



## Department of Parks and Recreation

Seattle Board of Park Commissioners  
Meeting Minutes  
August 14, 2008  
Meeting Held at Rainier Community Center

Web site: <http://www.seattle.gov/parks/parkboard/>  
Includes agendas and minutes from 2001-present, as well  
as Seattle Channel tapes of meetings from June 12, 2008

### ***Board of Park Commissioners:***

Present:

Neal Adams  
John Barber  
Terry Holme  
Donna Kostka  
Christine Larsen  
Jackie Ramels, Vice-Chair  
Amit Ranade, Chair

### ***Seattle Parks and Recreation Staff:***

Tim Gallagher, Superintendent  
Sandy Brooks, Park Board Coordinator

Commissioner Ranade called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. **Commissioner Barber moved, and Commissioner Kostka seconded, approval of the agenda as revised. Commissioner Adams moved, and Commissioner Barber seconded, approval of the July 24 minutes as corrected. The vote was taken and the motion was approved. The record of correspondence will be acknowledged at the August 28 meeting.**

## **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Gallagher reported on several park items. For more information on Seattle Parks and Recreation, visit the web pages at <http://www.seattle.gov/parks/>.

Alki Statue of Liberty: The restoration of the Statue of Liberty at Alki Beach Park continues on schedule for the September 6 dedication. The concrete base was poured two weeks ago. For more information on the Alki Beach Park where the Statue is located, see [http://cityofseattle.net/parks/park\\_detail.asp?ID=445](http://cityofseattle.net/parks/park_detail.asp?ID=445).

Delridge Skatepark Update: Over 60 people attended the recent community meeting for the siting and design of a skate park in Delridge. Delridge neighbors and skaters provided excellent input. Funding for the skate park is recommended in the Department's 2009-2010 budget with construction in 2009. This skate park is planned for 12-15,000 sq. ft. The new skate park at Lower Woodland is 17,000 sq. ft.

On August 4, the Seattle P-I ran a very positive article about the site options for the Delridge Playfield skate park, following the public meeting: [http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/373415\\_skatepark04.html](http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/373415_skatepark04.html).

Park Usage Increases: With the higher cost of gasoline prices people are not traveling as much out of town and using parks more and Parks staff have been very busy maintaining the parks this summer. Economic slowdowns generally increase park usage.

Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center: The summer performance of "Snow White and the Seven" runs through this weekend at the Moore Theater. The show received great coverage in the newspapers.

For more information on the Performing Arts Center, see <http://cityofseattle.net/parks/centers/langston.htm> and [http://q13.trb.com/news/kcpq-080508-everyday\\_0,3746751.story](http://q13.trb.com/news/kcpq-080508-everyday_0,3746751.story).

Magnuson Wetland and Sports Field Project Problem: Recently four acres in the wetlands area of this project were found to have a high contamination level. The project is on hold, which could significantly delay completion and increase the cost. A great deal of concrete and debris has been found buried under the site. The Navy has agreed to send one of its staff to look at the site. Responding to a question from Commissioner Kostka whether the Navy will pay for any of the costs resulting from the contamination, the Superintendent answered that the Department believes the Navy has a legal responsibility for the contamination and takes the site visit as a good first step.

For more information on Magnuson Park and the project, see <http://www.seattle.gov/parks/Magnuson/>.

Magnuson Park Contracts for Buildings 11 and 27: The re-negotiation of these two contracts is going well, with creative solutions to City Council's concerns with the contracts. Parks staff expect to have new contracts to the Mayor next week and to City Council on August 26.

Green Lake Stakes Update: Since the last Park Board meeting, it has been determined that the spikes found in Green Lake were installed in the mid-1980s to secure milfoil cloth screens. The Department hired a diver to examine the cloth screens at other beaches in the park system. The stakes along Lake Washington Boulevard are still in good shape. The stakes at Green Lake Park rusted and broke off. The cause for this may be the alum that has been used several times to treat Green Lake for milfoil prevention.

Staff have learned that in the 1980s, no permit was required to install the stakes. Now the State requires a permit to both install and remove them. Staff are working with the State on whether the stakes should be removed, whether there are any needed permits to remove them, and are preparing a cost estimate for removing the stakes -- which could be a significant amount.

Wawona Update: This ship, currently at Lake Union Park and being moved to another site, is being moved in pieces due to its condition. The original bid for moving the ship was higher than the budget. The move has now been re-bid, with several new bidders and the project should be back within budget.

