

# VASHON PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

## MEETING MINUTES

Ober Park, Performance Room, 7:00 pm

**DATE: Tuesday, February 24, 2015**

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

Staff attending: Jason Acosta, Elaine Ott

ISSUE	DISCUSSION AND OUTCOME	FOLLOW UP
<b>Call to order &amp; agenda review</b>	<b>The meeting was called to order by Joe Wald. Joe reviewed the agenda.</b>	
<b>Public Comment</b>	<p><b>Elaine: I want to announce that Kristen Pesman(sp?) will be heading Friends of the Park. Second, I want to address some issues that came out of comments that I received after the last Board meeting. I believe that the issues will come up during public comment. The issues focused on a statement I made during the last Board meeting. I made a statement about the levy and said that, “[i]f the levy fails, the staff will fail.” I apologize in that I used a poor choice of words. I take my responsibilities very seriously. I would never organize the staff to resign if the levy fails. At the next meeting, the Board should discuss 1) a contingency budget, where we could take the 2015 levy money and extend it through 2016. In this scenario, the staff would be laid off. 2) In the alternative, the Board could work hard for the levy passage and we would proceed to spend as we have planned for this year. From today, the staff would have eight months to find jobs rather than two months if they wait and the levy fails.</b></p> <p><b>Truman: I wrote a manual for the Friends of the Park District a couple of levies ago. I gave it to someone.</b></p> <p><b>Elaine: I am aware of that and I have spoken to her. She will call you.</b></p> <p><b>Hilary: What is the status with the as-builts?</b></p> <p><b>Elaine: That will be a part of my staff reports later on the agenda.</b></p> <p><b>Capt. Joe: Doug called regarding continuing the beach conversation. I talked up Friends of the Park. I have the first donation.</b></p>	<b>Agenda Item</b>
<b>Paradise Ridge Plan</b>	<b>Hannah Knaebel: We have developed a plan for Paradise. Paradise is a vital part of the Island community. Our first thought was to address the caretaker area. Then, we broadened it to wanting to establish a green space. There are remnants of the old Nike Site.</b>	

**If we removed the concrete, it would increase the area we could use. The concrete is actually a hazard. Horses cannot cross the concrete. There are also environmental issues with water. There are trees that are compromised. We believe that the Vashon Park District Mission Statement supports our plan as does the Master Plan. The cost is over the 10K originally earmarked by the Board. It may cost 36K. We are willing to make up the difference. We would ask you to please approve our plan in its entirety. (Plan handouts were available.)**

**Bill: The Army dumped all kinds of trash into the sites. We don't have much more money, but we could in 2016. Please come back then. We would have to contact the County to take the concrete out.**

**Hannah: We have contacted them and no permit is needed.**

**Jason: I think this plan is a great idea.**

**Bill: We are trying to improve the quality of each park.**

**Hannah: We are committed to the best practices. To the right of the road as you enter Paradise, there is a concrete area that is overgrown with blackberries. We cannot use that area. It would be great to take the concrete out and make the area usable.**

**Doug: Is there anything we can do to address non-riders' usage of Paradise?**

**Hannah: Yes, we could improve walking trails and dog walking areas. We often run into dog walkers and we get along very well.**

**Unidentified Woman: The dog walkers interact and would love to have trails opened up.**

**Bill: What is the situation with the bathroom? Are you satisfied with it?**

**Hannah: No, but we feel that that situation is not as important as open green space. It would be a challenge to upgrade it. We have looked into it. It would be a challenge as we would have to completely re-route the septic system.**

**Bill: Let's make sure that whatever we do is compatible with the bathroom.**

**Hannah: It will be cheaper to fix when the concrete is gone.**

**Bill: Elaine and Jason may have money for plants and shrubs.**

**Lu-Ann: What is the difference between the concrete and the asphalt? I know that you cannot get from one area to the next because of the concrete. The area is unusable and it is an eyesore.**

**Jason: It is a useless area. The asphalt would have to be dug up and the road would be unusable. We will be putting chips in the compost bins. It is easier to load versus taking the concrete out. We could put in a gravel road.**

