

# VASHON PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

## MEETING MINUTES

Ober Park, Performance Room, 7:00 pm

**DATE: Tuesday, July 23, 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
<b>Call to order &amp; agenda review</b>	<b>The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Joe Wald as Lu-Ann was late.</b>	
<b>Public Comment</b>	<p><b>Elaine: A motion was made at the last meeting regarding the metal roof for the lighthouse and the painting of the buildings.</b></p> <p><b>Capt. Joe: Where are we at the present time?</b></p> <p><b>Elaine: I have asked the Coast Guard for approval for the metal roof. I am going to ask again about the roof and the painting of the houses.</b></p> <p><b>Capt. Joe: The painting of the houses is maintenance and does not require approval from others than the Coast Guard. The historical police are the ones who are the issue.</b></p> <p><b>Elaine: I am awaiting formal approval from the Coast Guard.</b></p> <p><b>Capt. Joe: You can write the letter to the historical police right now. A more formal approval from the Coast Guard is easy to get. We need to get both jobs done before the weather changes.</b></p> <p><b>Capt. Joe: Are there any financial statements today?</b></p> <p><b>Elaine: No. The pool is over. We have to see how the Pt. Robinson fits into the cash flow.</b></p> <p><b>Capt Joe: Levy</b></p> <p><b>Elaine: The bigger question is: what do we need to start doing for the levy.</b></p> <p><b>Bill: The levy won't run until April. The Park District cannot do anything, just give information. All we have to do is sometime next spring is run a levy.</b></p> <p><b>Elaine: You have to set the amount.</b></p> <p><b>Bill: We probably won't change the amount.</b></p> <p><b>Mary: That didn't work last time.</b></p> <p><b>Capt. Joe: I think that it short sided to say that if this group- springs up, something will happen.</b></p> <p><b>Bill: I said that people won't think about it until next spring.</b></p> <p><b>Capt. Joe: The enthusiasm should start up pretty soon.</b></p> <p><b>Bill: A concerned citizen should write a letter to the newspaper</b></p> <p><b>Capt. Joe: I am a concerned citizen.</b></p>	

**Joe: I did it one year.**

**Capt. Joe: I did it one year.**

**Truman: The problem is that these guys can't do anything about it.**

**Mary: You can't say that you should vote for the levy.**

**Capt. Joe: That is why we need concerned citizens.**

**Cici: Is there anybody on the Board who would look for these people? You can talk about the need for a champion. Is anyone on the Board who has an idea of who that is?**

**Bill: It is not that cut and dried.**

**Cici: Is anyone here going to recruit for this? Is it your intention of working for people who will fulfill this role?**

**Lu-Ann: You are asking a rhetorical question.**

**Bill: It is clearly too early. It has to spring up and catch everyone's imagination.**

**Scott appeared at the meeting.**

**Lu-Ann: As we prove ourselves, people will support us and I feel that is kind of where we are going.**

**Capt. Joe: I can tell you from my own experience that this won't happen until people are motivated, it will not happen. If you as a Board want to pass the levy, you have to put it together. Sooner rather than later is the time to motivate and recruit, but not beyond your legal capabilities.**

**Scott: when do we have the levy vote?**

**Bill: You can have it in March, April or May. In the past, we went at the same time as the School District. You have to give the County 60 days notice.**

**Scott: So can the School District tell us when others are doing it?**

**Bill: You have to have 2/3 of the people voting in the last election. You have to get 60%. The School District is more emotional to people. In the past we split the election costs. Now, you vote by mail. We used to picket the docks. You could vote next November, but if you are defeated, you are out. You have to give yourself time to gather the support. I would like to see May.**

**Lu-Ann: We are not competing with the School District?**

**Cici: On the finance committee I heard Bill's rationale for running this in May. It seems punitive and short sighted. Unless there is a strong advocate for the Park District, it could fail. There is residual resentment. If we wait to May to give it a shot, it is punitive to the possible supporters. You need to regroup. You have a responsibility to constituents. Using the whip is a short sighted philosophy.**

**Bill: The nature of the vote is: Do you want a Park District. Tell them it would be prudent to approve it.**

**Cici: As a prudent person, allow yourself some breathing room.**

**Scott: If the levy fails in May, we could try in the next seven months. What was catastrophic year before last was unconscionable. From my perspective, I would not shut down anything until the money is gone. Nothing is punitive. They voted to have a Park**

