CITY OF ISSAQUAH
Park Board

7:00 PM
June 26, 2023

MINUTES

Tibbetts Manor, 750 17th Ave NW, Issaquah

BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Board Members:
Chris Kovac, Chair
Marlene Waxse, Vice Chair
Zach Szablewski
Andrew Eliquen *(Excused Absence)*
David Liu
Nicholas Lee (Virtual)
Brenda Spears
Katie Bell *(Excused Absence)*
Tim Motely *(Virtual, arrived 7:46 pm)*

Bradley Book, Alternate
Andrew Myers, Alternate *(Excused Absence)*
Ryan Olson, Alternate *(Excused Absence)*

Administration/Staff:
Hasanthi Piyasena, Business Operations Specialist
Rick Still, Park Operations Manager
Dale Markey-Crimp, Performance Program Analyst (virtual)

Community Members/Guests:
Steve Nowaczyk, HBB Consultant *(Virtual)*
Cory Christensen, Community Member

CALL TO ORDER
Chair Kovac called the meeting to order at approx. 7:03 PM.
Roll call was taken.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a) Minutes of May 22, 2023
There being no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Cory Christensen: Mr. Christensen gave comment after the dog park presentation and board discussion. Advocate for the park but concerned with the size, feels the location was chosen without community input, had design surfacing questions, prefers sand for dog health and drainage, prefers no small dog area and trail should be concrete.

REGULAR BUSINESS

a) **Rainier Trail Dog Park Update, (I,D)**
Presented by:
Hasanthi Piyasena, Business Operations Specialist
HBB Consultants

Business Operations Specialist, Hasanthi Piyasena gave an overview of the dog park project background and HBB Consultant led the board through the different features within the proposed conceptual plan and discussed the open house feedback received from the community. The board had questions regarding parking, synthetic turf options, required maintenance costs, safety of bark surfacing for dogs, shelter options, possible budget trade offs for inclusion of

features, fencing options, longevity of products used, drainage of the area and water station, what population this park will serve and advocates for multiple dog park options throughout the city.

Park Operations Division Update, (I)
Presented by:
Rick Still, Park Operations Manager

Park Operations Manager, Rick Still gave an update on the changes for the division in staffing and structure. He gave data on the improvement projects, designated work crews, the turf maintenance program, and certifications held by staff. He also detailed the urban forest team and ranger programs. The board had questions about seasonal and part-time staff, ballfield maintenance, and gave a shout out to the team for their support during the community Slug Fest.

ADA Transition Plan, (I,D)
Presented by:
Dale Markey-Crimp, Performance Program Analyst

Performance Program Analyst, Dale Markey-Crimp led the board through the parks and trails ADA transition plan elements and prioritization criteria. The board gave feedback on including the trail corridors as part of the prioritization, looking at how adaptive recreation amenities are included in parks, how this work is integrated into the CIP, what are the demographics for the populations in Issaquah as it related to ADA needs, that we serve a population outside of our Issaquah community and to look at what was done at Lake Sammamish State Park.

REPORTS

b) Chairperson's Report – Chair Kovac spoke about wanting to establish contacts with local organizations and non-profits to come and speak at board meetings as they relate to our park spaces and use.

a) Director's Report – Hasanthi gave the staff report on updates to the Park System Plan and upcoming ad-hoc and community engagement opportunities, that the Ek house restoration phased approach within the CIP was presented to City Council that same evening, and gave updates on cross-departmental city meetings on the ARPA project plans and designs, and engagement with the VFW on the Veterans Memorial and Flag plaza space. Reminder for Blackberry Park Neighborhood Celebration, July 10.

OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

The board discussed the park tour locations for the next meeting and date change. There was consensus to visit the dog park, art installation location along the Rainier Trail, Pedestrian Park and Senior Center and Confluence Park around the Ek House.

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting is currently still being scheduled with the board.