

**City of Puyallup  
Parks, Recreation and Senior Advisory Board  
Meeting Minutes  
Monday, November 4, 2013  
5:00 p.m.**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair Jeff Moss, Vice Chair Georga Prossick, Mary Butler, Debbie Carling, Bill Hilton, Keith Sherrill, Phil Schumock

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

**PRESENTATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Bob Nielson spoke about the concerts in the park program and the inequity of the scheduled events between Pioneer Park and Bradley Lake Park. He provided the unequal statistics and pointed out that none of the Noon Tunes programs were in Bradley Lake Park, noting the large number of children that use the park due to the closeness to their homes. He shared that two years ago he took it upon himself to individually publicize the Bradley Lake Park concerts, and volunteered to assist in achieving a more equitable distribution of concerts between park locations.

**Pioneer Park Project Update**

Mr. Brian Patnode from Bruce Dees and Associates reviewed the preliminary program including the playground structure and spray park details and noted the potential project budget increase from a Kiwanis donation proposal. He explained both the playground and spray park are intended to have two-zone areas to meet age-appropriate needs. The existing wading pool footprint and alternative location options were provided for the board's review. Mr. Patnode reviewed the time schedule of the project, explaining that by the end of November a final horizontal layout should be in place and presented to council. He further explained that construction details would be developed starting in December and continuing through February, and that construction would begin in April.

**Spray Park**

Mr. Patnode reviewed the progress of the spray park design and summarized the comments from the first meeting. An overview of the process included the existing site and structures surrounding the park, existing utilities, the solar aspect, soils, vehicular and pedestrian circulation, parking areas, events, significant trees, artwork, and restroom facilities. He presented the four options studied to reconfigure the playground and the spray park locations and concluded that keeping the current playground location and placing the spray park in the northern portion of Pioneer Park was the best option.

He acknowledged the board's and community's preference of a natural theme for the spray park and showed images of natural looking rock and stone features used elsewhere. He also presented some modern, formal, and sculptural feature options, noting designers were avoiding powder-coated, colorful features, although the two types could be combined if desired. Designers focused on one central focal feature or possibly two, one for each age level, and showed examples of a variety of spray types available. He commented on a potential option to have it lit in the evening with a low flow feature to enhance the experience of Pioneer Park.

Mr. Patnode reviewed three proposed concepts. The first, Option A, contained an older kids area near Elm Street and a younger children's area closer to the activity center roundabout, each with its own spray feature. The second, Option B, was further north with one central feature between age areas. He noted Options A and B both have buffers between parking areas and the spray park. The third concept is on a north/south axis with the younger children's feature adjacent to the restroom and the older kids located to the north. He noted Option C has entry access on the east and west sides.

Mr. Schumock expressed concern that a noticeable separation to the park is not caused by the access walkways and inquired about the different equipment's lifespans. Mr. Patnode explained the lifespans varied between products with concrete lasting about 50 years, and stainless steel features lasting about 20 years. He noted it all depends on how far out the city wants to plan.

Ms. Prossick inquired as to how the age levels would stay separated. Mr. Patnode replied that typically the younger children are intimidated by the larger kids' features and stay in their own area.

With respect to the project budget, Mr. Sherrill inquired if ground features were more economical than upright structures. Mr. Patnode confirmed ground sprays were more economical and explained that water conservation was a high priority with the ground to wastewater system; hence, the use of designs that include a large main feature and more ground sprays. Mr. Sherrill expressed the desire to keep the spray park budget at \$550,000 and use the other \$50,000 for other projects.

Mr. Moss reminded that this project is not the only spray park but rather one, and cautioned this project doesn't have to entail or use all suggested ideas. He liked the new northern location and not encroaching into the concerts in the park area. He concurred with Mr. Sherrill regarding the budget and to keep it at \$550,000. He also felt the \$50,000 saved by the Kiwanis donation on this project could be used for other CIP items such as vandalism repair.

Ms. Butler liked the idea of incorporating light features and commented that night lighting may prevent vandalism. Mr. Patnode noted lighting could be on the upright features or in the seating walls.

### Playground

Mr. Patnode affirmed the collaboration with Library Director Tim Wadham to integrate an early literacy theme into the playground features including singing, talking, reading, playing, and writing. He noted Dr. Wadham's recommendation of the Burgeon Group products and would work to incorporate one of their outdoor products. Mr. Patnode stated the primary purpose was to replace the equipment in the existing playground ring and renovate the play area surface to a durable poured-in-place system replacing the current wood chips. He also mentioned adding play space or story time space as well as replacing some damaged pavers and benches. Another idea was to create a connection between city hall and the library and the opportunity to create a gateway from the library to the play area.

