

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

Tuesday
April 10, 2007
6:00 p.m.

Council Conference Room
(Conference Room 1E-120)
Bellevue City Hall
Bellevue, Washington

BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Keeney, Vice-Chair Bennett, Boardmembers Karle, Maxim¹, Roland, White

BOARDMEMBER ABSENT: Boardmember Aron

PARKS STAFF PRESENT: Robin Cole, Dan DeWald, Patrick Foran, Nancy Harvey, Glenn Kost, Terry Smith

ALSO PRESENT: Mike Bergstrom (PCD), Mike Ingram (Transportation), Kevin McDonald (Transportation)

MINUTES TAKER: Michelle Cash

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Keeney at 6:01 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Boardmember White and second by Vice-Chair Bennett to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Boardmember White and second by Vice-Chair Bennett to approve the March 13, 2007 Regular Meeting Minutes of the Parks & Community Services Board. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

¹ Arrived at 7:11 p.m.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

5. CHAIR COMMUNICATION:

Chair Keeney thanked Boardmember Roland and Karle for working on the Speaker's Bureau project. Boardmember Karle will give his presentation at the next board meeting.

6. BOARD COMMUNICATION:

Boardmember Roland attended the Bel-Red Corridor Task Force meeting.

Chair Keeney commented that he saw the Meydenbauer Bay Planning Project discussion on BTV and expressed his enthusiasm in representing the board on this project.

Vice-Chair Bennett called attention to the April 9, 2007 front page article in the *Seattle Times* regarding making Bellevue a more pedestrian-friendly City.

7. CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS:

None

8. CONSENT ITEMS:

None.

9. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

A. Meydenbauer Bay Planning Project Update

Mr. Bergstrom reviewed the planning process for accomplishing the Meydenbauer Bay Park Planning Project, co-led by the Parks & Community Services Department and the Department of Planning & Community Development. The project is being viewed as a community-wide asset.

Ms. Cole reviewed the timelines for the project. The project will be implemented through various phases. Ms. Cole noted that within the next few months, the Parks Board will be asked to give a recommendation to the Council to endorse the general project approach set forth in the described memo. She added that the goal is to have the Park Master Plan finalized by June 2008.

Mr. Bergstrom summarized the Planning Principles associated with the project. There are particular themes that tie into the principles (i.e., the quality and standards of the parks).

The Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan Steering Committee members were reviewed, which includes Chair Keeney as a committee member and Park Board liaison. The first Steering Committee meeting will be held April 19, 2007.

The specific properties within the plan were discussed. In addition, the ownership status of these properties was also reviewed. Mr. Bergstrom reviewed the zoning map which depicted these properties.

B. Great Streets

Mr. Ingram reviewed the vision and framework of the “Great Streets” initiative for downtown. The project will develop design guidance for streets in downtown so that development of street corridors and frontages carries forward the urban design vision for downtown articulated in the Downtown Implementation Plan.

There will be five key corridors for the “Great Streets” project. Implementation for the project is expected in late 2007 or early 2008.

In conjunction with the development of conceptual design plans and design guidelines, the initiative will work to identify public art opportunities and an update of the street tree plan and landscape standards for downtown.

Boardmember Keeney expressed his concern that the project may not provide incentives for existing property owners to adopt the new guidelines.

The subareas for the project were also discussed (i.e. areas north of City Center).

C. Bel-Red Project Update/Great Streams

Mr. McDonald provided an overview of the Bel-Red Corridor Steering Committee’s recent direction on developing a preliminary preferred alternative, which was derived from Alternative 3. The major change/addition to Alternative 3 was the inclusion of the light rail station, with the final recommendation of four light rail stations. Other changes include changes to housing and arts as well as transportation. A new map is being created and will be presented to the Steering Committee on April 25, 2007.

Boardmember Roland commented that the sanctuaries were missing from the light industrial areas identified in the project. She also commented that the addition of the art project does not detract from parks.

Mr. McDonald summarized the logic behind some of the development of the land nodes. There was a general discussion regarding the lack of specific park areas identified. Mr. McDonald

noted there are multiple opportunities to incorporate great spaces, though at this time they are not specifically identified.