	<p>District, so we have to have this through 2015.</p> <p><b>Bill:</b> You don't have funding; you do what you have to do to preserve the assets. You can come back the next year and ask for funding. Maybe have one maintenance person and a part time director</p> <p><b>Elaine:</b> I think that the staff would be thinking that they would be looking for another job. It's not punishment; it is human nature to fear uncertainty.</p> <p><b>Doug:</b> It is my understanding that the School District gets substantial money even if the levy fails for them.</p> <p><b>Capt. Joe:</b> Is this the time to have this discussion? It is soon. But then you have the holidays.</p> <p><b>Lu-Ann:</b> I think in terms of supporting the levy. If you mention the pool will not be open next year, there would be a reaction. I can't imagine that this community is that much in the doldrums.</p> <p><b>Scott:</b> If you don't have somebody out there making the case, it could be problematic. If you don't get the information out, people will just vote no.</p> <p><b>Bill:</b> the message is that people want a Park District. If they are angry, you don't vote no, you take your anger out on the commissioners. That is part of the message.</p> <p><b>Mary:</b> People get this information once every four years. I know a lot of people who voted no on the Park District four years ago. I don't think that they have changed their mind.</p> <p><b>Lu-Ann:</b> They don't have just one issue Park District. We get that message out.</p>	
<p><b>Park District History</b></p>	<p><b>Ruth Anderson:</b> I don't want to dwell on the defeats. Back in 1984, the measures put to the voters was for the pool and maintenance. It received a 57% yes vote, but 60% was needed. It was a special levy. This was still a kitchen table operation. There was no levy yet. In the meantime, that this was happening, the one Park, Paradise Ridge, Sunrise Ridge was the control site. The volunteers, who I know will come forward, were doing things at Paradise long before the matter came before the voters. There was the Pony Club and Boy Scouts. There was a grant to change the entry to Paradise. It was about \$30K. When you drove out of there with a horse trailer, you were obstructed from views of drivers passing by. It wasn't until May '87 that the operating budget was passed. We learned the importance of citizen involvement in presenting this to the voters. I provided a list of those who voted in the last election. Like Bill said, people who vote in the School election are mostly positive voters. There becomes a telephone list to make sure people vote. A reminder that you need to get your ballots in. There are a lot of people who don't have computers, so we started sending out newsletters. Ruth provided a copy of a newsletter to the Board. That is a good way to get the information out.</p> <p><b>Elaine:</b> I am working on that.</p> <p><b>Ruth.</b> We also had a speakers' bureau and it was important. The commissioners did it. They told people, everyone, the importance in the committee. That was visibility in the</p>	

	<p>community, including having a booth in the Strawberry Festival. A lot of organizations would benefit from the Park District.</p> <p>Lu-Ann: When was that?</p> <p>Ruth: June of '01.</p> <p>Bill: Did you ever notice that when it came close to the school levy that you started getting information from the District. Dear Islanders, here is what we do.</p> <p>Elaine: I have Atwell at the school district and she has volunteered to do this for us. It would cost us 2K. I might want to move some money around.</p> <p>Bill: I would wait until January</p> <p>Ruth: A quarterly newsletter is great.</p> <p>Capt. Joe: There was a joint publication with Vashon Allied Arts. I think that the Board voted against it because there was a disagreement over who paid what.</p> <p>Elaine: Strawberry Festival went well. The maps we have were very popular.</p> <p>Lu-Ann: The maps are great. People were mostly focused on trails.</p>	
<p><b>Approve June minutes</b></p>	<p>Joe: moved to approve and Scott seconded. Unanimous in favor.</p>	<p><b>UNANIMOUS VOTE TO APPROVE JUNE MINUTES</b></p>
<p><b>Mission Statement</b></p>	<p>Elaine: Please read the current mission statement. It tells me nothing. The Park District used to support just about any idea. The Park District no longer fits that model. It should be a guide and a framework to develop strategies. After the festival, an email to me said the berms at Ober Park were dry and were not fit for the kids. I responded and told her that we were discussing our mission statement. I told her that we did not have an irrigation system and that is why it was so dry. What is our standard? What about community safety? A mission statement can be a combination of all those ideas. So, writing a mission statement involves the following: brainstorming and crafting the statement and having it accurately reflect our strategies. I passed out sample mission statements. Big items were debt-free and maintenance. Balanced funding for all programs. Land acquisition. Activities and a broad education for all people. Adequate facilities, particularly restrooms and focusing on safety and more diverse resource protection. Controlling invasives and more trails. We being involved more in the community. All of these ideas could be incorporated.</p> <p>Bill: The mission statement does not preclude you from maintaining or not maintaining. Where do you fall? Mission statements don't talk about dried grass. It is not our job to tell people how to live their lives. We have been down all these roads before. Look at all these statements. They don't talk about healthy lifestyles. I like our present mission statement. There is nothing that precludes being a good steward. If something is brought to this Board, it does not matter what the mission statement is.</p> <p>Scott: If we had a mission statement, it would guide what our focus was. I'm not saying that</p>	

we should get too specific. Ours is too vague. We should expand on it. We as a Board should come to a conclusion as to what the community goals are. We shouldn't be dictating it, we should be responding.