For more information on the Wawona, see <http://www.nwseaport.org/wawona.html>.

Recruiters at Park Facilities: The Park Board received a letter of concern today regarding military recruiters sponsoring events at some Parks' facilities. The Superintendent stated that the Department is working with other public agencies and the school systems to develop a recruitment policy defining when recruitment can occur. The policy will be brought to the Park Board for a public hearing. Commissioner Ranade, an attorney, has legal questions on this that he will direct to the Superintendent and City Law Department.

New Director Joins Department: Rob Courtney started work on August 4 as the Department's Parks Division Director and will oversee all grounds and building maintenance activities. He comes from the City of Gresham, Oregon, where he served as the Parks and Recreation Manager and will attend the August 28 meeting to meet the Board of Park Commissioners. Melinda Nichols, who had been serving as interim Parks Division Director, has been assigned to lead the new Natural Resources Unit, which replaces the former Horticulture Unit and brings vegetation management, wildlife protection, utility conservation, environmental education, and other units under the same roof.

Seattle Channel Tapes Park Board Meetings: Commissioner Holme was absent from the July 24 meeting and watched the videotape on Seattle Channel. He found that it difficult to hear individual commissioners speak and encouraged all to pay attention to the microphones and speak loudly.

### **Oral Requests and Communication from the Audience**

The Chair explained that this portion of the agenda is reserved for topics that have not had, or are not scheduled for, a public hearing. Speakers are limited to three minutes each and will be timed. The Board's usual process is for 15 minutes of testimony to be heard at this time, with additional testimony heard after the regular agenda and just before Board of Park Commissioner's business. One person signed up to testify.

Sharon Finegold: Ms. Finegold referred to the Thursday closure of Lake Washington Boulevard to vehicle traffic as part of the Department's road closure program. The Superintendent responded that the Department revised the hours of closure to begin at 10:00 am and end at 4:00 pm. Ms. Finegold added that earlier today on the Boulevard she saw a motorist throwing lighted firecrackers at a bicyclist who was dressed in racing-type bike clothing.

### **Public Hearing: Lake Washington Boulevard Vegetation Management Plan**

At its July 24 meeting, Commissioners heard a briefing on the Lake Washington Boulevard Vegetation Management Plan (VMP.) [To read the minutes of that meeting, see <http://cityofseattle.net/parks/parkboard/> and click on 2008 Board Minutes.] At tonight's meeting, the Board held a public hearing. At its August 28 meeting, the Board plans to discuss the VMP and vote on a recommendation to the Superintendent.

#### ***Public Hearing***

The public hearing began. Speakers were reminded that they have up to two minutes each to speak and will be timed. Sixteen people testified.

Laurel Peters: Ms. Peters is a homeowner on Lake Washington Boulevard. She asked if the Department can help convince her neighbor to trim his 20' tall hedge [on private property] that she believes is a security risk. The rental home is often empty and has been burglarized and is a site of prostitution. These hedges obstruct the scenic drive along the Boulevard. At her request, Seattle Police Department visited the site and recommended that the hedges be trimmed 3-8'. She has talked to the homeowner and the rental manager and they want the neighbors to pay for the trimming.

Joyce Moty: Ms. Moty supports the revised draft and the Superintendent's three recommendations that were presented on July 14 meeting at the Mt. Baker meeting. She believes the VMP is needed and is long overdue.

There is a loss of tree canopy and parks are a last resort for large conifers and other large trees. With increasing density in Seattle, more green space is needed now and even more so in the future. Seattle Parks must stop catering to wealthy people with view homes. Trees are a view, too. She asked the Department to be bold.

Debbi Wilson: She has been a resident of Mt. Baker for 25 years and testified about the size of the vegetation "drifts." Many people live away from the lake and come there to use the lawn. She observed many people in the grassy areas today. Lake Washington Boulevard is one of the few sites that allows non-waterfront property owners to access the lovely lake. She believes the size of the drifts will impede this access.

Paul Talbert: He is a Rainier Valley resident and uses Lake Washington Boulevard frequently. He stated he was testifying on behalf of the drifts and trees. The VMP has been a long, drawn out process. He referred to a meeting with the Mt. Baker Community Council in June that wasn't advertised to the public. He does not believe that the VMP includes enough trees. The planned drifts are fabulous, but there needs to be big shade trees included, too.

