## **Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation**

Seattle Board of Park Commissioners Meeting Minutes October 11, 2012

Web site: <a href="http://www.seattle.gov/parks/parkboard/">http://www.seattle.gov/parks/parkboard/</a> (Includes agendas and minutes from 2001-present

Also, view Seattle Channel tapes of meetings, June 12, 2008-most current, at <a href="http://www.seattlechannel.org/videos/watchVideos.asp?program=Parks">http://www.seattlechannel.org/videos/watchVideos.asp?program=Parks</a>

## **Board of Park Commissioners**

#### Present:

Antoinette Angulo John Barber Megan Heahlke Jourdan Keith, Vice-chair Brice Maryman Caitlin McKee Yazmin Mehdi

#### Excused:

Diana Kincaid, Chair Barbara Wright

#### Seattle Parks and Recreation Staff

Christopher Williams, Acting Superintendent Susan Golub, Strategic Advisor Sandy Brooks, Park Board Coordinator

This meeting was held at Seattle Park Headquarters, 100 Dexter Avenue North. Commissioner Barber called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and asked Commissioners to introduce themselves. **Commissioner**Maryman moved approval of the agenda and July 26 minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mehdi and unanimous in approval.

Acting Superintendent Williams welcomed the Board's newest member, Caitlin McKee. Ms. McKee was recently appointed by Mayor McGinn, as part of the Get Engaged program, to encourage young people to serve on the City's boards and commissions.

# Superintendent's Report

Acting Superintendent Williams provided a written and verbal report to the Board and audience. To hear the full report, see <a href="http://www.seattlechannel.org/videos/video.asp?ID=5591258">http://www.seattlechannel.org/videos/video.asp?ID=5591258</a> and move cursor to position 1.00.

<u>Budget Update</u>: Earlier this year, Mayor McGinn asked Seattle Parks for a target reduction of 4-8% in its 2013-2014 budget. Parks then submitted 90 issue statements, which describe possible savings, and the mayor rejected 34 of those. In the mayor's proposed budget, Seattle Parks will take an additional \$3.2 million in reductions in both 2013 and 2014. The department's carryover for emergencies will be used to offset a portion of the reductions.

City Budget Director Beth Goldberg announced good news recently with the Amazon purchase of a number of properties from Vulcan Enterprises. The sale will result in \$5.8 million in Real Estate and Excise Tax (REET.) Parks will receive 40-60% (\$2.3 - \$3.5 million) of the tax, which must be used for maintenance.

In determining where to make any new cuts, Acting Superintendent Williams referred to the Department's guiding values of accessibility, opportunity, and sustainability. The cut will be reached by reducing staff, adding a \$4 admission fee at the Volunteer Park Conservatory in first quarter 2013, and by developing closer relationships with the Friends of groups.

Other highlights included: the recent opening of the new Belltown Community Center; the mayor added back funding to nine community centers for Late Night programs to target youth-at-risk, and Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center will move from Seattle Parks Department to the Arts Commission – a good budget idea that has been floating around for some time. Maintenance was not reduced and community center hours were not cut any further. A big addition in the proposed budget is \$500,000 to Green Seattle Partnership in both 2013 and 2014. Building 18 at Magnuson Park is earmarked for \$1 million to shore up the structure until Parks secures a partner to restore the site. In a new twist on the Department's close relationship with Associated Recreation Council (ARC), that organization has set a goal of raising \$300,000 for park maintenance during the next two years. This is a good example of the Department working with an existing partner in new ways.

Lower Kinnear Park and Off Leash Area: The Landmarks Board approved the application for phase one of this project which includes the dog off-leash area, restoration of the switchback hillside stairs and plantings connecting lower and upper Kinnear, and Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) access and plantings at the grassy knoll. An earlier Department of Justice audit found that many of park components are out of compliance with newer ADA laws. Parks is now looking at all its new projects, including this one, through the new ADA filter. A great deal of time was spent how best to comply with the laws and ensure people could access the lower area off-leash area. The area has been the site of homeless encampments and drug dealing. The new use will help displace those uses. This is a big win for the community! Parks' tree crew will soon do preliminary site work to ready the site for the improvements.