**Lu-Ann:** We hope that whatever we choose we would be representing what the community wants. The healthy side is important.

**Scott:** That is what you think, but is it what the constituents think. Is that what the community thinks? I don't know.

**Doug:** It is about choices. Our job is to make choices about these things. That is why a mission statement helps us. I see it as helping us establish priorities.

**Bill:** Are you saying it should establish our priorities?

**Doug:** I am saying it should help us.

**Bill:** So do we update this every year?

**Scott:** I would hope when we get it right, we probably won't change it, but something might happen to make us change it.

**Cici:** I watched the mission statement conversation on Voice of Vashon and it was really encouraging and exciting. It gives you a way to give you a grasp. What is our purpose? This is really valuable. Bill says we have a five year plan, But, have we done any of it? This is key to moving forward. This will give you guys a way to make decisions.

**Lu-Ann:** We used to be all things to all people and I never got a sense of who we were.

**Capt. Joe:** The military loves mission statements. The current one is not a mission statement. It says that we will do whatever we want it to do. I wrote a one sentence mission statement out. To provide park and recreation facilities and to maintain/sustain those programs in a fiscally responsible action and comply with applicable statues,"

**Joe:** I like the one at the bottom, but I like Bill's better.

**Scott:** A mission statement is brief.

**Lu-Ann:** His statement is good.

**Scott:** It describes what we have here.

**Bill:** So if a person was politically inclined, this Park Board would put out a mission statement and in January we would put out a 5 year plan. Cici does not know it, but we didn't accomplish much of it. A mission statement and a new five year plan would be a good step forward. In 2016, our finances change dramatically. How are we going to spend the extra money we will have.

**Lu-Ann:** Would we be playing our cards and eliminating some people? We don't want to alienate people?

**Bill:** No. If they see what they want somewhere on the list – they would be happy.

**Doug:** Early on, they created a laundry list. The synergy would be good.

**Bill:** If you start this 5-year plan in October and you call people in to help formulate it, it is like doing a newsletter. There are a lot of people who want lights on the fields, want a restroom, and want to develop Burton. Get people involved in the 5-year plan.

We will never cover the pool because unless we do something like a bond, it will never

happen. People said that we don't want something extra to fund the pool. Unless you think that you can get a bond issue to cover the pool it won't happen.

Scott: Working together is a partnership. Are we writing a check for the lights? No. Are we going to cover the pool? No.

Bill: You have to be clear in the 5-year plan.

Scott: These are the priorities that need to be sorted out. You want the lights, how are we going to pay for it? What would be reasonable?

Bill: There hasn't been a major capital improvement that hasn't been funded by a bond.

Cici: Wrong! We put a cover on the arena.

Truman: Wrong!

Lu-Ann: The healthy community piece is important. Newcomers notice that people appear healthy here.

Scott: Healthy is sustainable. It is reflecting a life style that is more in sync with our environment.

Lu-Ann: What about Yoga classes here? Where does that fit?

Doug: We are talking about getting the 5 -year plan. I did like the statement about greater partnerships.

Elaine: People are interested in the creative partnership.

Scott: I like Joe's idea. Whether it is Allied Arts or the Land Trust, we don't want to limit ourselves. It has to make sense to us.

Lu-Ann: It only enhances our reputation/credibility on the Island if we partner with the right organizations. It can help us achieve our goals. We are there to help achieve our goals.

Elaine: It fosters community involvement and I like that a lot. That notion of community leadership. Stating that we are a community leader says one thing; community partnership says something different, more cohesive.

Doug: One of the words is equitable distribution of resources is good.

Scott: The survey gets back to this. We should do a survey this fall. It gives us good feedback.

Cici: We live in a tiny town with 10K on the Island. The notion of cooperative will give us a base in the community. This is why I like the Salmon Safe project. I support cooperation with other community groups.

Capt. Joe: Everybody has something they want added in. You can make it a short; concise that has only a few statements in this.

Lu-Ann: Don't make it too broad.

Elaine: I am feeling it.

Scott: Will you come back next meeting and present us with something?

