

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

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

Council Conference Room  
(Conference Room 1E-121)  
Bellevue City Hall  
Bellevue, Washington

**BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair Keeney, Vice-Chair Bennett, Boardmembers Aron, Henrickson, Maxim, Roland

**BOARDMEMBER ABSENT:** Boardmember Karle

**PARKS STAFF PRESENT:** Shelley Brittingham, Nancy Harvey, Glenn Kost, Shelley Marelli, Terry Smith

**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 Roland to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Motion by Boardmember Maxim and second by Vice-Chair Bennett to approve the June 12, 2007 Regular Meeting Minutes of the Parks & Community Services Board. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).**

**4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None.

**5. CHAIR COMMUNICATION:**

Chair Keeney reviewed the many upcoming Park Board-related events. There was a discussion regarding a second board meeting in September 2007 to discuss the Meydenbauer Bay project. The following is a list of availability responses for the meeting to be held on September 18, 2007:

Chair Keeney – available  
Vice-Chair Bennett – available  
Boardmember Aron – available  
Boardmember Henrickson – available  
Boardmember Roland – available  
Boardmember Maxim – will advise

A meeting confirmation and agenda will be sent at a later date.

The half-day board planning retreat will be held September 29, 2007. The purpose of the retreat will be to discuss the potential voter initiative. Boardmember Aron recommended keeping the retreat agenda open for other topics, such as board-related workloads. In addition, he suggested former boardmembers be invited to the retreat to provide an alternate perspective.

An agenda with meeting details will be sent out at a later date.

Boardmember Maxim suggested the attendance bylaws for the Parks & Community Services Board be reviewed to ensure boardmembers are in compliance with the bylaws.

The August 2007 board meeting will be cancelled.

**6. BOARD COMMUNICATION:**

Boardmember Henrickson attended the 24-Hour Relay Challenge, the Independence Day Celebration, as well as the SEAFAIR Marathon.

Boardmember Roland also attended the 24-Hour Relay Challenge. In addition, she attended the Strawberry Festival event, which had a much more diverse audience than in previous years. Boardmember Roland enjoyed the Independence Day Celebration and commented that the Lake Hills Produce Stand is a great asset to the community.

Boardmember Aron attended the 24-Hour Relay Challenge.

Boardmember Maxim attended the Meydenbauer Bay meeting as well as the Independence Day Celebration.

Vice-Chair Bennett participated in the dedication of the Lake Hills produce stand. In addition, she attended the 24-Hour Relay Challenge, Strawberry Festival, and Independence Day Celebration.

Chair Keeney also attended the 24-Hour Relay Challenge. In addition, he enjoyed the Strawberry Festival and Independence Day Celebration. There was a Meydenbauer Bay meeting, which Chair Keeney attended. Lastly, Chair Keeney visited the Bellevue Botanical Gardens and Robinswood Park. He was quite impressed with the turf project at Robinswood Park.

## **7. CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS:**

Since Deputy Mayor Chelminiak was unable to attend the board meeting, he sent a memo to provide his thoughts on the busy schedule ahead. The following are some excerpts from the critical components addressed in the memo:

### Parks Bond or Levy:

The Council is very interested in putting a bond or levy to the voters in 2008. The work of the Parks Board in assisting the council with this project will be critical. But we have a full plate already with four master plans in the works and several special committees.

All of you will need to assist in this effort of discerning what types of projects the public is interested in funding. But in particular, I'd like to ask Jane Bennett, Bill Aron, and Peter Maxim to take active roles in this process. Obviously, Chair Keeney will also be involved, and you can help our newest member, Keith Henrickson, get up to speed on the process. Peter, Bill and Jane have a great deal of experience on the board and it would be a great project for Bill and Peter as they work through their last full year on the board.

