

# VASHON PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

## MEETING MINUTES

Ober Park, Evergreen Room, 7:00 pm

DATE: Tuesday, November 10, 2015

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

Staff attending: Jason Acosta, Elaine Ott

ISSUE	DISCUSSION AND OUTCOME	FOLLOW UP
<b>Call to order &amp; agenda review</b>	The meeting was called to order by Joe Wald at 7:02. Joe reviewed the agenda.	
<b>Public Comment</b>	<p>Mary: How is Lu-Ann doing?            Elaine: She is still rehabbing in Florida.            Capt. Joe: I would ask that the budget and the junior taxing items be swapped.            Joe: They will be swapped.</p> <p>Elaine: There is an agenda item that is not on the printed agenda. Beach Naturalists/Low Tide Festival wants VPD to co-sponsor a grant for field guides, etc. It is due on Friday.            Bill: I MOVE that we co-sponsor the grant for field guides.            Scott: SECOND            Bill: I MOVE THAT WE SUSPEND THE RULES.            Scott: SECOND            VOTE: 4-0 IN FAVOR            VOTE ON MAIN MOTION: 4-0 IN FAVOR.</p> <p>Elaine: I have not received the necessary month end closing reports from King County, so I will present both September and October financials next meeting.</p>	<p>15-61            MOTION,            SECOND TO CO-            SPONSOR A            GRANT FOR            FIELD GUIDES.            VOTE: 4-0</p> <p>15-62            MOTION,            SECOND TO            SUSPEND THE            RULES.            VOTE: 4-0</p>
<b>Votes</b>	<p>1) <i>Feasibility Study motion.</i>            Elaine: Read original proposal for Commissioners. It is just for repair and cement improvement.            VOTE 4-0 in favor.</p> <p>2) <i>Employment Terms</i>            Elaine reviewed the employment terms. Added on benefits as it relates to regular employees. She reviewed the motion.            Bill: called the Q</p>	<p>VOTE: 4-0 IN            FAVOR OF            FEASIBILITY            STUDY MOTION            15-63            15-64            VOTE: 4-0 IN            FAVOR OF THE            EMPLOYMENT</p>

	<p>VOTE 4-0 in favor.</p> <p>3) <i>Aquatics Director Job Description and Salary Range:</i>  Elaine read the expanded duties.  Bill: I CALL THE QUESTION.  VOTE: 4-0 in favor</p> <p>4) <i>Lodging Manager Job Description and Salary Range</i>  Elaine read the motion. The only change is the language with the keepers.  Scott: I CALL THE QUESTION.  VOTE: 4-0 in favor</p> <p>5) <i>Levy Resolutions</i>  Elaine: There are three. Resolution 15-6, etc.  VOTE: 4-0 in favor.</p>	<p>15-65  TERMS  VOTE: 4-0 TO  APPROVE  AQUATICS  DIRECTOR JOB  DESCRIPTION  AND SALARY.  15-66  VOTE: 4-0 TO  APPROVE  LODDGING  MANAGER JOB  DESCRIPTION  AND SALARY  RANGE  15-67  VOTE: 4-0 TO  APPROVE LEVY  RESOLUTIONS</p>
<p>Policies</p>	<p>1) <i>Step Progression Pay Schedule/Salary Wage Increases</i>  Elaine: I presented wage increases to the Board. The existing policy is cumbersome and not in keeping with the cost of living. I researched CPI. I stand by my request for CPI.  Scott: They are pretty comparable.  Doug: It includes rent even if you own your own home.  Elaine: CPI does include rent. It's pretty comparable.  Bill: If there is no difference, I wonder why King County chose their policy.  Elaine: I will do more research.</p>	<p>Elaine</p>
<p>Junior Taxing Districts</p>	<p>Bill: By state law, there is a pecking order. So the way it works, if you go above \$5.90, there is no % decrease.  Elaine: It should be 86 cents.  Bill: Fire District 13 passed the levy for \$1.5. They never have to run a levy again. Their rate is down to 95 cents.  Joe: 39 cents is right.  Bill: The Fire District gets a whopping increase.  Doug: What is King County doing?</p>	