Elaine: yes

Elaine – mission statement

<p><b>Paradise Ridge Caretaker Settlement - Vote</b></p>	<p><b>Elaine: I attended a class sponsored by the Auditor’s Office. I learned that executive sessions are only for discussion only, not decisions. The Board must vote on this. We discussed this issue about a contract for having Paradise vacated by June 30<sup>th</sup>. I have developed a prorated amount. He is not out.</b></p> <p><b>Lu-Ann: Are we voting on the addendum too:</b></p> <p><b>Elaine: We can. It is incorporated in the intent.</b></p> <p><b>Bill: Wording?</b></p> <p><b>Elaine: You need to vote for the \$6K. The spirit is that he needs to keep paying the utilities and so forth.</b></p> <p><b>Scott: So move. I move to our original action amended to reflect his staying past June 30<sup>th</sup>.</b></p> <p><b>Bill: The only amendment is the moving of the date.</b></p> <p><b>Elaine: No. We won’t extend that, we will evict him. We will vote next time.</b></p> <p><b>Cici: It takes about 6 months to evict someone.</b></p> <p><b>Elaine: It is an emergency. His new plan is out in two weeks.</b></p> <p><b>Joe: MOTION to Suspend the rules. Doug second.</b></p> <p><b>UNANIMOUS.</b></p> <p><b>Bill: Call the question.</b></p> <p><b>UNANIMOUS IN FAVOR.</b></p>	<p><b>MOTION: TENANT STAYING PAST JUNE 30 PLAN.</b></p> <p><b>MOTION SECOND TO SUSPEND THE RULES, UNANIMOUS IN FAVOR.</b></p> <p><b>VOTE UNANIMOUS TO IMPLEMENT EXTENDED PLAN AT PARADISE. 14-17</b></p>
<p><b>Interlocal Agreement Meeting Req’mt Change – Vote</b></p>	<p><b>Our agreement presently contains the requirement that the Commons Committee will meet quarterly. Both the School District and the Park District would like the requirement to be changed that the Commons Committee will meet as needed.</b></p> <p><b>Lu-Ann: No less than once a year.</b></p> <p><b>Bill: I don’t want a meeting to have a meeting</b></p> <p><b>Joe: Probably good to touch bases once a year.</b></p> <p><b>Elaine: A meeting needed is maintenance for next year.</b></p> <p><b>Bill: We will need a meeting in September to discuss the pool.</b></p> <p><b>Scott: Second</b></p> <p><b>Vote next meeting.</b></p>	<p><b>MOTION, SECOND TO REQUIRE THE COMMONS</b></p>

		<p><b>COMMITTEE TO MEET ONCE A YEAR.</b></p> <p><b>Agenda item!</b></p>
	<p><b><u>Point Robinson painting.</u></b></p> <p><b>Elaine:</b> Scott said at the last meeting that we should do the roof and painting now. 25K in September with painting, roof in in November. Grant covers the 19K. Scott wants to take 25K out of maintenance reserve, which is about what we have there. Move that we do the entire maintenance now. We need a vote. Key piece is 25K for painting. 18K for the two houses.</p> <p><b>Jason:</b> I have a bid for it.</p> <p><b>Bill:</b> Is it prevailing wage</p> <p><b>Jason:</b> Yes.</p> <p><b>Lu-Ann:</b> \$25,815?</p> <p><b>Elaine:</b> Look at how it affects cash flow. We will have the TAN by then. This painting is not being reimbursed.</p> <p><b>Jason:</b> Painting should have happened last year. The longer we wait, the worse it gets.</p> <p><b>Capt Joe:</b> I want this done ASAP.</p> <p><b>Jason:</b> the prices could be higher than when first solicited bids.</p> <p><b>Bill:</b> The Board has to accept the bid. We authorize her to get the bid. The Board has to vote to accept the bid.</p> <p><b>Truman:</b> If you vote to approve up to \$25K, you don't have to come back if the bid is \$18K.</p> <p><b>Joe:</b> How about if we move to paint quarters A and B.</p> <p><b>THE LAST MOTION AMENDED TO PAINT QUARTERS A AND B NOT TO EXCEED 25K.</b></p> <p><b>Bill:</b> I would like to see the bid. It is a major bid. Doesn't hurt to review it.</p> <p><b>Scott:</b> Isn't that what we have a director for.</p> <p><b>LU-ANN:</b> We, the Board, are the responsible party, not Elaine.</p> <p><b>Elaine:</b> We might have a bid at the next board meeting.</p> <p><b>MOTION: WE APPROVE UP TO 25k, FOR QUARTERS A AND B. WE ARE WITHHOLDING THE VOTE UNTIL WE SEE THE BIDS.</b></p> <p><b>We are proposing that she get the bid before we vote.</b></p> <p><b>Scott:</b> Call the question.</p> <p><b>Lu-Ann:</b> Voting on the motion to put it to bid.</p> <p><b>Unanimous in favor.</b></p> <p><b><u>Surplus Dirt</u></b></p> <p><b>Elaine:</b> We have 300 tons of dirt. Jason would like to sell it.</p>	<p><b>MOTION, SECOND TO PAINT QUARTERS A AND B NOT TO EXCEED 25k. BIDS TO COME TO BOARD.</b></p> <p><b>UNANIMOUS IN FAVOR.</b></p> <p><b>#14-18</b></p>