Mr. Hilton pointed out the lack of standard play features such as slides and swings; however, he liked the idea of incorporating counting and other learning characteristics into the configuration.

Ms. Darice Hermann expressed thanks to the designers for including borders to contain the children with an obvious parameter and expressed that visibility is very important in a spray park setting.

Deputy Mayor John Knutsen suggested considering a north / south positioning for the spray ground instead of the east / west direction which creates a barrier between the grassy area and the rest of the park.

Councilmember John Hopkins suggested placing the spray ground to the northern area so it doesn't impact the areas for the concerts in the park; pointed out that a lot of the parking areas would already be used, and encouraged there be a clear access to city hall parking.

Mr. Bob Nielson voiced concern over the possibility that the kids would use the library restrooms.

Ms. Heather Shadko expressed her preference of Option A for the spray park with the two separate areas, the picnic area and a shady area. Regarding the playground ideas, she liked the features presented although she echoed Mr. Hilton's comments and felt the classic toys, monkey bars, slides, etc. and active toys were missing. She also voiced a safety concern over the big silver dome feature.

## **CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

### **Approval of the October 7, 2013 minutes**

**Board Action:** A motion was made by Mr. Schumock, second by Ms. Prossick to approve the October 7, 2013 minutes as presented. The motion passed 7-0.

## **CONSIDERATIONS AND REQUESTS**

### **2014 Concerts in the Park Series**

Ms. Harris provided a draft of a 2014 Summer Concert series schedule for review and discussion. She indicated she met with the talent agency, Pacific Rim Promotions, to discuss how to increase attendance at the Bradley Lake Park concerts and how to get local talent incorporated into some concerts. Board discussion included suggestions to discontinue scheduling two full bands on one night due to the difficulty to manage set up etc., moving the heavily attended popular concerts from Pioneer Park to Bradley Lake Park and incorporating other family oriented activities to draw people to Bradley Lake Park for the noon time concerts.

Mr. Moss expressed appreciation for Mr. Neilson's attendance and enthusiasm for more equitable distribution of concerts throughout the parks; however, expressed a need for assurance that the attendance numbers warrant the move. He liked the idea of moving The Afrodisiacs concert and some of the noon concerts to Bradley Lake Park. He admitted advertising for the Bradley Lake Park concerts was not as prominent as the Pioneer Park concerts, and suggested placing promotional flyers in the local stores, restaurants, etc. He also was partial to the idea of booking local acts and/or acoustic acts and suggested picking one concert date to showcase local talent, and offered to help fulfill this idea in any way.

Board discussion ensued and board members suggested the following ideas to better market the Bradley Lake Park concerts: moving the larger drawing acts to Bradley Lake; getting the word out

to the neighboring apartments, schools, Pierce College and the YMCA, use of social media, and possibly utilizing the billboard at South Hill Mall.

### **Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan Update**

Associate Planner Chris Beale briefly reviewed the requirements of the plan updates. He briefed the board about the open house and noted there were approximately 80 attendees mostly interested in the Deadman's Pond property. Mr. Beale reviewed how the city acquired the property through the conservation futures program and reported that most people in attendance voiced concern over any development of that area, including any trail improvements.

Mr. Beale announced the next park open house would be held at Pierce College on November 21st, at 5:30 p.m. and would include four major parks: Wildwood Park, Bradley Lake Park, Manorwood Park, and Rainier Woods Park. Mr. Beale reviewed each park's planned future developments as being: the dog park and an additional play structure at Wildwood; a spray park and enhanced trail connections at Bradley Lake Park; irrigation improvements at Manorwood Park; and a restroom facility at Rainier Woods. Improvements suggested for Wildwood Park were a more defined trail, basic trail maintenance and replacement of a weathered memorial; and for Bradley Lake Park a more defined east-west trail, a concert stage, and a restroom.

In conclusion, Mr. Beale reviewed the tight timeline for the Parks Recreation and Open Space plan, noting the survey would conclude in December and his goal to provide the final results at the December board meeting. He pointed out that the finalized plan must be submitted in March 2014.

In response to a question by Ms. Prossick, Ms. Harris assured that staff would address the maintenance related comments received at the open house relating to Clarks Creek Park and Decoursey Park.

Mr. Moss spoke of his attendance at the recent open house and noted he did not hear any adversarial citizen comments about making improvements near Deadman's Pond. He felt as stewards of the property next to the pond, it would not be right to ignore it or develop it into a huge park; however, would prefer to see a community group, similar to Friends of Decoursey Pond, be organized where the city could be an ally not an adversary.