Magnuson Park Building 11: Parks staff are doing some preliminary location planning with artists displaced from Building 11. First priority will be given to those artists who had studios in Building 11. The new studios, as currently laid out, will range from small studios (just under 200 square feet) to spaces over 1,000 square feet. The former office of the admiral will be renovated and become a high-end rental facility for parties and seminars.

Lake Washington Boulevard Traffic Calming and Lighting: Seattle Department of Transportation has installed two crosswalks, one speed bump, new pavement between Boyer and Interlaken, and new signage stretching the entire length of the Boulevard from Foster Island Road to Madison. SDOT will be installing curb ramps to the crosswalk near Interlaken as well as connector paths by the end of this year. Seattle City Light has completed Phase I and II of the street lighting project. This includes operating streetlights from Foster Island Drive to Interlaken. Phase III, from Interlaken to Madison, is under construction. All streetlights in the phase III area have been installed. Final trenching, pulling of conduit, and activation will occur within three weeks. Parks has taken advantage of the road closures by cleaning out all the catch basins in the roadway, pruning the boulevard trees, and trimming back vegetation to improve sightlines.

**Food and Beverage Services Rresearch study**: Earlier this year, Parks created a special project to look at options for expanding its food and beverage services. Over the years staff have received suggestions about opening a brick and mortar restaurant in one or more of the larger parks. Green Lake and Magnuson always seem to be on the list. More recently there has been substantial growth in the food truck industry. Peggy Tosdal, Parks staff, has been working on this special assignment since August doing background research on Parks' current practices and best practices from around the country. Parks will engage the work of a food and beverage industry expert to review how the Department solicits and contracts for seasonal food and beverage services, to assess if there are any parks that might provide the market base for either bricks and mortar

restaurant and/or expanded food truck visits, and to recommend any changes in practices that would provide better service to park visitors and more revenue to the Department. After this assessment is complete, by the end of the year, Parks will consider whether it is appropriate to actively pursue any of the recommendations and will develop a public involvement plan.

Commissioner Mehdi asked that the consultant look at using food trucks, rather than brick and mortar structures. She noted that some zoning changes may be required and recommended the Department solicit the food truck vendor's input. Commissioner Barber asked that any restaurants also adhere to the Shoreline Management Policy.

**Parks Legacy Plan Survey**: The survey has several parts: a random phone survey that is statistically valid was completed in September; in-person and on-line surveys were also done in September; polling historically underrepresented communities which is underway, and a teen survey, also underway.

Results from the phone survey show overwhelming support for Parks:

- 92% either strongly or somewhat agree that "Parks meet the needs of my household;"
- 85% are either very or somewhat satisfied with Parks and Recreation programs;
- Spending money on routine maintenance was the highest priority in response to the question of how to spend \$100 on parks, with improvements to existing parks coming in second.

These results are a direct reflection of both the excellent work of all of staff and the high value the community places on parks and recreation. A full report that covers all components of the survey will be available in December.

Staff Engagement: The ideas and opinions of staff are vitally important to the development of Parks Legacy Plan. One question that hits at the heart of the Legacy Plan's goal of assessing services is: what are Parks basic services? Later this month, all staff will be asked to weigh in on this question with an on-line exercise asking you to sort programs according to the level of community benefit provided. It can probably be agreed that Late Night Recreation provides a high community benefit, but where would Lawn Bowling show in the ranking? Does it provide high community or high individual benefit, or somewhere in between?

In addition to the on-line ranking of programs on the community benefit scale, focus groups within each division will go through the identification of basic services together. The focus groups will provide added insight as to why programs are perceived to have high community benefit versus high individual benefit. More information about the basic services on-line and the focus group effort will follow in the next week or so, with information brought back to the Park Board.

