

VASHON PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING MINUTES

Teleconference, 7:00 pm
DATE: Tuesday, August 11, 2020

Commissioners attending: Hans Van Dusen, Bob McMahon, Doug Ostrom, Abby Antonelis, Karen Gardner
 Staff attending: Elaine Ott-Rocheford

ISSUE	DISCUSSION AND OUTCOME	FOLLOW UP
Call To Order	Hans called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and reviewed the agenda.	
Public Comment	No public comment.	
7.14.20 Minutes; 7.11.20 – 8.7.20 Preliminary Vouchers; June Vouchers	Karen: Motion to accept the minutes and vouchers. Doug: Second Pass 5-0	Motion to approve 7.14.20 Minutes; 7.11.20 – 8.7.20 Preliminary Vouchers; June Vouchers Pass 5-0
BARC Pump Track Project - Grant	<p>Elaine: Judith Neary and I met last Friday to discuss the status of the pump track project at BARC in addition to a second grant opportunity with the state that has surfaced. In short, the pump track project has come to a screeching halt for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Since the original design submission for the pump track, the design had to change, because the location was too close to the tree line and also drainage requirements. Too, it was expanded due to community input from the two community meetings. RCO will only fund to the design submittal. Judith had to submit a justification to RCO for the design changes. 2) Costs from: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Cultural Resources Review required by RCO (nothing was there – if there was, it was all bulldozed when the school was built) b. Geotech Report c. Permitting <p>Now, interestingly, all these items pertained to the whole park in order to accommodate the entire project. Remember, the pump track alone is only Phase 2, then the addition of the perimeter walk and the exercise/recreation pods are Phase 3. RCO is saying the pump track is only 1/3 of the total project, so they are only going to cover 1/3 of the costs for the Cultural Resources Review, Geotech Report, and Permitting.</p>	

3) COVID hit. Everything stopped with all of this. And, due to the economic hit to local businesses, some of the donors derailed.

So, Judith wants to apply for a second grant with RCO. The first grant is a small Youth Athletic Facility grant for \$75k with a \$75k match. The new grant is a large Youth Athletic Facility grant up to \$225k with a 25% match. She believes she has a significant donor for the match. The grant moves the project into Phase 3 and would cover the pieces you see in color (blue and red) on the Site Plan Development sheet.

Goals for the 2nd grant:

- 1) Complete more of the project;
- 2) Receive more than the 1/3 reimbursement for the costs already incurred for the larger project.

Judith: Back to the first grant, the original design was 10,000 sq ft of concrete. When we do the entire park design, we go to 20,000 sq ft of concrete. The first 10,000 for permitting cost us \$27,000. It didn't matter if we did the whole park or just part, the category for that amount of concrete costs \$27k. So I need to go back to the grant manager and battle her on this. COVID has been helpful, because the two grants might overlap each other and help with the build process. The large grant is designed to help us finish the park – to add and enhance an existing facility. The large grant is the X in the middle of the pump track and 4 pods. The rest becomes Phase 4 of the project. On the large grant, the 25% match was a reduction due to COVID. The grant request is \$236k, and the match will be \$70k, which I believe is attainable. I have 15 letters of testimonial including from Dow Constatine. When this is done, you will have an epic park. We need to find some pockets of money to make this happen. BARC has become an important public space for kids for social distancing.

Elaine: Judith needs Board approval to apply for the 2nd grant.

Judith: I already applied. The deadline was in June. It went through technical review. I got an extension on some of the docs pending approval from the Board. If you don't approve, I can back out.

Abby: At one of our meetings, people were upset about it becoming a family park. Have we remedied that vibe in the community? Remember the librarian saying the teens will be run out of the park with families attending?

Elaine: The issue was that the park is now more of a youth park. The youths were concerned about being run out. I don't see that happening. It will still be super youth oriented. In the pods, there can be family activities, playing chess, etc. We feel everyone can get along.

Abby: What was the follow-up from that meeting? Are the BARC stewards still supportive? And what about Marco?