James Boyd, Jr.: He lives on the 1400 block of Lake Washington Boulevard. There are Portuguese Laurel shrubs that are 15' tall on Parks' property nearby. He has previously requested that these be trimmed back and is here tonight to ask again. The Superintendent asked Mark Mead, Senior Urban Forester working on the VMP, to respond to this request.

Tom Markl: He has been a Mt. Baker resident for 33 years, has a framed view of the lake, and likes trees. He has been at most of the VMP meetings and the plan is of vital interest to him. The first meetings he attended were rancorous and he complimented Superintendent Gallagher for his work on this Plan. Both sides have compromised to come to this point. He believes this is now a good plan and he supports it.

Jean Veldwyk: She has lived near Seward Park all her life and appreciates all the birds, fish, and other wildlife. She has been on the VMP committee this past winter and spring. The final comment in the plan refers to "no funding" and this is important to remember. She stated that she has read all of the material and doesn't understand all of it. She called Parks staff to ask questions and only received one return phone call.

David Eitelbach: He has lived on Lake Washington Boulevard for 25 years, agrees with Mr. Markl, and believes that the compromises have resulted in a good VMP. His home is in a slide area and has large trees. He is concerned with the plantings and pleased with how Parks has addressed this and that maintenance is also addressed in the Plan.

Brooks Kolb: Mr. Kolb is the chair of the Friends of Seattle's Olmsted Parks and a member of the Project Advisory Team. He commended Parks staff for developing a vastly improved draft. As a way to get funding for the plantings, he suggested that Parks set up an escrow account that neighbors could contribute to. He asked that big leaf maple seedlings be controlled. He also stated it is very important that the Olmsted Plan is recognized and that views are not static.

Scott Harron: He lives on Lakewood Avenue and attended the public meetings. He found the process was sometimes confusing and painful. However, it has been successful and is an excellent plan. He commended the Parks Department and stated that the development of the VMP was a great amount of work.

Gale Devol: She has been a resident of Mt. Baker for 30 years and was struck by the architecture of the homes when she moved there. She later learned that it is the only intentional Olmsted neighborhood in the country. The Olmsted vision was that the Lake Washington Boulevard would provide a greenbelt to downtown Seattle, be a place of respite, and be an integrated part of the neighborhood.

Allan Smith: He attended one VMP meeting and heard lots of neighbors concerned over losing their views. His primary concern is maintaining Seattle's old growth forests.

Sharon Finegold: She thanked the Board for the opportunity to comment on the VMP. She has lived in the Mt. Baker area all her married life. She believes the revisions to the VMP are excellent. Neighbors who live adjacent to the park take care of the trees and it is a harmonious relationship. She suggested that many cherry trees be planted along the Boulevard to make it an even more beautiful drive. She also stated that SeaFair causes a lot of erosion to the park at the south viewing stands. She believes this is horrible and an unsuitable use of the park.

Chuck Manca: He has been a Mt. Baker resident for 30 years and attended most of the VMP meetings. Only 4-6 people attended the first one, with final meetings garnering 50-70 people each. He believes that the draft presented tonight shows a cautious and careful review of the original draft, reflects a good job, and he supports it.

Sam Woods: He is the Seattle Audubon Center's representative to the VMP Project Advisory Team. The Boulevard is a favorite biking/birding/field trip. He commends the plan for removing non-native vegetation and replacing it with natives. Remember that Seattle is a major flyway for many migrating birds. A variety of canopy cover is very important and he asked that all the trees not be cherry trees, but a variety of tree types.

Gail Gatton: She is director of the Seward Park Audubon Center and also lives in Mt. Baker. She has not participated in developing the VMP, but has followed its development. The Audubon Society receives many calls about the loss of songbirds due to cats. Audubon staff tell the callers that the biggest loss of songbirds comes from loss of their habitat – and not from cats. The birds need a variety of habitat trees and not all cherry trees. She recommended a variety of taller and shorter tree types. She generally applauds the revised Plan.

The public hearing concluded.

Commissioner Ranade asked Commissioners to send any questions to the Superintendent and Mr. Mead. The Board plans to discuss the Plan at its August 28 meeting and vote on a recommendation to the Superintendent.

### **Briefing: "Healthy Parks, Healthy You" Initiative**

Sue Goodwin, Seattle Parks' Recreation Director, introduced herself as the new director of the Seattle Parks Recreation Division and briefed the Board on the Department's "Healthy Parks, Healthy You" Initiative. Commissioners received a written briefing and two handouts, Healthy Parks, Healthy You partnership form, and a kick-off event flier prior to the meeting.

