

**CITY OF BELLEVUE
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday
January 9, 2007
6:00 p.m.

Council Conference Room
(Conference Room 1E-112)
Bellevue City Hall
Bellevue, Washington

BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Keeney, Vice-Chair Bennett¹, Boardmembers Aron², Karle, Maxim, Roland, White

COUNCILMEMBER PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Chelminiak

PARKS STAFF PRESENT: Shelley Brittingham, Patrick Foran, Nancy Harvey, Paul Inghram (PCD), Glenn Kost, Shelley Marelli, Terry Smith, Cathy VonWald

MINUTES TAKER: Michelle Cash

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Keeney at 6:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Boardmember Maxim and second by Boardmember White to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Boardmember White and second by Boardmember Maxim to approve the November 14, 2006 Regular Meeting Minutes of the Parks & Community Services Board. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

¹ Arrived at 6:10 p.m.

² Departed at 7:25 p.m.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

5. CHAIR COMMUNICATION

Chair Keeney reviewed the significant amount of opportunities for the Parks & Community Services Board in 2007. He challenged boardmembers to take a more proactive role within the community. In addition, he discussed the outcomes from a brainstorming strategy session, which included a community involvement strategy and speaker's bureau.

6. BOARD COMMUNICATION

Boardmember Karle received the lighting diagrams for the Crossroads Plan and was quite pleased with the layout. He also assisted at the North Bellevue Community Center shelter during the recent power outage.

Boardmember Roland attended the Bel-Red Corridor task force meeting as well as volunteered at the North Bellevue Community Center during the holidays. In addition, she attended a performance at the Bellevue Youth Theatre and the Garden D'Lights. She commented that both were spectacular events.

Boardmember Aron enjoyed the Seattle Thunderbirds event at the Bellevue Ice Rink.

Boardmember Maxim attended the Bel-Red Corridor task force meeting. He also visited the Garden D'Lights. Boardmember Maxim expressed his concerns with a persistent camper in Wilburton Hill Park. He would like this issue addressed and volunteered to discuss the situation in further detail. Boardmember Maxim also discussed some problematic areas in Wilburton Hill Park with overgrown ivy and suggested working in these areas during the Arbor Day event or another volunteer activity.

Boardmember White visited the Garden D'Lights and concurred with the other boardmembers—the event was spectacular!

Chair Keeney volunteered at the North Bellevue Community Center events during the holidays. He also attended the one year anniversary celebration at the South Bellevue Community Center and participated in the most recent Crossroads Plan meeting.

7. CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS:

Deputy Mayor Chelminiak reported that the budget was passed. There is money for challenge grants as well as downtown open space. He added that a new ordinance will be passed shortly to deal with noise and amplified noises. The old ordinance was dismissed due to a technicality.

Deputy Mayor Chelminiak commended the city on the quick response during the recent windstorm. One area that needs further review is how to deal with senior home care and the special needs population who may need sheltering.

8. CONSENT ITEMS:

None

9. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

A. Network on Aging Update

Cathy VonWald gave an update on the Bellevue Network on Aging. In addition, she summarized the steps that have taken place thus far. The committee consists of 15 members from a vast cross section of professions. In addition, three subcommittees have been formed to discuss a focus and work plan for 2007. The committee meets on the first Thursday of each month and is open to the public. Mr. Smith added that part of the program's evolution is to transition the North Bellevue Community Center from being a Senior Center to all community centers being recognized as providing senior services.

B. Crossroads Plan

Mr. Inghram recapped the process that has taken place to develop the long-range plan and principles for the Crossroads Plan. There was a public meeting on November 30, 2006 for this project, and there will be another public hearing on January 17, 2007 with the Planning Commission.

Mr. Kost reviewed the principle elements outlined in the plan.

There was a general discussion regarding the open space connections for the Crossroads Plan. In addition, Boardmember Aron was hesitant to approve a recommendation prior to the public hearings. Mr. Kost reviewed the public hearing process. If any dramatic changes are made to the plan, Mr. Kost will submit the changes to the board.

Boardmember Roland requested that the urban trails information be expanded. She suggested linking the information to community health (i.e. urban challenge course). Boardmember Maxim used the example of the Burke Gilman Trail.