Elaine: Marco quit the stewards, because of the bike jump issue with our insurance company. Our insurance was going to review in April, but that got sidelined with COVID. My sense is they will not approve those jumps. We have closed them pending the review. The other BARC Stewards are still very supportive.

Judith: The Rotary gave us a \$5k grant for an outdoor ping pong table. Through COVID, there has been an opportunity to revisit the community input so it truly is a park for all ages. In my studio, I have a BARC poster hanging on my door. I hear the excited comments about it by passers-by.

Karen: I would like to see families there, as that helps decrease the bad behavior.

Elaine: There is definitely a policing element to having adults present.

Doug: What is the new grant about specifically?

	<p>Elaine: In a nutshell, the grant completes more of the project, meaning Phase 3. Also, it helps Judith recoup some of the costs she had to pay for Phase 2 but is for the full park. The grant would cover probably another 1/3.</p> <p>Doug: Will this cost VPD anything?</p> <p>Elaine: No.</p> <p>Karen: I move we accept this second grant proposal.</p> <p>Bob: Second.</p> <p>Judith: I need to submit paperwork by August 31, so it is fine to wait to take the vote next meeting. Please feel free to ask questions in the meantime.</p>	<p>Karen: I move we accept this second grant proposal.</p> <p>Bob: Second.</p>
<p>Bicycles at Paradise Ridge</p>	<p>Elaine: A couple weeks ago I received an email from a guy who noticed a “no biking” sign screwed to the main “park rules” sign near the entrance of Paradise Ridge. He stated that historically and according to our website, the park is open to bikes. He wanted to know if and when that rule changed.</p> <p>Our VPD Park Rules for trails state that trail use designations will be based on the park master plan. I reviewed the Master Plan for Paradise Ridge, and found the following statement about bicycle use of the horse trails: “Uses: walkers, runners, and bicyclists can all share all trails with horse riders, except during competitions.” The rules also state that trail users must yield right of way to horses and warn equestrian users when approaching from behind and attempting to pass. In my 7 years here, that rule had not been changed. So I reached out to the Horse Association who indicated it was a safety decision they made. In the past they had problems with bicyclists doing wheelies and skidding around which spooked the horses. The cross country trails have been upgraded with new jumps and this would be a very dangerous place to encounter a bicycle while you were attempting a jump with your horse. I reminded the Horse Assn that changing an authorized use must be done so by the Board. As a side note, do know this may be forced by our insurance company, as they have forced us to shut down the jumps at BARC. They were planning on reviewing the risk of bikes on our trails in April until COVID.</p> <p>Mary O’Brien: The signs at the entrance and also at trail heads are very official looking. There are also hiker and horse rider signs there, and the “no biking” sign is a cyclist with a line through it. I have asked around at the Horse Assn, and nobody knows who put those up. We have always had shared use for many years, but things have changed at the park in recent years. If the choice to not allow bikes is made, we agree the Master Plan should be updated. Years ago, cyclists on the trails were not a problem. More recently, cyclists come to train for competitions. They go quite fast. There have been incidents. Also, kids were skidding around in the arena. We prefer no bicycles. It was shared use in the beginning, because for many years, Paradise Ridge was the only VPD park.</p> <p>Karen: I think the mix of horses and bicycles would be a disaster. I feel there should be horse-specific trails for that reason. There are many bicycle trails on this island. Also, I find on Vashon we are getting a different type of bicyclist. I agree, there seems to be more training. I notice this when I hike, they come around corners very quickly, and it is dangerous.</p> <p>Bob: There is that great bike facility at Dockton that is good for training. I agree Paradise Ridge should be horse and hikers only.</p>	