The “Great Streams” project consists of the following four components:

- Placemaking
- Habitat enhancement
- Greenways and trails
- Green infrastructure

Mr. McDonald reviewed the Critical Areas Ordinance and the structures encroaching on the critical areas. In addition, he reviewed the west tributary vision, which is a natural system.

When asked if the environmental review for the project is sufficient to accept a major recreational facility, Mr. McDonald responded that the review is not intended to be a project level review. A more project specific review would need to be conducted to incorporate a major recreational facility. He added that although there is not a specific place for a major recreational facility, the facility can be accommodated in nearly all of the corridors. There were concerns expressed about the major recreational facility being excluded on the planning maps. Mr. Foran recommended that the major recreational facility be sited on the maps due to its specific nature and attributes. The purpose of the place marker is to assist with proper land use planning.

Mr. McDonald reviewed trail and open space opportunities; however, boardmembers expressed concerns with these areas not specifically being identified.

Mr. McDonald reported that the revised concept plan map will be presented to the Steering Committee on April 25, 2007.

Motion by Boardmember White and second Vice-Chair Bennett to recommend that the Bel-Red Corridor Steering Committee reconsider the following items from the Parks & Community Services Board proposal submitted on March 14, 2007:

1. Parks and Open Space

- ▶ **All Preferred Alternatives should specifically identify the general location and magnitude of the park and open space facilities proposed relative to increased users from the future development. None of the current alternatives graphically reflects the presence of additional parks and recreation facilities; however, constant in all alternatives is a general framework and acknowledged need to serve an urban population.**
- ▶ **Support the protection and expansion of the major greenways and retain them as open and accessible to the public. Help design incentives to encourage restoration and enhanced open space in redevelopment (i.e., Transfer of Development Rights, etc.). Include stream corridor connections to communities and open spaces.**

5. Recreation Facilities

- ▶ **Support the location of a major indoor recreational facility for public use within the Bel-Red Corridor. Identified program functions include active sports and aquatics.**

Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

D. Great Streams

See above.

E. Board Report to Council

Chair Keeney reviewed the draft board report to City Council, which provides an overview/update of Parks & Community Services Board projects. If boardmembers have further suggestions or recommendations, they are to forward them to Chair Keeney. These items will be presented at the May 21, 2007 City Council meeting.

Boardmember Roland suggested elaborating on some of the youth activities included in the memo. There was general consensus on the memo.

10. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Foran encouraged boardmembers to attend Dr. John Crompton's upcoming lecture.

There have been discussions at City Council meetings regarding voter initiatives. Mr. Foran will be giving a presentation at the next City Council Study Session to provide information on pros/cons of an initiative. Mr. Foran reviewed some of the items that will be discussed.

As a token of appreciation, Mr. Foran distributed reusable water bottles to the boardmembers in recognition of National Volunteer Month.

Chair Keeney thanked Deputy Mayor Chelminiak for his positive comments about the accomplishments of the Park Boardmembers.

Motion by Boardmember White and second by Boardmember Maxim to extend the meeting until 8:05 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

11. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Public follow-up

B. Boardmember committee/liaison reports

Boardmember Maxim reported that the Bellevue Network on Aging has been focusing on transportation issues. He inquired if Park parking spaces can be used for shuttling people to/from the city. He added that this might also encourage use of the parks systems. Mr. Foran favored the idea and will assist with identifying appropriate parks to use for parking.

12. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Future agenda items

13. OTHER COMMUNICATIONS:

- A. Staff Reports
- B. CIP Project Report
- C. Park Board Speakers Bureau draft presentation
- D. Park Board memo to Bel-Red Steering Committee
- E. Email from and response to Sharlene Zollner re Robinswood soccer field renovations
- F. Letter from Lake Sammamish Foursquare Church re appreciation for landscaping projects

14. INFORMATION:

- A. List of upcoming Parks special events

15. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Boardmember Roland and second by Boardmember White to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).