### Best Practices Committee:

Based on discussions with Mayor Degginger and Patrick Foran, the council has appointed Faith Roland and David Karle to the Best Practices Committee. Faith's professional knowledge on right of way acquisition and her familiarity with Sound Transit's project through the Bel-Red committee are important strengths. Dave lives in the Enatai area, and that neighborhood needs representation on the Committee. I also anticipate that this committee will likely have work to do through most of 2008 and possibly into 2009. The Council wanted this to be a board of our citizen commissioners, and this timeframe matches the service timeframes of Faith's and Dave's terms.

### Master Plans:

As you know, four master plans are in the works. Meydenbauer is already underway with a special citizen committee. Merle Keeney is serving on that group and it appears the greater Bellevue community is very excited about the

prospects. The work on Surrey Downs will begin soon. The new park at Eastgate and the Ashwood property are also ready for master plans and each provides a unique opportunity. All of these will require significant effort by the Parks & Community Service Board.

**8. CONSENT ITEMS:**

None.

**9. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:**

A. Meydenbauer Bay Project Update

Mr. Kost reviewed the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan. A matrix outlining preliminary issues was also reviewed. The ultimate goal is to have a tentative plan by September.

The following is a list of the six key areas of the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan and boardmembers comments:

**Park Character and Use**

Vice-Chair Bennett:

- Serene.
- Sense of history.
- Active features: volleyball upland, swimming, boat rentals.
- Possibly a museum or historic markers throughout the park—no interpretive historical markers on the promenade.
- Feeling of meandering.
- Amphitheater.
- Lots of green.

Boardmember Maxim:

- Segment the park by use.
- Leave the beach as is—passive.
- Envision a whaling ship in the middle of the park.
- The right section of the park may be a struggle between people wanting boat moorage.
- Possibly provide slip rentals but let other people with non-motorized boats use the slips as well.
- No public boat launch.

Boardmember Aron:

- Consider future demography of Bellevue residents, which is becoming an older population.

- Some of the active sites may not be of value to the older population.
- Need a certain level of segregation for family use versus older population.
- Envision havens for all users.
- Evaluate if seaplanes should be considered.

Boardmember Roland:

- Seaplanes should be considered.
- Use small docks for non-motorized boats.
- Topography and size does not encourage motorized boat launching.
- Should be a balance between motorized and more passive use boats.
- Envisions fairly active elements, which allow and encourage a variety of activities.
- Swimming—expand beach.
- Possibly allow/promote fishing.
- Provide more access points and make access points more obvious.

Boardmember Henrickson:

- Lives at 98<sup>th</sup> and NE 4<sup>th</sup> so is very interested in the project.
- Envisions a terraced park for various uses and access—vignette feel.
- Provide a mix of active and passive elements—picnicking, volleyball, swimming, etc.
- Eliminate all parking.
- Provide a tram or transit loop that transports people to the park regularly.
- Replicate the current park along the waterfront.
- Envisions day piers, permanent boat moorage, and opportunities for kayaking.

**Upland Character and Use**

Boardmember Maxim:

- Condos should have cafés.
- On the downside of Old Main, make more of a tie-in to the street (unlike the Downtown Park and strip mall along Bellevue Way).
- Put underground parking underneath Downtown Park—use a trolley system for transportation (see Boston Common Garage for model).
- Tie Wildwood Park into the plan.

Boardmember Henrickson:

- Needs to be festive retail to attract people.
- Use south waterfront in Portland as an example.
- Terracing.

Boardmember Aron:

- Surround the park with mini-restaurants (i.e., Kirkland has cafés but needs marina enhanced).

Vice-Chair Bennett:

- Markers should lead people to the park—way-finding for pedestrians.

Boardmember Roland:

- Open views—give developers height in exchange for views.
- Encourage underground parking.

### **Accessibility**

Boardmember Maxim:

- Parking should be under Downtown Park.
- Have 5-10 minute transportation drop-off spots on Old Main.
- Remember that this is the end of the Lake-to-Lake Trail.
- Consider escalators, like at the UW, to traverse people.

