

# VASHON PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

## MEETING MINUTES

Ober Park, Performance Room, 7:00 pm

**DATE: Tuesday, March 11, 2014**

Commissioners attending: Bill Ameling, Lu-Ann Branch, Scott Harvey, Doug Ostrom, Joe Wald

Staff attending: Jason Acosta, Elaine Ott

ISSUE	DISCUSSION AND OUTCOME	FOLLOW UP
Call to order & agenda review	The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by LuAnn Branch. The agenda was reviewed.	
Public Comment	<p>Lu-Ann provided comments to the public from the Commissioners. After discussing a recent Seattle Times article, they want unlimited public comments to end and have public comments kept to the public time. Some comments are distracting and a three minute limit will apply.</p> <p>Bill: Let's put this on another agenda. We are the only board on the Island that allows comment after the open period. We have a long agenda, so comments should be at the beginning.</p> <p>Capt. Joe: I have an open letter to the Chair and I gave a copy to the recorder. I will read the letter. (See attached.)</p> <p>Unidentified person: I am concerned about the upcoming levy. I propose that volunteer appreciation be communicated to people who have contributed and I will help. A personal thank you from board members would be good.</p>	
Skate Park Grant	<p>Elaine: Nick Ranney and I worked on this—see handout. In 2009, King County approved \$75k towards the skate park. The skate park plan is being done in 3 phases and we are in the second phase, \$139k from 1/1/2011, for two years. Permits have been obtained. Landscaping has been scaled back to 12/31/2013, and has been on the back burner. A one month extension went to the Board. The contract has been amended to 12/2014. VPD has met their costs; however, there is a cash-flow issue. King County has not yet met their agreement of \$75k towards this project.</p> <p>Nick: congratulations to all those who contributed in 2013. We have two employees who have limited hours. We have been working with Susan and Jan on how to get this back on track. Plans submitted are the same as Wilkie's (?). All that is needed is \$75k. How quick is the County payback? We want the Board to get on board of the project. The permit is \$592.00.</p> <p>Scott: Do we have the money they want?</p> <p>Elaine: Yes, but there is a certain risk. The permit is for 60 days. The timing is tight and I prefer late summer as the date. See my spreadsheet.</p> <p>Bill: When would we get paid by the County?</p>	

	<p><b>Scott:</b> We have to get some reliance on this.</p> <p><b>Dave Wilkie (?):</b> I have been reimbursed before by the County. They are expedient and it was within the 30 day timeline.</p> <p><b>Elaine:</b> There is no contract with Grine Line (?), who has built every skate park in the Northwest. There will be a contract and it will take six weeks to complete. If we have no contract in 60 days, we go to the bottom of the pile. We have 60 days from March 4, 2014, we have to pick it up by May 4, 2014 and the permit is for a year.</p> <p><b>Scott:</b> What is the availability of the contractor?</p> <p><b>Nick:</b> Everyone gets in line with Grine Line (?). Can we just get the permit? Building skate parks is a skill and Grine Line (?) is the best.</p> <p><b>Unidentified person:</b> Did Grine Line (?) go out for bid?</p> <p><b>Elaine:</b> The big pieces went to bid. Others were in increments of \$5k or less. If we have to go to bid, it will take two weeks. Is this a sole Source?</p> <p><b>Bill:</b> OK, I propose that we get the permit for \$592.00. Elaine will research the loose ends and can take the money from discretionary. I move we accept.</p> <p><b>Joe:</b> Second. We will vote on this next time.</p> <p><b>Approved:</b> 5-0. Motion passed unanimously.</p>	
<p><b>VES Update</b></p>	<p><b>Elaine:</b> We are done with the RCO. The final \$50k came in yesterday. We cannot change the scope.</p> <p><b>Lu-Ann:</b> What is considered changing scope?</p> <p><b>Elaine:</b> Scope is forever. We can't sell it. Changing its use equals a conversion. We could enhance the bathroom, but not the nature of the use.</p> <p><b>Doug:</b> Is maintenance required?</p> <p><b>Elaine:</b> I don't recall any; we just can't change the use of the property.</p> <p><b>Elaine:</b> Jane, Mitch Triese and Keith Putnam will help with the bid.</p>	
<p><b>Maintenance Management Plan</b></p>	<p><b>Jason:</b> There is no break between soccer and baseball. On August 15th high school soccer begins, but the little kids play whenever. The Harbor School is not there in July and August. I want to close two sections of fields and rotate the fields.</p> <p><b>Elaine:</b> We moved the tanks today with clean-up.</p> <p><b>Gay:</b> Letters from the King County Ombudsman said they should be moved 50 feet, but they were only moved 30 feet. I have questions about kids coming on the property owned by private owners.</p> <p><b>Elaine:</b> I spoke with the Ombudsman and s/he was satisfied.</p> <p><b>Joe:</b> The State RCW's says 30 feet.</p> <p><b>Andy:</b> According to the RCW's it says 50 feet.</p> <p><b>Bill:</b> We will comply with the law.</p> <p><b>Elaine:</b> We will follow-up on this.</p>	

**Andy:** Property owners should put up ‘no trespassing signs’.

**Lu-Ann:** Elaine will take that up with Gay.

**Gay:** Wants code for abutting property owners.

**Doug:** will work on this.

**Jason:** I have two issues: 1) the maintenance plan – see the inventory, and 2) VS standards – how do we want them to look? I spoke with some users. What is it going to take? An issue is frequency—how often do they need to be done?