<u>Toxic Algae in Green Lake</u>: Parks closed Green Lake to some activities on October 2 after a toxic algae was discovered. A safe amount of blue green algae in the lake is 6 micrograms per liter. The latest test revealed the lake scum had more than 400 micrograms per liter, and is expected to continue producing the algae because of the warm, dry fall. The algae will naturally die off as the temperatures get colder, but the lake closure could continue for weeks – or even months. King County scientists will test the lake weekly. When three consecutive tests show the algae is no longer a danger, the lake will reopen.

McCurdy Park, Former MOHAI Museum Building: When transients, who usually congregate around the Highway 520 bridge, observed the former site of the Museum of History and Industry (MOHAI) building is no longer occupied, they started setting up tents in the front of the building, even at the front door. Northeast Parks crews worked with the Horticulture Unit's slope mower to open up the landscape, and gardeners removed ornamental landscape that provided extensive hiding areas around the building. This landscape cleanup complies with the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED). A transient recently rushed, spit at, and used racist language with a park laborer. Seattle Police Department provided stellar customer service in contacting the remaining transients. This was a five-day project.

**Encampments Removed**: Several large encampments were cleared out in the Southwest Queen Anne Greenbelt. Belongings were carefully labeled and bagged for retrieval by the owners. Information packets listing resources for the homeless are being distributed in the greenbelts, as well as in the downtown parks, by Central West parks staff.

<u>New Westlake Play Space</u>: The Downtown Seattle Association has worked with Seattle Parks to develop a portable play area at Westlake Park, located near the See's Candies store. The equipment will be installed at no cost by Lease Crutcher Lewis.

<u>Magnuson Park Wetland Monitoring</u>: Staff at Magnuson Park recently completed three consecutive years of vegetation monitoring at Magnuson's new wetlands. Gardener Miriam Preus spent three days working with a pair of ecologists to monitor 68 vegetation plots across the 14-acre site. Thanks to Miriam's dedicated care of the wetlands, the site is on track to meet performance standards, and will not require monitoring next year. This will save the City approximately \$20,000. Amphibian and macro-invertebrate sampling will occur in spring 2013. As part of the monitoring plan, vegetation and hydrology monitoring will be conducted in years 5, 7, and 10.

<u>Magnuson Park Building 30</u>: The renovation project is progressing and tenants have been moved out. It can be a difficult process for some, but Steve Dubiel, Executive Director of EarthCorps, one of the buildings major tenants, wrote:

I'm writing to simply say thank you for the great work the Seattle Parks team is doing to support tenant moves from Building 30 at Magnuson Park in preparation for the upcoming renovation.

This is a big move for everyone and obviously disruptive. That said, I am excited for the opportunity the building renovations will bring and especially for the opportunity to make Magnuson Park EarthCorps' long-term home.

I truly appreciate the incredible effort Parks staff has made to accommodate tenants and specifically to support EarthCorps. In particular, Kelly Goold has done an incredible job managing a complex project.

<u>Camp Long Ropes Challenge Course</u>: The High Ropes Course installation at Camp Long is complete! Staff training on the course is beginning and a full grand opening will be in spring 2013. This project was initiated by the Camp Long Advisory Council and is funded by both the Department of Neighborhoods Large Matching Fund and the King County Sports Youth Facility Grant.

<u>Pratt Park</u>: A \$10,000 grant from Coca-Cola Company has paid for a beautiful refurbishment of the Pratt Park basketball court. The court now has a new plexipave acrylic coating, bright blue "keys", and the old Supersonics logo has been painted over. What was old is new again!

Mt. Baker Rowing and Sailing Center: Junior Crew enrollment is up 19% from last year for a total enrollment of 142. Of the kids participating in the program, 17 receive scholarships through a partnership between the Mt. Baker Boating Advisory Council and Rainier Valley Rowing. The partnership serves to increase accessibility of the sport through targeted outreach to neighborhood schools in southeast and central Seattle, assisting with transportation. By providing scholarship money for up to 100% of program costs — depending on the needs of the particular family — Parks is able to bring this sport to kids who may not otherwise be able to participate.