Boardmember Roland:

- Envisions a loop near the park for people to drop off/pick up. Also include handicap parking spaces at the park—no other parking.
- Could be camera at drop-off points so people don't abuse the spots (self-policing—an airport was used as an example).
- Evaluate other opportunities for underground parking.

Boardmember Henrickson:

- Don't take up too much space with roadways and parking.
- Link Meydenbauer, Wildwood, and Downtown Park—loop connections.

Vice-Chair Bennett:

- Envisions a trolley that would take people all the way down to the water.

### **Marina**

Boardmember Maxim:

- Would like to incorporate a whaler.
- Wants public docking—rent boats so people can go along Bellevue beach parks up to Kirkland.
- People should be able to arrive in boats—use cafés to attract them (i.e., Ivar's boating access).
- Limit the size of the boats.
- Review Vancouver B.C.'s water tug as an example for water access.

Boardmember Henrickson:

- Likes the size of Carillon Point public pier.
- Having use of the Bay and non-motorized use is more important than covered versus non-covered moorage.

Boardmember Roland:

- Transient moorage at Carillon Point isn't usually full on weekdays. Can reach a middle ground for Meydenbauer Bay.
- Don't remove existing docks—they provide water access.
- Moorage can provide a good revenue stream.

### **Environment**

Boardmember Henrickson:

- Try to be 100% sustainable.

Boardmember Aron:

- Make the whole park into an environmental demonstration. Use signage to teach.

Vice-Chair Bennett:

- Add water features throughout the park, in an environmentally-sensitive way.

Boardmember Maxim:

- Include an outpost of the Pacific Science Center—tie in with the Mercer Slough.

### **History**

Boardmember Maxim:

- Former City Council member Bill Lagen is willing to donate items to honor the legacy.
- Incorporate Mr. Lagen's cannon.
- Research history—i.e., boats from Madison Park used to travel to Meydenbauer Bay, whaling ships, etc.

Boardmember Aron:

- Include a nautical/whaling theme that translates throughout the park and into the cafés and other activities.
- Include a modest museum.

Boardmembers are encouraged to forward further comments to Nancy Harvey.

### **B. Board Speakers Bureau**

A video was shown, which depicted the beautiful greenery and many services Bellevue has to offer.

Ms. Bennett gave a presentation that discussed the following highlights within Bellevue:

- Recreation Programs for All
- Facilities
- Special Events
- Human Services
- Cultural Diversity
- Adult Probation
- “Pearls on a String”
- Partnerships & Projects

Boardmember Aron suggested adding information about what Bellevue needs—a vision. Since the community is growing, he recommended addressing the areas that are still in need. He thought the video was a good start but was missing the “need” link.

Boardmember Roland recommended developing a “leave” piece that maps out all of the park locations as well as provides critical information.

C. Board Meetings

- August meeting cancelled
- Retreat date – September 29, 2007
- Special meeting – September 18, 2007
- November meeting date changed to November 15, 2007

**10. DIRECTOR’S REPORT:**

A. Youth Court

Mr. Smith thanked Boardmembers for all of their support of the many ongoing projects and programs. He also briefly described the Youth Court Program, which will be presented to City Council on Monday, July 16, 2007. He commented that this was one of Norm Maleng’s final projects.

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

Mr. Kost invited boardmembers for an informal tour of Robinswood Field on July 12, 2007 from 1:00-4:00 p.m.

**11. OLD BUSINESS:**

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

**12. NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Future agenda items

**13. OTHER COMMUNICATIONS:**

- A. Staff Reports
- B. CIP Project Report
- C. Letter re Boardmember Henrickson's appointment
- D. Letter from and response to Lynn and Bonnie Stowell re smoking in parks

**14. INFORMATION:**

- A. List of upcoming Parks special events

**15. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion by Boardmember Roland and second by Boardmember Maxim to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).**