	<p><b>Bill:</b> Nothing to worry about this year. We have lost 1.5 M that we wouldn't have lost if property values had not tanked. We always run operations as cheaply as possible.</p> <p><b>Doug:</b> How does a senior taxing district figure in? VSD just increased its rate.</p> <p><b>Elaine:</b> I encourage you to read the handout I sent you.</p>	
<p><b>2016 Budget</b></p>	<p><b>Elaine: Revenue:</b> I put a chart together. Based on my study of what other districts do, I recommend that we raise fees for school district classrooms, assembly halls and multi -purpose rooms. I remain opposed to raising kids' fees. These are adults. I included this in the budget. The Commons budget moves from 108K to 106K. In other areas in revenue, Scott Bonney and I agreed that we would like to increase admission punch cards 50 cents to 55 cents. By increasing revenue, we can meet the budget goal of \$50k for operations. The pool is a pretty good deal. Admission generally in the other districts is lower. Our general admission is for a whole day with supervised play. Other districts charge per session. Ours is structured in a way that is a better deal.</p> <p><b>Scott:</b> You can get into the Bainbridge pool cheaper. Raising rates affects everybody</p> <p><b>Scott:</b> Why do you think fees should not be changed on the fields?</p> <p><b>Doug:</b> Fees are different from the pool.</p> <p><b>Elaine:</b> There is widespread opposition to raising fees on the fields. I heard from the public that they say no fees should be raised on kids' sports.</p> <p><b>Scott:</b> I have an issue with that. I think that we should be tied with Bainbridge. I think that \$15.00 is fair. I know who was opposed to it. When I talked to Hans, he was neutral. Everything I hear about youth sports is that it costs a lot of money. I think that we should take in more money. We have costs. I am not seeing that we are gouging people. People in Tacoma can afford more than those on Vashon.</p> <p><b>Joe:</b> Other parks don't pay for structured fees.</p> <p><b>Bill:</b> Wait until January.</p> <p><b>Elaine:</b> There is a lot of resistance.</p> <p><b>Scott:</b> I don't think that we should reward bad behavior. Everybody cries.</p>	
<p><b>2016 Budget, cont.</b></p>	<p><b>Mary:</b> Can the adults apply for support?</p> <p><b>Elaine:</b> Yes.</p> <p><b>Hilary:</b> Bill's suggestion for kids is separate from adults. Not doing the adults now shows some parity.</p> <p><b>Scott:</b> Individual admission most commonly is used by adults. An increase would not be unreasonable.</p> <p><b>Bob:</b> Pool users were asked. It sounds like fees would be raised to pay for costs for the pool.</p> <p><b>Elaine:</b> No, it is to pay for operations for all the field users.</p> <p><b>New Board member:</b> Don't price people out. If you have facts and they are understandable,</p>	

you have a chance. You won't make everybody happy. I don't have enough facts at this point.

**Jason:** If the kids are there every day, they wear out the fields. Adults are not there every day. It's the same thing with youth baseball. They are not doing the damage.

**Scott:** How many people are out there? The point is that if you have 300 kids vs 20 adults, 300 kids do more damage.

**Jason:** Adults do more damage.

**Elaine:** Structure fees per sport.

**Doug:** How many sports are we talking about?

**Joe:** It has been based on the average.

**Bill:** Address all the stakeholders in January, don't spring it on them.

**Hilary:** Everything has to go up if all the wages go up. If it is 4%, then we don't have to worry about sport v. sport.

**Bill:** Also, think about doing away with fees.

**Elaine:** I don't dispute Hilary's suggestion.

**Jason:** We line all the soccer fields. That is a lot of time. We drag the fields almost daily. Look at that.

**Bill:** The line item under income that remains blank, "donations". The Board has stayed away from that. Volunteer groups would be good for the parks that don't have them.

**Doug:** Why not raise the fees by a set amount, for example, 4%?

**Scott:** If we did everything to 4% and rounded it to the nearest quarter.

**Bill:** In addition to 10%, we are saying an additional 4%?

**Hilary:** we have no cash flow. We need to have income to pay bills. Not to raise fees is not fiscally responsible.

**Doug I MOVE THAT WE RAISE FEES 4%.**

**Scott: SECOND**

**Jason:** We talked about spending money to get a new tractor. We could use the old one at Pt. Robinson. That would really help me out.

**Scott:** Why are we in the negative at Pt. Robinson?

**Elaine:** It was budgeted to be negative last year.

**Bill:** If the houses were not there, it would be worse.

**Joe:** 5K is for the entire facility

**Elaine:** Remember, it is negative at times and positive at times.

**Scott:** Maybe Joe thinks it is OK.

**Bill:** We have had this conversation many times. We rent it out below the going rate. There are others who want it priced as high as possible. When you look at it, most people who rent the houses are not from Vashon.

**Truman:** We had local folks who were in competition with us. We can't be undercut.

**Bill:** We could go up.

**Capt. Joe:** We are right where we should be. We want them to come back. Rental income pays for entire operation of the park. Keepers contribute after that. It has never been the

**15-68  
MOTION,  
SECOND TO  
RAISE FEES 4%.**

	<p>intention that the levy support Pt. Robinson. It is well managed and funds the entire park. Eric is doing a great job advertising it. I expect our occupancy rate to increase. We pay for Jason and maintenance crew to work the grounds.</p> <p>Elaine: We are obligated to 100K for Interlocal.</p> <p>Bill: 100K included theatre use.</p> <p>Joe: 2015 did not include theatre use.</p> <p>Bill: It has always been that way.</p> <p>Elaine: I made a presentation. I got close to 100K.</p> <p>Bill: The 100K has been in effect for a long time.</p> <p>Jason: We talked about the equipment. You asked about the lease. When I looked at lease option, it was for two pieces: an aerator and a tractor. I think that we should have the equipment.</p> <p>Joe: Are the numbers in the budget?</p> <p>Elaine: Yes</p> <p>Jason: It should be aerated once a month.</p> <p>Joe: We have three meetings left.</p> <p>Bill: One should be official. The next meeting should be the official meeting. We could pass the budget the first meeting in December.</p> <p>Elaine: Should we leave it as is?</p> <p>Bill: yes. It is subject to change.</p>	
<b>Adjourn</b>	<b>Motion and second to adjourn at 8:25 PM.</b>	
<b>Next Meeting</b>	<b>November 24, 2015</b>	

Respectfully submitted by:  
Mary Reeves