	<p>Doug: What did this individual want who emailed you? Did he want to go on the trails at Paradise Ridge?</p> <p>Elaine: I think it was just the principle. He was very nice. We had several exchanges back and forth. I feel he wanted to ensure process was followed and that the Horse Assn wasn't doing something of their own accord. He asked for the date, resolution, and minutes of a Board vote that changed this.</p> <p>Mary: Proper process is a good thing!</p> <p>Elaine: I think he was just being a good citizen – didn't seem to want to stir up any trouble.</p> <p>Hans: Elaine, have you interacted with any organizations of bicycle users on Vashon?</p> <p>Elaine: I am not aware of any other than the Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance relative to a potential jump maintenance plan at BARC. I know they work with Dockton. Other than that, I don't know how active they are out here.</p> <p>Hans: So what would this entail at Paradise Ridge? The arena for sure and trails that horse riders use and maintain. Are there other trails not used by horse riders? What is the scope?</p> <p>Mary: All the trails were put in by the horse group when the park was first put in. They were all set up with jumps. Some have gone away, because the competitions died as a sport. Now it is coming back, so we are revitalizing the jumps on all the trails again.</p> <p>Karen: I move we change the use of the trails at Paradise Ridge to be for equestrian and hiking use only. Bicycles will not be allowed in the arena, trails, and grounds adjacent to the arena.</p> <p>Abby: Second.</p> <p>Hans: And we will then need to modify the Master Plan?</p> <p>Mary: It should be an amendment to the Master Plan.</p> <p>Elaine: And we will change the website and park rules.</p> <p>Mary: It should include the flat space near the parking lot. That can also be dangerous. There is a lot of horse activity there due to the proximity to the arena. Some people think if horse trailers aren't there, that there are no riders. Many riders arrive by the trails.</p> <p>Bob: So bikes should just be limited to the roads for access to the park.</p> <p>Mary: We have never had trouble with hikers. The trails are in the hiking trail book.</p> <p>Abby: We should include signs that indicate all this. Bikes can still come to the park as a form of transportation.</p> <p>Elaine: Mary, do you think the signs there are adequate?</p> <p>Mary: They are yellow, 8 inches high by 2 inches wide. I never noticed them before, so the new signs should be something more.</p> <p>Bob: Who will be responsible for this?</p> <p>Elaine: Us, in concert with the Horse Association.</p>	<p>Karen: I move we change the use of the trails at Paradise Ridge to be for equestrian and hiking use only. Bicycles will not be allowed in the arena, trails, and grounds adjacent to the arena.</p> <p>Abby: Second.</p>
<p>June Financial Report</p>	<p>Elaine: <u>Admin</u> – ahead \$45k</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Misc income is up \$13k <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ \$5400 for the copier ○ Interest income higher than anticipated 	

- Received SWM fee refund - \$8700!
- Payroll under by \$6k
 - Sue working part time
- Election costs from November under by \$12k
- Professional fees under \$12k – we expected higher legal costs for Tramp Harbor Dock
- Maintenance – ahead \$22k
 - Revenue is really sagging – down \$23k
 - Payroll costs down \$24k due to no seasonal help (until now – just 1) and lower payroll taxes
 - Materials down \$8k due to only one top dressing at VES (lack of use)
 - Outside services down \$3k – also due to one top dressing
 - Utilities down \$4k
- Commons – ahead \$21k
 - Revenue down \$8500
 - Payroll down \$8500 due to furloughed staff
 - Commons payment tracking to be reduced by \$21k due to no facility use through July 31, but I suspect it will be more as long as we're in Phase 2.
- Programs – ahead \$14k
 - Payroll ahead \$5k due to no Marshall
 - Expenditure tracking \$9k ahead due to no activity
- Pool Summer – ahead @ \$24k
 - Revenue tracking \$41k down
 - Payroll tracking \$59k down
 - All expenses are down – odds and ends
- Pool Winter – pretty much at budget for now
- Pt Robinson – pretty much at budget for now
 - Revenue down \$8k
 - Payroll costs down \$10k
 - All else is odds and ends
- Fern Cove – at budget
 - Revenue down \$8k
 - Payroll costs down \$5k
 - All else odds and ends
- CIP – over by \$4300
 - Agren retainage \$11k
 - Ober architects \$5300
 - We received the truck. We budgeted \$32,500. Actual cost \$29,732. Saved \$2768.
 - Ober Park grant – received \$6k over what I projected in assuming we got it.
 - Took out the Village Green Entry project – I just don't see that happening this year. \$3,000.