In response to some written citizen comments, Mr. Beale explained that the Western Pond Turtle is an endangered species in the state, thus he contacted the state Fish & Wildlife Department and found out they captured the one male turtle two years ago and re-positioned it at a Lakewood recovery site. He inquired if they were interested in using Deadman's Pond as a recovery pond; however, they had concerns that it was not secured from residential access. Mr. Beale explained that in the property stewardship agreement it is agreed that the city would actively maintain it.

### **Naming Rights Proposal for Pioneer Park Spray Park**

Ms. Harris explained that the city received a proposal from the Kiwanis Club of Puyallup relating to the naming rights for the Pioneer Park Spray Park. She provided the city's policy for information and inquired if the board was interested in making a recommendation to the city council. Ms. Harris pointed out that in 1922 the wading pool was donated by the Kiwanis Club and they are

interested in continuing their connection to Pioneer Park by contributing to the proposed spray park in consideration of having the naming rights of the facility.

In response to a question, Ms. Harris explained there is no set policy on a standard amount for a naming rights endorsement.

**Board Action:** A motion was made by Mr. Hilton, second by Mr. Sherrill that the Kiwanis Club's proposal of a \$50,000 donation toward the project and naming rights to the spray park, be recommended and forwarded to the city council for their consideration. The motion passed 7-0.

### **Fruitland Mutual Property – Possible Land Donation**

Ms. Harris explained the city was approached by Fruitland Mutual Water Company about donating a piece of property that is in excess of its needs. Associate Planner Beale described the location of the parcel of land which is adjacent to Decoursey Park noting that it is located along the trail although it's not really accessible due to the slope, and that it is not fenced. Mr. Beale felt it would be a nice addition to the park.

**Board Action:** A motion was made by Mr. Schumock, second by Ms. Prossick to accept a parcel of the property adjacent to Decoursey Park from Fruitland Mutual Water Company. The motion passed, 7-0.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **Senior Activities Report – October 2013**

Activities Center Supervisor Doug McCormick reviewed a snippet of the activities that occurred through the center during October. Activities included a trip to Costco for flu, shingles, and pneumonia vaccinations, a facility tour and lunch at the deli; a trip to Port Angeles for the Crab and Seafood Festival; the annual Aging in Place Volunteer Fair and the Holiday Craft Bazaar.

### **Recreation Report - October 2013**

Ms. Harris reported on the variety of fall youth sports programs that are in full swing; the Toddler Campus Preschool's activities; the annual Haunted Hustle 5k/10k fun run; the huge success of the inaugural Cobweb Carnival co-sponsored by the Foursquare Church; and the success of the new registration software. She also reported the park hours ordinance was approved by the city council at their October 15<sup>th</sup> meeting as recommended and will be effective November 14, 2013.

### **Parks & Facilities Report – October 2013**

Ms. Harris reviewed the list of tasks done in October by the parks maintenance crews and highlighted the: irrigation project at Decoursey ball field; Bradley Lake Park graffiti cover-up; replacement of two concrete foundations; and construction of a footing base for the Veterans Park flag pole. She reported that four proposals were received for the Analysis and Repair of the Recreation Center Exterior, and a company should be selected soon.

### **Dog park information/Cost estimates**

Ms. Harris shared the information put together by the Parks Lead Ron Orchard relating to costs for the Wildwood Park Dog Park. He estimated the volume of materials needed to prepare the land/soil/grass; costs for chain link fencing and amenities; and other site considerations such as

water availability, storm drainage, driveway access, and parking. Ms. Harris felt the estimations were for a smaller scale park than the board anticipated and thus were on the lower side.

**Upcoming Events – November 2013**

**Senior Activity Center Events** – Mr. McCormick featured the Monthly Pancake Breakfast, a Spa, Shop & Hop trip; Cooking for diabetics; Seattle Symphony Concert; and the wellness program featuring fall prevention tips as activities for the month of November.

**Recreation Programs and Events** – Ms. Harris announced the November 11<sup>th</sup> Veterans Day Program would begin at 1:00 p.m. at Pioneer Park Pavilion. She also highlighted the upcoming Northwest Sinfonietta concert and a Pet First Aid Class.

**BOARD COMMENTS – FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Ms. Butler commented on the large amount of vandalism happening at Bradley Lake Park and requested that the issue be put on a future agenda for discussion. Mr. Hilton suggested that a representative from the parks department and the police department attend for that discussion.

**Board Action:** A motion was made by Ms. Prossick, second by Mr. Hilton to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 7-0.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 6:56 p.m.