<http://www.seattle.gov/parks/healthyparks/default.htm>

### ***Written Briefing***

#### **Requested Board Action—Information Only**

Seattle Parks Staff will brief the Board of Park Commissioners on the status of the "Healthy Parks, Healthy You" initiative.

## **Project Description and Background**

One of the Mayor's four priorities is to Build Strong Families and Healthy Communities:

Healthy Communities are the heart of a great city. Every part of this city is unique and vital to our growth and our ability to sustain what we love about living and working here. Our diverse cultures bring life, vitality and economic growth to Seattle. As Mayor, I want to foster a renewed commitment to our neighborhoods. That means paying attention to the needs of each community and responding to those needs in a meaningful way.

To support this priority, the Department of Parks and Recreation is unveiling our "Healthy Parks, Healthy You" initiative. This initiative is based upon a foundation of community engagement and community building. We invite families of all ethnic groups to work together as we help bridge gaps and develop programs and partnerships that allow us all to live healthier lives in more livable communities. The Healthy Parks, Healthy You initiative has several key components:

- Kick-off event: August 23rd at Green Lake
- Try-it-for-\$2!: Reduced fees for recreation programs in September
- Community Health Fairs: Saturday, September 20 from 12 noon till 4 p.m. at Delridge Community Center and Saturday, October 18 from 12 noon till 4 p.m. at Rainier Community Center.
- Partnership development: Over 35 community partners signed on so far to support the initiative.

## **Project**

Public parks and recreation agencies have a long history of helping to promote the physical and environmental health of the communities they serve. Today, across the country, health issues such as rising obesity rates and increased chronic disease, including childhood diabetes, are threatening the well-being of our communities. In response, Seattle Parks and Recreation, in partnership with a variety of public, for profit and non-profits agencies, are engaging in citywide efforts to promote healthy lifestyles and more livable communities for children, youth and adults of all ages. Parks and Recreation is developing activities and enhancing existing programming that will encourage and support safe and fun physical activity, use of outdoor spaces for active recreation and healthy eating habits.

The Healthy Parks, Healthy You kick-off event will happen on August 23, 2008 at Green Lake Park, in and around the Green Lake Community Center. Mayor Nickels will open the event and welcome the public and hold a press conference about the initiative, talking about what we are all doing together to increase the health and wellness of Seattle residents. Other activities will include a Fun Run, special guest speakers, a demo stage showcasing various programs that we offer throughout the city, booths providing information on more than 50 programs provided by Parks and Recreation and community partners, and a good time for all. Our staff and partners are committed to engaging the city and helping to provide them with opportunities to help lead healthier lives.

In addition to the August 23 kick-off event, Parks and Recreation will be offering Try it for \$2. During September and October people will be able to enroll in community center programs for just \$2. The goal of this program is to introduce people to the array of healthy activities available at their neighborhood community center. The Community Health Fairs in September and October will provide citizens with information on various health and wellness services that are available throughout Seattle. We will provide on site blood pressure checks at each fair and have various activities for children. We've also included healthy cooking demonstrations at both Health Fairs so people can learn how to prepare healthy alternatives.

## **Public Involvement Process / Community Partners**

Recreation staff is working closely with the Associated Recreation Council (ARC), community organizations, public entities, not-for-profits and others to engage and energize around the initiative, assuring that all voices are heard. Cultural sensitivity is paramount to the success of this project. By engaging others and including them in the overall planning process, we will develop a varied list of partners who, together, will help lead Seattle to healthier lives for all. To date, we have 35 partners who have signed on to work with us on this worthwhile project and we expect to enlist many more before the August 23 kick-off. Some of those partners include; Seattle-King County Public Health, ARC, Seattle Climate Action Now, Seattle Children's Hospital, Treeswing, YMCA, GreenHalloween, Elder Move Alliance, Cascade Bicycle Club, Seattle Tilth and many more.

## **Budget**

ARC provided \$3,000 for informational banners for the kick-off event and for facility support.

## **Additional Information**

For more information, please contact Sue Goodwin: 684-7157, or [sue.goodwin@seattle.gov](mailto:sue.goodwin@seattle.gov)  
Healthy Parks, Healthy You website: <http://www.seattle.gov/parks/healthyparks/default.htm>

**Attachments:**        Healthy Parks, Healthy You partnership form  
                                 Kick-off event flier

## ***Verbal Briefing and Discussion***

Ms. Goodwin reviewed the information in the written briefing. Commissioner Ramels commented that she is very pleased with this program and suggested that weight equipment be added at all community centers. She asked if any type of organization can partner with the Department or is it just health organizations. Ms. Goodwin answered that health concerns is a gigantic umbrella and any organization is welcome – the more, the better.