	<p>Ending Cash - \$718. I vote we leave this until we see how levy dollars play out this year. And then there is potential prorationing in 2022.</p> <p>Doug: It looks like there is a large levy revenue projection for July that I assume is because of the April extension. Did that happen?</p> <p>Elaine: We are down about \$79k in our levy revenue to date. I received the July reports yesterday but have not updated the budget.</p> <p>Doug: The hope is that we got caught up.</p>	
<p>Board Votes</p>	<p>Abby: I move to accept the Lisabeula tideland donation.</p> <p>Karen: Second.</p> <p>Elaine: I received an email from a citizen suggesting we attempt to lease the DNR lands to extend the beach on the south. It would get us a lot more beach. A no fee lease like Tramp Harbor. Thoughts?</p> <p>Bob: That beach abuts a private property. That could be a problem.</p> <p>Hans: I don't know what the benefit would be. It is nice that it is all publicly owned. The drawback would be if DNR has fishery plans. I don't see it as a priority for your time, to be honest. It would all be public, no matter what, whether with us or DNR.</p> <p>Abby: The people at the neighboring property have complained about people on their beach. We don't want that to be our problem.</p> <p>Doug: It appears that the complaints from neighbors there about people "on their beach" have no grounds for complaint! It is a public beach.</p> <p>Hans: It would be good for us to clarify. We shouldn't prohibit the public from going on public land.</p> <p>Elaine: I will clarify with DNR about public use of that land.</p> <p>Abby: I remember the neighbors to that DNR land have dogs, and people would bring their dogs there. I think a lease would open us up to all sorts of problems.</p> <p>Hans: So, no strong interest in a lease. Our signage should not indicate public access is not okay.</p> <p>Elaine: The signage right now is correct. The land we are accepting is now private property.</p> <p>Hans: If we accept the land, we should correct the signage and not prohibit the public access.</p> <p>Elaine: Then there is the issue of attorney fees. Are you prepared to take that on?</p> <p>Abby: I think we can vote to accept the land, but if it's super expensive, we can revisit.</p> <p>Pass 5 - 0</p>	<p>Motion to accept the Lisabeula tideland donation.</p> <p>Pass 5 - 0</p> <p>Action Item</p> <p>Action Item</p>
<p>Anti-racism and Equity Team</p>	<p>Hans: Elaine sent a good resource from City of Seattle, a Toolkit. Bob sent a draft of the Mission, Vision, and Values changes. Bob just sent it today, so we have not reviewed it. Bob, do you want to tee this up?</p> <p>Bob: In the Strategic Plan, the Mission, Vision, and Values needed to be updated to include diversity. I improved where I felt appropriate. We can read through and discuss at a later time.</p> <p>Hans: We will discuss at the next meeting.</p> <p>Abby: I want to thank Bob for doing this. I read the first part and am excited about it.</p> <p>Hans: Elaine, would like to share your thoughts about the City of Seattle Toolkit?</p> <p>Elaine: I don't know that it really applies to us, but I thought we should look at it and see how it might. Their scope is much broader than ours, and they have greater resources to where they even have full time diversity staff. I thought we might use it to analyze some of our objectives.</p>	<p>Agenda Item</p>