	<p>Jason: Part is at Paradise and the other is at the Skate Park.  Bill: What is it worth? \$10 bucks per ton, delivered. Louis was going to take everything two weeks ago. If he doesn't need it anymore, we will have to advertise to sell it.  Bill: I wouldn't mind selling it to fix the pool.  Joe: I think that we should offer it to the user group.  Mary: We have our quarterly meeting next week.  Jason: The trailer from Paradise is gone. I have to look at it. We may need to fill a hole.  Lu-Ann: Do we want to give Jason the authority to sell it.  Scott: Let the user groups take what they need.  Jason: they won't take all of it.  Lu-Ann: There are costs to moving it.  Bill: We can start the surplus motion  <b>MOTION: SURPLUS THE DIRT IF THE USER GROUPS DON'T WANT IT.</b> Doug, second...  Cici: Open it up to the Island.  Joe: We tried that once and it didn't work. Don't open it up to the community.  Bill: We can't give away government property.</p>	<p><b>MOTION,  SECOND TO  SURPLUS  EXCESS DIDRT  IF THE USER  GROUPS DO  NOT WANT IT</b></p>
<p><b>Board and Staff Reports</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>TAN</u>  Elaine: I have a draft offer letter from Banner Bank. If you agree they will put it on letterhead and get signatures. It includes closing fees. Commissioners must formally adopt a bond resolution. 30 days to be paid off.  Scott: document looks great.  Elaine: I will get the formal document ready for your signature for the next meeting. I just need to know that you are good with the draft.</li> <li>• <u>Skate Park</u>  Three engineering groups responded. We will negotiate the contract this week.</li> <li>• <u>VES</u>  Elaine: I submitted the Harbor School parking recommendation and I have not heard back from King County yet. The North lot needs only gravel. It does not need paving. The 88 spaces are paved.</li> <li>• <u>Pool</u>  Elaine: The Health Department inspected the pool on July 9th. We passed with</li> </ul>	<p>Elaine: document for signature</p>

	<p>flying colors. The inspector said it was the cleanest pool he has seen that day. He closed the Vashon County Club pool. The result is that Scott Bonney has perfected the backwash process. He will do minimal maintenance throughout the year. We will haul away the backwash.</p> <p>Scott: we should be able to go forward without Scott. Just a precaution.</p> <p>Jason: he is doing multiple backwashes and he allows it to settle, pumping as much as possible back into the pool.</p> <p>Cici: He is re-filtering the water through the pool. Solids are building up thicker.</p> <p>Joe: Every other pool has a drain, we don't.</p> <p>Capt. Joe: Has the cover been bought yet?</p> <p>Elaine: No. Scott's proposal would take the School District out of the picture.</p> <p>Bill: I am not comfortable with this.</p> <p>Joe: It is not an option to pump into their drain system.</p> <p>Bill: It would minimize the impact if we kept the School District in on this.</p> <p>Elaine: We should get our insurance reimbursement soon.</p> <p>Jason: We are going to need to do tiling work. A lot are falling into the pool. We have been fixing it ourselves. It needs to be redone. Maybe we could look at poured concrete on the edges.</p> <p>Bill: It will be the 40<sup>th</sup> year of the pool in the fall. It has lived its life. A five-year plan may consider how to save the pool.</p> <p>Truman: The design is antiquated. New designs are way better.</p> <p>Joe: There are lots of options.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Finance Committee letter to Auditor</u> Letter submitted.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>NEXT MEETING</b></p>	<p>The next meeting will be August 12, 2014, in the Evergreen Room.</p>	
<p><b>ADJOURN</b></p>	<p>Motion, second to adjourn at 9:10</p>	

Respectfully submitted by  
Mary Reeves