Commissioner Ranade noted that any company that provides insurance to its employees would have a good incentive to participate, as healthier lifestyles could save on insurance costs. Commissioner Larsen believes this initiative is very important and really likes the "Try It for \$2" component. She suggested that people be allowed to start the "Try It" program any time in the year in order to help make it a habit.

Commissioner Adams stated that he is very pleased with this initiative. He is out in the parks and facilities a great deal and loves the time he spends there. He is also a former employee of the U.S. Public Health Service and knows that convincing people to change from a sedentary to an active lifestyle is a difficult task. He recommended that Ms. Goodwin and her staff also look to the U.S. Public Health Service as another partner in this effort. He asked how the initiative is structured within the Parks Department and for more information on the vision of the program. Ms. Goodwin answered that King County Health Department and Children's Hospital are two of the partners and their staff will be training Parks staff. The message from the Parks Department will be to reinforce good behavior and encourage people to change bad behavior. Staff are very excited to be part of the initiative. Ms. Goodwin noted that when she was at the Los Angeles Park Department, staff changed their own behaviors and led by example. They helped educate people by sponsoring cooking classes and supporting farmer's markets. It is not an easy process and happens one step at a time. Staff can help change an individual, which can change a family, and that can help change a community.

Commissioner Kostka also commended the initiative and asked that senior citizens be remembered. Ms. Goodwin responded that everyone from babies to seniors is included. Commissioner Barber asked how this will work when there is no budget for it. Ms. Goodwin answered that this is a cultural shift and the partners will be working with Parks on the initiative. Parks also provides a good avenue for the partners to reach out to

connect with people. The Superintendent added that some programming changes may be made at the community centers to support the initiative.

Commissioners thanked Ms. Goodwin for the briefing.

## **Old/New Business**

Park Naming Policy: Commissioner Ranade commented that although he was absent from the last meeting, he read the minutes and agrees with the Board's suggestion to have a structured discussion on the Board's concerns with the current Naming Policy. He does not feel the current Policy gives clear direction on park naming and he suggested that the Board form a committee to review and recommend revisions on the Policy. He and Commissioner Barber volunteered and the Superintendent will be the third member. Commissioners were asked to send suggestions as quickly as possible to Commissioner Ranade.

Commissioners had a number of comments on the Naming Policy, as follows:

Commissioner Kostka:

- if it ain't broke, don't fix it
- once a park name is established, it is difficult to alter it
- recommends that the Department follow the lead of national parks and not change park names after they are established.

Commissioner Adams:

- finds the "deceased for three years before a park can be named after them" to be problematic
- doesn't like this rule, but if it is changed must have very clear guidelines and a good policy about how to name parks after living people

Commissioner Barber:

- keep names simple for mapping, emergency, and other reasons
- it is cumbersome to double name a park
- once a park name has been around for a couple of decades it has been named in travel books, textbooks, maps, and other sources and is problematic to change its name after many years
- don't change a park name after it has been named for five years
- park features (fountains, etc.) could be named to honor a person
- there are many ways to honor people, other than naming a park after them
- if a park or facility is named after one mayor, then will one be named after all the mayors?
- When Parks is proposing a park name, there should be a good public involvement plan to involve the park's neighbors
- he believes that park names should reflect cultural and historical elements, rather than being named after people
- don't name the parks in a casual manner
- Parks should clean up its web pages and information to correctly reflect all park names (gave Warren G. Magnuson Park as an example as it has been referred to as Sand Point Magnuson Park by the Department.)

Commissioner Barber also commented that he heard no support for changing the name of Queen Anne Pool to Gordon Clinton Queen Anne Pool and he believes the name of Freeway Park is Freeway Park.