	<p>Hans: I have used it, since I work there. It is good to look at something concrete – like the pool. The questions can apply when the scope is narrowed.</p> <p>Abby: It would be good to start small and learn a lot from doing it.</p> <p>Hans: Elaine can work with Randy on this. And Bob, what is the status of the policies?</p> <p>Elaine: I sent a bunch of policies where we have existing language and areas I thought we might improve. Take a look at the email I sent you.</p> <p>Bob: I thought we discussed it, but I will take another look.</p> <p>Hans: We need to look at employee, contracting, program participation.</p> <p>Abby: I would like to work on the toolkit with Elaine and Eric.</p> <p>Elaine: I will be on vacation next week, so perhaps the week after.</p>	<p>Action Item</p> <p>Action Item</p>
<p>Staff Reports</p>	<p><u>Pool</u></p> <p>Elaine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the first 25 days since opening on July 1, we had 158 unique users. And in the two weeks thereafter, we added 38 additional new unique users. • There are 234 available reservations in a week. It is generally 100% booked, with a few odd cancellations that get filled quickly. • Reservations are restricted to 3 per week by one person. • All users are supportive of the screening, operational, and cleaning protocols. <p>Bob: What is a unique user?</p> <p>Elaine: One individual.</p> <p>Bob: We use it a lot. Opening it up in the middle of the night is a burden to a lot of people. Can that be changed?</p> <p>Doug: My wife’s experience is that her desired time gets filled quickly. I have received comments about why Tacoma people come here, and we don’t charge them more. Some pools charge more for non-locals.</p> <p>Elaine: We cannot discriminate against non-Vashon users of our parks and facilities due to a covenant we hold with King County, and we cannot charge a higher fee.</p> <p>Doug: Isn’t there an issue there? We didn’t receive the pool in 1995. And it isn’t ours – it is the School District’s.</p> <p>Elaine: I can check with the County. There was also an interlocal between the school and the County. I’ll take a look at it.</p> <p>Doug: I know of other Districts where non-residents are charged a higher rate.</p> <p><u>Sound Action Hydrophone/Coast Guard Lease-Projects</u></p> <p>Elaine: I communicated with Captain Joe about the hydrophone project, and he is completely supportive of it to include the Keepers paying the monthly wifi fee. He suggested I notify Orca Annie and the Whale Trail people about this, so I did. No feedback from Orca Annie, but I received some great feedback from the Whale Trail leadership that I will discuss with Amy Carey:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. They are concerned about the live camera stream proposed by Sound Action without having a robust monitoring plan in place for increased vessel traffic, as the noise and disturbance is disastrous for the 	<p>Action Item</p>

	<p>orca.</p> <p>b. They want to ensure that public access to the data streams is free to the public and not a fee-based subscription.</p> <p>c. They suggest Sound Action submit a maintenance and funding plan, since camera maintenance can be expensive.</p> <p>Bob: What is the relationship between the live stream and increased vessel traffic?</p> <p>Elaine: When people see that, they jump in their boats and come out to the orcas.</p> <p>Hans: It's a federal felony.</p> <p>Abby: It happens all the time.</p> <p>Elaine: Coast Guard Lease-Projects – Captain Joe said he will meet with the Sector Commander who reports to the Admiral as soon as they can meet face-to-face about the problems we are having with getting responses from the Coast Guard. So that might be awhile yet. Meanwhile, I did receive an email from Beverly on Friday confirming that the lease is in tenancy holdover until they get a new lease agreement to me. She said she would follow that up with a letter to me. She said nothing about the project approvals.</p> <p>Hans: When will CJ meet with the Commander?</p> <p>Elaine: He said it will be when they are able – COVID thing.</p> <p>Hans: Is there a grant at risk here?</p> <p>Elaine: 4Culture is pretty good about waiting as long as we communicate with them.</p> <p><u>Ober Park Playground for All</u></p> <p>Elaine: I thought we would be ahead \$40k with the grant; turns out only \$11k. We won't be doing the sunroof thing, Abby?</p> <p>Abby: How much would it be to do drainage?</p> <p>Elaine: About \$40k. It is simply not in the budget.</p>	
<p>Adjourn 8:30 pm</p>	<p>Doug: I move we adjourn Bob: Second Pass 5-0</p>	
<p>Executive Session</p>	<p>Real Estate</p>	

Minutes by: Elaine Ott-Rocheford