

03-26-24 Park Board Minutes

**CITY OF ISSAQUAH
Park Board**

7:00 PM
March 26, 2024

MINUTES

Tibbetts Manor, 750 17th Ave
NW, Issaquah

BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Board Members:

Chris Kovac, Chair
Marlene Waxse, Vice Chair
Zach Szablewski (*Excused Absence*)
Andrew Eliquen (*Excused Absence*)
David Liu
Nicholas Lee (Absent)
Brenda Spears
Katie Bell (*Virtual*)
Tim Motely (*Excused Absence*)

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

Administration/Staff:

Jeff Watling, Parks and Community
Services Director
Robin Spear, Park Planning and
Development Manager
Rick Still, Parks Operations Manager
(Virtual)
Hasanthi Piyasena, Department Operations
Specialist, Parks & Community Services

Community Members/Guests:

Sanvi Madan, Youth Advisory Member
(Virtual)
Dave Waggoner, Community Member
Roberta Waggoner, Community Member

SPECIAL MEETING

*Please note, this agenda also serves as the special meeting notice pursuant to RCW
42.30.080*

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kovac called the meeting to order at approx. 7:00 PM
Roll call for both boards was taken.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) Minutes of January 22, 2024
There being no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dave Waggoner: Mr. Waggoner reminded the board that Veterans Memorial Field was the football field and home of the rodeo in Issaquah and the volunteer firefighters gave it to the City and the name was updated in 2005 to honor our fallen heroes. He also reminded staff that the Veterans Memorial will be updated and cleaned on May 4.

REGULAR BUSINESS

- a) **Athletic Field Discussion, (D,I)**

Presented by:

Jeff Watling, Director

Robin Spear, Park Planning and Development Manager

Director Watling led the board through an update on our current athletic fields and the investments in maintenance that have been made over the years but for future needs we will look to partnerships on how to prioritize and build capacity. He reminded the board how our topography poses challenges and the needs to be creative in our solutions for athletic fields.

03-26-24 Park Board Minutes

The board had questions, comments, and discussion around:

The use of turf with organic cork in-fill for year-round use, the need for multi-use but some single use areas, that 80% of the system is currently open space and preserved and the need to invest in active fields is desired by the community, consensus that partnering with ISD is a good strategy and the most pressing need is TVP for master planning and other community needs. Thoughts around looking at underutilized parking lots, changing Squak Valley Park to tennis/pickleball/off leash area or something that eases the traffic needs to be there at a specific time, update the perspective of lighted fields and how the technology has really improved in terms of light pollution from these fields, the costs savings over time of synthetic turf, equity of access/proximity from the hills to the valley.

Park Project Updates, (D,I)

Presented by:

Jeff Watling, Director

Robin Spear, Park Planning and Development Manager

Park Planning and Development Manager, Robin Spear led the board through all the current working capital projects and where they all are in their timelines from design, permitting and into construction this summer for many of the projects. Director Watling led the board through some of the pool expansion options that came out of the recent feasibility study and that the school district may be discussing this next month.

Discussion from the board asked if the proposed options will only be lap swim or also zero entry, confirmed, looking at lap swim options and recommended that the school district then come with funding if it will mainly be for high school use. Other board members noted that the pool is used by many more than just the high school teams and this should be a partnership.

REPORTS

- a) Youth Representative's Report
Sanvi Madan told the board about a new event IYAB is hosting, a Hackathon in May with a coding skills workshop and the opportunity for kids to work on a problem facing Issaquah with a coding solution.
- b) Director's Report
Director Watling reminded the board that the UFMP survey is still out and encouraged others to share and take it and that the installation of the wayfinding signs has started.
- c) Chairperson's Report
Chair Kovac compiled a list of events to share out and there is something practically everyday in April to join and reminder for staff to send a blurb that can then be shared by board members for community engagement opportunities.

OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approx. 8:45 PM.
The next meeting is currently scheduled for April 29, 2024.