Commissioner Ramels:

- park names are not commodities
- the number of people who would like to have a park named after them is infinite; the number of park properties is finite
- a park should be named after a person only in very special and extraordinary circumstances
- if the Parks Department starts to trade in the naming of parks, isn't far a far stretch before park names go on sale to the highest bidder
- would not condone the naming of parks by corporations or business entities to finance acquisitions or maintenance
- believes that Homer Harris Park was a valid exception
- does not support naming parks after people who are still alive

Commissioner Larsen:

- agrees with involving the community on park namings
- the policy that a person must be dead for three years before a park can be named after them seems arbitrary
- the Board has heard a lot about the Department's funding needs; she believes that the person should either have contributed a great deal to the creation of the park or contributed a great deal of money
- wants more input from the current Naming Committee on how the policy works, and referred to a naming process that Chicago uses which has a formal and informal name for streets

Commissioner Holme:

- thinks committee should also include input from former Park Board Commissioners who served on the Naming Committee (Bruce Bentley and Debbie Jackson)
- he believes that the 3-year rule is the result of a bad situation in the past
- if the policy is changed so that parks are named after living people, determine a method to avoid the Naming Committee being overwhelmed with naming requests

**Commissioner Holme moved that the Park Board form a committee to consider revising the Parks Naming Policy. Commissioner Kostka seconded.**

It was agreed that the committee will:

- consist of Commissioners Ranade and Barber, and the Superintendent or his designee
- ask one or both former Park Board members who were on the naming committee (Bruce Bentley, Debbie Jackson) to be members of the committee OR specifically solicit their input
- ask all Commissioners to send their comments to Commissioners Ranade and Barber as quickly as possible
- ask Parks staff about the institutional memory of why the Naming Policy was written designating the three-year guideline
- bring a draft of the revised policy to the Park Board, then to the public for comments
- strive to complete the draft within the next two months or so

If the Board doesn't vote its approval of a revised Naming Policy, the Policy will stay as it is currently written.

**The vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.**

Next, there was a brief discussion about the two park naming amendments before the Board, with the following outcome:

*Queen Anne Pool naming amendment:* Parks staff are working with Seattle Center staff to request that a site there be named in honor of former Mayor Clinton. Staff will send the Board a memo asking that, at its August 28 meeting, it table the request that Queen Anne Pool name be amended to Gordon Clinton Queen Anne Pool.  
*Freeway Park naming amendment:* the Board will discuss this proposal at its August 28 meeting and may vote on a recommendation.

Park Board Brown Bag: The Board and Councilmember Rasmussen have scheduled a brown bag lunch on September 12. Commissioner Ramels asked about the focus of the meeting. The Superintendent will ask Councilmember Rasmussen if he and his staff have planned agenda items and report back to the Board. Commissioner Larsen asked that the meeting allow time for general discussion.

Park Board Retreat Planning: The Board’s retreat will be held on Thursday, October 30, 2-8:00 pm. Commissioner Adams volunteered to help staff plan the retreat. Councilmember Rasmussen has asked to attend a portion. Commissioner Ranade meets regularly with him and will help determine what role the Councilmember will have. Commissioner Ramels asked that all Commissioners think about issues that have arisen through the year that should be discussed at the retreat. The Director of the Ethics Commission will attend to make a presentation.

Dodge Ball: The Superintendent stated that the Department is working on other options besides using Cal Anderson Park’s tennis courts for non-tennis court uses. Commissioner Barber went to the Friday night dodge ball game and stated that it was great fun and he encourages Parks to support this sport.

Lake Washington Boulevard Closure Feedback: Commissioner Holme stated that the Board has urged the Department to provide a great deal of public outreach for the pilot road closures. On the first Thursday closure of Lake Washington Boulevard, signs were set up that read the closure would be until 6:00 pm when the correct closure time was 4:00 pm. He wants reassurance that staff are doing aggressive outreach. Superintendent Gallagher responded that staff caught the error with the sign and corrected it. They are closely monitoring the closures and will hold a public meeting at the end of the closure to determine what worked and what didn’t. A report will be brought to the Board with the outcomes.

Jazz at Jackson Street: Commissioner Barber reported that a group has worked for months to bring jazz back to Jackson Street and the recent event had a great response from the community. He is encouraged by Parks’ efforts to get music and people into the parks. Seattle Police Department is also supportive of this effort.

Major Issues Facing Parks and Board Involvement: Commissioner Barber believes the Board should be more involved on several major items that the Department is dealing with, including: Washington State Department of Transportation’s SR520 widening project that affects the Arboretum; a storm water retention plan in Madison Valley [which may affect Washington Park Playfield]; the recent negative newspaper articles about American Eagle [agency involved in the housing at Fort Lawton]; and the Magnuson Park contracts and how the public interests are best served by those contracts.

There being no other new business, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jackie Ramels, Vice Chair  
Board of Park Commissioners

DATE \_\_\_\_\_