**Hannah: The horses can cross gravel.**

**Bill: I MOVE THAT WE APPROVE THE PROJECT IN PRINCIPAL AND THAT WE RELEASE THE MONEY WE HAVE ALLOCATED.**

**Lu-Ann: SECOND.**

**Bill: I say in principal because we need more information. We will contact you.**

**Hannah: We are having a work party on Saturday from 9-4. You are invited to come see what we are doing.**

**Elaine: We have isolated what the 10K would do.**

**MOTION,  
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	<p><b>Hannah:</b> The rest of the money would be accomplished by fundraising.  <b>Lu-Ann:</b> Is there a plan of action?  <b>Hannah:</b> Yes, we have a plan.  <b>Unidentified Woman.</b> We have contacted all kinds of people.  <b>Lu-Ann:</b> I understand that there are multiple groups in the horse community that use Paradise.  <b>Unidentified Woman:</b> There is presently no area for carts and horses.</p>	<p><b>THAT WE RELEASE THE MONEY ALLOCATED FOR PARADISE.</b></p> <p>Agenda Item</p>
<p><b>Approve January Vouchers</b></p>	<p><b>MOTION AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE JANUARY VOUCHERS.</b>  <b>Elaine:</b> The vouchers are on the website.</p>	<p><b>MOTION, SECOND TO APPROVE THE JANUARY VOUCHERS.</b></p>
<p><b>January Financial Report</b></p>	<p><b>Elaine:</b> The January levy money did not come in. There is a positive 5K in administration. The Commons is over by 1K. The pool is ahead by 2K. Pt. Robinson is tight to the budget. I moved the 10K for Paradise to “Other.” I borrowed from the TAN. All that remains to be done at the Skate Park is that the County has to do its final inspection.</p>	
<p><b>Board Votes</b></p>	<p><i>Employee Health Insurance Resolution</i>  <b>Elaine:</b> This resolution simply allows us to investigate other health insurance plans.  <b>VOTE: 4-0</b></p> <p><i>Executive Director Salary/Contract Adjustment</i>  <b>Lu-Ann:</b> I MOVE THAT WE INCREASE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S SALARY TO 83k. <b>Bill:</b> SECOND.</p> <p><b>Bill:</b> I MOVE THAT WE SUSPEND THE RULES.  <b>Doug:</b> SECOND.  <b>VOTE TO SUSPEND: 4-0</b>  <b>Hilary:</b> What is the current salary?  <b>Joe:</b> 79.3K.</p> <p><b>Bill:</b> I CALL THE QUESTION. VOTES 4-0.</p>	<p><b>MOTION PASSED TO ALLOW STAFF TO INVESTIGATE OTHER HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS.</b></p> <p><b>MOTION, SECOND 3K INCREASE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S SALARY TO 83k.</b></p> <p><b>MOTION, SECOND TO SUSPEND THE RULES. Motion carries. 4-0</b></p>

		<b>ORIGINAL MOTION PASSED 4-0</b>
<b>Staff Reports</b>	<p><b>1) <i>Inspiration Point Project</i></b>  <b>Elaine:</b> There is a plan to trim trees and the bushes at Inspiration. The volunteers include two arborists. We will be surveying the area.  <b>Jason:</b> I have spoken to AmeriCorps to see if we can get any help from them. They just cannot use power tools. We already clean out the trash cans twice a week. It is all personal garbage. The blackberries need to be cleared out.  <b>John:</b> In 1912, Vashon was clear-cut and you could see from one end of the Island to the other. I understand that people want views, but there are groups that will fight this.  <b>Lu-Ann:</b> What is the goal?  <b>Bill:</b> Just clean-up, so you can see.  <b>Jason:</b> We are not walking on personal property. We need to find out where our property ends and the neighbor’s property below the Point begins.  <b>Bill:</b> I wouldn’t mind giving it back to the County.  <b>Jason.</b> There is no slab or support underneath. The land is settling.  <b>Bill:</b> Should we tear the wall down?  <b>Unidentified Woman:</b> What about bringing in goats?  <b>Lu-Ann:</b> It is expensive to do that.  <b>Capt. Joe:</b> We used Rent-a-Ruminate, but the goats don’t take the roots out.</p> <p><b>2) <i>Tramp Harbor Dock</i></b>  <b>Elaine:</b> King County wants to do a survey to gauge usage and peoples’ desire for the location. We are setting up a specific meeting between the State, County and VPD to address the lease situation. I did put up a warning sign.  <b>Elaine:</b> I believe that we should close the dock. Enduras said to post a sign. The dock survey said that, at the very least, we should post a sign if there are safety issues. I believe that there are safety issues and we should shut it down.  <b>Doug:</b> It is always a safety issue there.  <b>Elaine:</b> The risk is that up to 20 pilings could fail, especially if there are multiple people in the same spot.  <b>Lu-Ann:</b> If we close it, what would we have to do?  <b>Elaine:</b> We would need an explanatory sign if we close.  <b>Lu-Ann:</b> How would we communicate this conversation?  <b>Jason:</b> We could put it on the next agenda.  <b>Bill:</b> We should check with Enduras and our attorneys. We can still be liable. I am</p>	<b>Agenda Item</b>

leaning towards a temporary closure.

**Unidentified Woman:** If a bunch of people come to the next meeting and argue against closure, will you just do it?

**Bill:** It would still leave us open.

**Jason:** We could ask them how to fund it.

**Lu-Ann:** How about a rider on our insurance policy?

**John:** It is an attractive nuisance, a legal term. You would need signs in five different Asian languages. Close it off. If you can see it, it is an attractive nuisance and there is liability.

**Bill:** Put up a sign now saying that VPD could be shutting down the dock and for those interested to come to the next meeting.

**Jason:** I have counted as many as 45 on the dock at one time.

3) *Pool Fix*

**Elaine:** We have to do Phase 1 to get to Phase 3. We are doing Phase 1. We are planning a culvert to be built to go to the pond. We will test for chlorine, but it should dissipate in a week's time. The School District was thrilled to hear that there would be no expense to them. We are planning on doing this during Spring Break. If Phase 1 doesn't work, we can truck it as we did before.

**Unidentified Woman:** With Phase 1, the DOE is involved, but not Phase 3.

**Lu-Ann:** Enduras is not paying our staff salaries for us?

**Elaine:** No.

**Unidentified Woman:** The insurance company will pay for Phases 1 and 3.

4) *VES*

**Elaine:** Jim Meyer is working on this *gratis*. It seems that as-builts should have been included in the original contract. I have reviewed the contracts and as-builts were not included. They do exist and I have e-mailed the person who has them, but I have had no response. We shouldn't have to pay for them. There is no electrical.

5) *Skate park*

**Elaine:** We are awaiting the final inspection from KC permitting for sign off, so the project should be complete any day now!

6) *Point Robinson*

**Elaine:** the second bid opening for the roof was yesterday. We received two bids – one for \$23,560 and \$19,548 and are now going through the pre-contract review process.

*(Recording Secretary: Unfortunately, the Skate Park and the Point Robinson issues were not*

	<i>included in the video of the meeting).</i>	
	<b>The meeting was adjourned.</b>	
<b>Next Meeting</b>	<b>March 10, 2015, 7:00 PM</b>	

Respectfully submitted by:  
Mary Reeves