Issaquah Park Board

Upcoming Events, April 2024

Event	Day	Date	Time	Location	Sponsor	Link
Literary Nights	Mon	4/1	7:00pm to 9:00pm	Train Depot	Downtown Iss. Assoc.	Calendar • Literary Nights (issaquahwa.gov)
Stewards for Kokanee	Tue	4/2	10:00am to 12:00pm	Anthology Open Space	Gibson Ek HS & Lake Samm. UWRP	Calendar • Stewards for Kokanee (issaquahwa.gov)
Coexisting with Carnivores	Wed	4/3	5:30pm to 7:30pm	Tibbets Creek Manor	City of Issaquah	Calendar • Coexisting with Carnivores Panel (issaquahwa.gov)
Arbor Day Planting	Sat	4/6	9:00am to 12:00pm	Confluence Park	City of Issaquah	Calendar • Arbor Day Planting (issaquahwa.gov)
Community Litter Clean Up	Sat	4/6	9:00am to 12:00pm	Issaquah Post Office	City of Issaquah	Calendar • April Issaquah Community Litter Clean-Up Event (issaquahwa.gov)
Farm Fresh Market	Sat	4/6	9:00am to 2:00pm	Historic Shell Station	City of Issaquah	Calendar • Farm Fresh Market (issaquahwa.gov)
Hard-to-Recycle Collection Event	Sat	4/6	9:00am to 3:00pm	Eastside Catholic	City of Issaquah	Calendar • Hard to Recycle Collection Event (issaquahwa.gov)
Plein Air Watercolor Hike	Wed	4/10	5:00pm to 8:00pm	Talus Bridge Trailhead	Issaquah Alps and Trails Club	Plein Air Watercolor Hike — Issaquah Alps Trails Club
Farm Fresh Market	Sat	4/13	9:00am to 2:00pm	Historic Shell Station	City of Issaquah	Calendar • Farm Fresh Market (issaquahwa.gov)
Stewardship Saturday	Sat	4/13	10:00am to 12:00pm	Anthology Open Space	Trout Unlimited	Calendar • Stewardship Saturday with TU (issaquahwa.gov)
Hard-to-Recycle Collection Event	Sat	4/13	9:00am to 3:00pm	Eastside Catholic	City of Issaquah	Calendar • Hard to Recycle Collection Event (issaquahwa.gov)
Critical Habitats for Climate Change	Wed	4/17	1:00pm to 3:00pm	Pickering Barn	Issaquah Alps and Trails Club	Critical Habitats for Climate Change: Why Riparian and Wetland Areas are so Important for Plant and Wildlife Diversity — Issaquah Alps Trails Club
Get to Know Your Plant Friends Hike	Fri	4/19	1:00pm to 6:00pm	Squak Mountain Access Trail	Issaquah Alps and Trails Club	Calendar • Get to Know Your Plant Friends Hike (issaquahwa.gov)
Farm Fresh Market	Sat	4/20	9:00am to 2:00pm	Historic Shell Station	City of Issaquah	Calendar • Farm Fresh Market (issaquahwa.gov)

Issaquah Park Board

Upcoming Events, April 2024

Event	Day	Date	Time	Location	Sponsor	Link
Keep Issaquah Beautiful	Sat	4/20	9:00am to 12:00pm	Historic Shell Station	Downtown Iss. Assoc.	Calendar • Keep Issaquah Beautiful Day (issaquahwa.gov)
Earth Day at the Hatchery	Sat	4/20	12:00pm to 4:00pm	Issaquah Salmon Hatchery	FISH	Calendar • Celebrate Earth Day with the Issaquah Salmon Hatc (issaquahwa.gov)
Earth Day at the Zoo	Sat	4/20	All Day	Cougar Mountain Zoo	Cougar Mountain Zoo	Calendar • Earth Day at the Zoo (issaquahwa.gov)
Earth Day Restoration at East Sunset Trailhead	Sat	4/20	9:00am to 12:00pm	East Sunset Trailhead	City of Issaquah	Calendar • Earth Day Restoration at East Sunset Trailhead (issaquahwa.gov)
Earth Day Restoration Event at Park Pointe	Sat	4/20	9:00am to 12:00pm	Park Pointe	Issaquah Alps and Trails Club	Calendar • Earth Day Restoration Event at Park Pointe (issaquahwa.gov)
LSSP Restoration Event	Sat	4/20	10:00am to 12:00pm	Lake Sammamish State Park	FLSSP	April 2024 Restoration Event — Friends of Lake Sammamish State Park Website Support, Enhance and Promote Lake Sammamish State Park (lakesammamishfriends.org)
State Park Free Pass Day	Mon	4/22	All Day	Lake Sammamish State Park	WA State Parks	Calendar • State Park Free Pass Day (issaquahwa.gov)
2024 Issaquah Rotary Grape Escape	Wed	4/24	6:00pm to 9:00pm	Pickering Barn	Issaquah Rotary	Calendar • 2024 Issaquah Rotary Grape Escape (issaquahwa.gov)
Tradition Plateau BioBlitz Hike	Fri	4/26	1:00pm to 3:3pm	East Sunset Trailhead	City of Issaquah	Calendar • Tradition Plateau BioBlitz Hike (issaquahwa.gov)
Farm Fresh Market	Sat	4/27	9:00am to 2:00pm	Historic Shell Station	City of Issaquah	Calendar • Farm Fresh Market (issaquahwa.gov)
Bird Walk with Eastside Audubon	Sat	4/27	8:00am to 9:30am	Confluence Park	Eastside Audubon Society	Calendar • Bird Walk with Eastside Audubon (issaquahwa.gov)
Forest Steward Orientation	Sat	4/27	9:00am to 12:00pm	Confluence Park	City of Issaquah	Calendar • Forest Steward Orientation (issaquahwa.gov)
City Nature Challenge	Sat	4/27	2:00pm to 4:00pm	Lake Sammamish State Park	FLSSP	City Nature Challenge — Friends of Lake Sammamish State Park Website Support, Enhance and Promote Lake Sammamish State Park (lakesammamishfriends.org)