an amount for funding small parks projects that arise during the year; and creation of a revolving fund to purchase easements as they become available along the Puyallup River from the Milwaukee Bridge to the Highway 512 overpass for future trail improvements. Ms. Harris updated the board regarding the Recreation Center repair costs, indicating no cost estimate was available yet as no bids were received from the recent request for qualifications (RFQ) process. Property Manager Deke Jones will separate the forensic bid from the construction bid and re-advertise the RFQ. She noted there was \$270,000 allocated for it and will probably need to be a phased project.

2014

Board consensus was that the Recreation Center repairs were a very high priority for 2014. In response to a question of how much of the budgeted \$270,000 might be spent this year, Ms. Harris estimated the scope of work may be approximately \$70,000; however, did not believe any contract would be completed this year. She explained that with the rollover of \$270,000 from 2013 and the \$200,000 budgeted for 2014, the final allocation came to \$470,000.

Board consensus was to allocate \$470,000 in 2014 for Recreation Center repairs.

Mr. Moss proposed that the Wildwood Park dog park be moved up to 2014 due to the excitement, need, and support to start an initial phase of the dog park. Mr. Hilton concurred and stated a dog

park on South Hill has the support of many citizens. Discussion ensued identifying the initial materials needed were fencing, grass, and parking and the estimated costs of those materials. Associate Planner Chris Beale estimated fencing the full dimensions of the proposed park at approximately \$250,000; however, suggested to fence a smaller area for \$100,000 and increase the size of the park in the future. Mr. Schumock volunteered to obtain cost estimates for leveling the designated area. It was mentioned that necessary street improvements could be delayed to a future phase. Ms. Harris noted there may be grants for improvements once the park was built.

Board consensus was to allocate \$300,000 for Phase One of the Wildwood Dog Park.

A brief discussion ensued relating to the suggested small projects reserve and Ms. Harris ensured that staff would track all project expenditures so as not to cut into the maintenance funds. Mr. Moss favored the idea of having a fund for small projects.

Consensus was to allocate \$50,000 for park equipment and small projects.

Mr. Moss felt a second spray park at Bradley Lake should be placed as a 2015 priority as he felt it would be in big demand by the community. Ms. Prossick felt it would take the pressure off the downtown park, but was concerned about the cost of additional restrooms. Mr. Schumock inquired if 2015 was the right time for a spray park, and suggested it be pushed out on the schedule and adjusted later. Mr. Hilton questioned if the addition of a third restroom at Bradley Lake Park would eliminate the need of a third restroom at Pioneer Park. Ms. Harris responded that the restroom location at Bradley Lake elicits concern because of the potential danger to children crossing the parking lot to get to it. She thought the location of the restroom could be rearranged at Pioneer Park. Ms. Harris expressed concern about parking problems when the baseball games and spray park use overlap, but didn't think more parking was needed initially, but could possibly be added in the future. Mr. Moss concurred with Ms. Harris' idea to plan for additional parking, but not necessarily use it.

Consensus was to allocate \$100,000 for the Bradley Lake spray park design.

The board discussed the opportunity and urgency of purchasing park property in the northeast section (Shaw Road area) of the city. It was pointed out there are no community parks in that area and the general consensus was to put park property acquisition in the CIP. Mr. Hilton encouraged that any park built be tied to the trail systems in that location. After additional discussion on this topic, Ms. Harris expressed that priorities were needed now and that this topic could be reviewed through the CIP process next year and the priorities could be adjusted then. She commented this process was accomplishing valuable improvements and the potential for future or long-term projects. She noted a lack of dedicated soccer fields owned by the city.

Noting that property acquisition funding should be visualized and planned for, the board discussed how to allocate funds for future park land and authorized the parks administrator to look at projects, prioritize and assign funds as they are available.

Board consensus was to allocate \$300,000 for a park property acquisition revolving fund.

Mr. Sherrill inquired about a restroom facility at Veteran's Park, and why the recent conceptual presentation of Centennial Park was not on the Capital Projects list. Ms. Harris indicated grant funding is being sought for a restroom facility at Veteran's Park and others felt a restroom at Rainier Woods Park should be funded before one for the newly created Veteran's Park.

The following additional 2014 priorities were established by consensus of the board.

Clarks Creek North tennis courts refinishing \$90,000

In response to a question by Ms. Prossick relating to the proposed materials and the issue of the park's high water table, Ms. Harris indicated she would provide information on the replacement materials being considered.

Decoursey Park playground equipment replacement \$150,000**Rainier Woods Park restroom \$100,000**

Ms. Harris suggested tabling the Bradley Lake Park stage item due to the low attendance at the 2013 Bradley Lake concerts and noted she would invite the concert promoter to attend a board meeting regarding next year's concerts.

2015**Bradley Lake Park spray park and restroom \$450,000****Recreation Center Exterior \$100,000****2016****Recreation Center exterior \$200,000****Bradley Lake Park parking \$250,000****Riverwalk Trail restroom \$100,000****2017****Property acquisition \$420,000****2018****Skate park improvements \$250,000****2019**

No specific projects were identified; however, Ms. Harris was authorized to include projects based on available funds for remaining items such as trail design and development, and small park projects such as Manorwood Park.

A lengthy discussion ensued on the disrepair of and the cost to repair the Recreation Center. It was confirmed that Facilities Manager Deke Jones is preparing a plan on city-owned facilities, along with a repair and maintenance schedule.

Discussion of Centennial Park ensued and Mr. Moss noted concern about taking other people's property, but was reminded it would be purchased only when it becomes available. The supporters of this concept want to see it returned to the Comprehensive Plan; however, Mr. Moss stated it was a want, not a need.

Board Comments – Future Agenda Items

Ms. Harris announced a scheduled meeting with the splash pad designer on October 7th, and inquired as to the board's preference for the October meeting. Board consensus was to change the meeting date from October 14th to October 7th to meet with the designer, and continue with the regular meeting alleviating two separate meetings in two weeks. She noted public comment on the Pioneer Park improvements would be taken at two different meetings, the first at the October 7th meeting. She assured that the Library Foundation was aware of the funds that may be needed and would invite a library representative to the October 7th meeting.

Mr. Hilton offered to contact Mr. Robert Slaughter relating to the prioritization of \$300,000 for a dog park at Wildwood Park and relay the board doesn't think that amount is enough. Mr. Hilton would inquire if the dog group, Big Dog Love, or dog park advocates would be willing to provide other funding resources.

ADJOURNMENT: 6:50 p.m.