Motion by Boardmember Maxim and second by Vice-Chair Bennett to approve the elements outlined below:

- 1. Long Range Organizing Principle #1 (Park Connections and Interface):** When development occurs adjacent to the park, it should provide physical and visual connectivity to the park where appropriate and enhance the park edge (including the five bullets further explaining this principle);
- 2. Long Range Organizing Principle #2 (3rd bullet: Pedestrian and Gathering Places):** supporting the concept of an urban trail linking adjacent areas, the shopping center and the park;
- 3. Long Range Organizing Principle #3 (2nd bullet: Differentiated Streets):** supporting the “greening” of 160th Ave. and NE 15th St. to extend the character of Crossroads Park, and to provide gateway features at their connections to 156th and NE 8th.
- 4. Near to Mid Range Development Program (Terraced Open Space and Park Connections):** supporting the concept of a broad open space connection to Crossroads Park just south of Circuit City;
- 5. Near to Mid Range Development Program (Mixed-use Development and Upper Level Park Connection):** supporting the concept of linking the development south of the terraced open space to Crossroads Park; and
- 6. Proposed Comprehensive Plan Policy Amendments 3, 4, 5, and 7** that support the principles identified above.

It is recommended that the verbiage regarding urban trails be expanded. It is also recommended that as the density of the area increases, so will the open spaces.

At the question, motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Motion by Vice-Chair Bennett and second by Boardmember Maxim to approve the inclusion of the following projects into the next update of the Parks & Open Space Plan:

- 1. Improvements to Crossroads Park that incorporate the “terraced open space and project connection” into the adjacent Community Center, parking lot and west edge of the park; and**
- 2. Trail and pathway improvements to connect pathways completed as part of adjacent private development.**

At the question, motion carried unanimously (7-0).

C. Windstorm Response

Mr. Foran reviewed the Parks & Community Services impacts and response during the windstorm. He commended the City for the efforts made. Mr. Foran reviewed the process that takes place in an emergency situation.

There was a brief overview of the storm damage. In addition, there was a general discussion regarding the shelters that were set up and a few situations with Overlake Hospital releasing patients to the shelter areas. Further discussions need to occur with Overlake Hospital to accommodate discharged patients during emergency situations.

Bellevue's Home Repair Program may help qualifying homeowners to make necessary repairs.

D. Board Involvement

Chair Keeney reiterated the mission of the board and challenged boardmembers to become more active within the community. He reviewed the various Parks Department Advisory Boards and encouraged boardmembers to become more active with these boards.

In addition, Chair Keeney distributed information regarding a Park Board Speakers Bureau program. The ultimate goal of the program is to be an advocate for the department.

Boardmember Roland gave a presentation to the California Economic Development Council that could be adapted to the Speaker's Bureau program. She will forward the information to Ms. Brittingham.

Chair Keeney requested that boardmembers bring a list of activities they want to get involved in to the next board meeting.

Boardmember Roland suggested incorporating the segment she and Boardmember Aron did for B-TV into the Speakers Bureau presentation.

Boardmember Karle has had a significant amount of experience with presentations and offered his resources to assist anyone with their presentation skills.

10. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Foran reported that the waterfront Master Plan may be on the upcoming Council agenda. Ms. Harvey will notify the boardmembers if this occurs.

Mr. Foran also reported that the Garden D'Lights was a huge success. A parking management company was hired to assist with the event. Attendance at the event increased from 80,000 in 2005 to approximately 120,000 people in 2006.

11. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Public follow-up
- B. Boardmember committee/liaison reports

Boardmember Roland reported that there will be a public meeting on February 15, 2007 for the Bel-Red Corridor Task Force. Recommendations will be made in March or April.

12. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Future agenda items

13. OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Staff Reports
- B. CIP Project Report
- C. Memo from staff re Kelsey Creek West Tributary
- D. Letter from Interlaken Trailblazers Volkssport Club
- E. Information from Bellevue Youth Theatre Foundation to City Council

14. INFORMATION

- A. List of upcoming Parks special events

Chair Keeney requested the list of upcoming Parks special events be listed through the 15th of the following month.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Boardmember White and second by Boardmember Maxim to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).