**Jason:** Turf. This includes mowing, edging and fertilization every six weeks. Our sand- based fields need the maintenance and we have to over-seed. Then the kids work the seed into the soil. I project 2,268 hours, including backstops. User fees are paid.

**Joe:** It is based on contract; so much per player.

**Bill:** User fees equals income for maintenance. What is our equity?

**Elaine:** \$2k to \$4k per season. Soccer is close to 8k.

**Jason:** User fees help, but don’t cover the maintenance. I need more staff and I have presented budgets. When things break down like the tractor did, it costs \$250.00 just to get it off Island to John Deer, and then they charge \$100.00 per hour. So, I took it apart and fixed it myself. Nobody works on these mowers on the Island. During the slow season, we work on picnic areas, December to February. In March, we get the fields ready. Lacrosse starts in February. We have a \$260k approved budget, but we are \$30k short from what we need.

**Bill:** I don’t like FTE’s, as opposed to PT’s. PT is cheaper.

**Jason:** PT is a safety risk because that would get us persons with low skills and it would take more of my time checking on them.

**Bill:** Will all the maintenance money be spent this year.

**Elaine:** No. There are professional development classes that we would like to take, but we could shift \$18k to maintenance.

**Jason:** There is a maintenance reserve for things like broken down trucks.

**Scott:** We need the reserve.

**Elaine:** We can buy Jason one seasonal person, Maintenance II, which is skilled.

We will have check lists for each park. Jason prioritizes and schedules the work. We can move \$18k over.

**Scott:** Let’s revisit this in June.

**Lu-Ann:** We need to focus more on maintenance.

**Scott:** We need more specifics.

**Elaine:** When you do the inventory, you realize just how much work there is to do.

**Bill:** Hire one guy and see us in June.

**Lu-Ann:** VF field completions are unknown. Are we putting ourselves out there without knowing all the information?

	<p><b>Bill: I move that we approve 1 FTE at \$18k.</b>  <b>Doug: Second. Seasonal labor is a problem.</b>  <b>Elaine: We can cost it out going into bid. We identify what needs to be done and go to Sweets (?) book. With the experts, we will make it happen.</b>  <b>Bill: Can we go to bid and then not start until June? I move we transfer \$18k and hire one FTE.</b>  <b>Scott: Second.</b>  <b>Joe: I move that we suspend the rules.</b>  <b>Bill: Second.</b>  <b>Approved 3-2. Scott and Doug oppose.</b>  <b>Scott: The rules are suspended too much.</b>  <b>Doug: We should just follow the rules.</b>  <b>Jason: We are already behind in maintenance.</b>  <b>Approved 4-1, with Scott abstaining.</b></p>	
<p><b>Lu-Ann's Op Ed</b></p>	<p><b>Scott: I am unhappy with Lu-Ann's Op Ed piece in the Beachcomber and the Loop. The Board authorized her to write a letter. At the retreat, we discussed how no single Board member can speak for the Board. There are things that the public shouldn't hear. Lu-Ann writes, "We" in her piece and we are sending the wrong message to the public.</b>  <b>Bill: I didn't agree with the letter, but I am on the other side.</b>  <b>Scott: We are trying to build trust and this should never happen again.</b>  <b>Bill: To write, " Commissioners and Chair," elevates what is said.</b>  <b>Scott: I suggest that we update the letter and clarify with the Beachcomber.</b>  <b>Beachcomber: It is up to the Board what to say and write. The process is between Lu-Ann and the Editor.</b>  <b>Lu-Ann: There were three votes to support everything I wrote.</b>  <b>Bill: We need Board goals for the year. We should publish them.</b>  <b>Doug: When I wrote an article, I noted that I was speaking for myself.</b>  <b>Scott: I want an apology.</b>  <b>Lu-Ann: No, everything that was said was voted for by three Board members.</b>  <b>Bill: Maybe we could "cc" other Board members in advance.</b>  <b>Lu-Ann: We have a levy coming up. What about trust? Did we lose it? Do we need to gain it?</b></p>	
<p><b>Executive Session- Personnel</b></p>	<p><b>The Board and Elaine went into Executive session at 9:07.</b></p>	
<p><b>ADJOURN</b></p>		

Minutes submitted by Mary Reeves