<u>Washington Park Playfield</u>: Field Turf will start the turf installation this week. Work at the site has been delayed to allow for both contractors to complete work without risking damage to new concrete work during the installation of heavy material for the field. The field is expected to be complete and open for use at the end of October.

## **Upcoming Events**

OCTOBER	
Dakota Place Park Opening Celebration (Mayoral invitation	Oct 20
submitted)	
Montlake Playfield Playground Renovation (levy project) Project	Oct. 30
public meeting	
NOVEMBER	
Green Seattle Day (large volunteer effort spearheaded by Green	Nov. 3
Seattle Partnership)	
Jackson Park Golf Course and Perimeter Trail meeting	Nov 7
Westlake Park Carousel will be installed sometime in November	Date TBD
(before Thanksgiving)	
Denny Awards for Volunteer Service	Nov. 29
DECEMBER	
Green Lake Pathway of Lights	Dec. 8

## Oral Requests and Communication from the Audience

The Chair explained 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 two-to-three minutes each, will be timed, and are asked to stand at the podium to speak. The Board's usual process is for 10 minutes of testimony to be heard at this time, with additional testimony heard after the regular agenda and just before Old/New Business. Three people signed up to testify. A brief summary follows; to hear the full testimony, see

http://www.seattlechannel.org/videos/video.asp?ID=5591258 and move cursor to position 32.15.

<u>Linnea Mattson</u>: Lifelong Recreation Advisory Council Treasurer. Ms. Mattson noted the Belltown Community Center recently opened and is operating on a "shoestring" budget. The Lifelong Advisory Council were surprised and disappointed to learn that any fees collected for Lifelong Programs at the new center will be directed to Belltown Community Center Advisory Council instead of to the Lifelong Advisory Council. Her council is deeply disappointed in the process used to make this decision and feel it violates civic engagement practices. Such decisions should be made in a transparent manner.

<u>Weston Brinkley</u>: Mr. Brinkley is a member of the Green Seattle Partnership and spoke to the mayor's proposed 2013 budget which includes \$500,000 funding for the Green Seattle Partnership. While the mayor's proposal will help, this is a great opportunity to find a new and dedicated funding system for GSP. The proposal is for a small additional increase to Seattle's drainage rate of \$2.50 per single family homeowner. This would result in over \$1 million annually directed to GSP. He encouraged the Park Board to support the proposal. If it is adopted, the mayor's proposed \$500,000 could then be directed to another purpose.

<u>Anna Sooner</u>: Ms. Sooner is a new member of the Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board and attending other boards and commissions meetings to see where purposes intersect/align. The Pedestrian Advisory Board, which has a new pedestrian master plan and a number of new members, met last night. Park Board members asked that she schedule coffee meetings with a few commissioners.

# <u>Update Briefing: Central Waterfront</u>

Nathan Torgelson, Seattle Parks Policy Manager, and David Graves, Seattle Parks Senior Planner, presented an update briefing on the Central Waterfront plan. Prior to this meeting, commissioners received a written briefing paper, included below. Mr. Torgelson and Mr. Graves showed a Powerpoint presentation and answered Commissioner's questions. To listen to the full presentation and hear the commissioner's discussion, see <a href="http://www.seattlechannel.org/videos/video.asp?ID=5591258">http://www.seattlechannel.org/videos/video.asp?ID=5591258</a> and move cursor to position 40.15.

## Written Briefing

### **Requested Board Action**

None requested; informational briefing only. Parks staff briefed the Park Board on the Waterfront Seattle project in September 2010 and June 2011.

## **Summary**

Waterfront Seattle, the project that will transform Seattle's central waterfront into a great public place, is well underway. In July the design team, led by James Corner Field Operations, completed a Framework Plan and a Concept Design for the Waterfront, which represents a roughly 10% design product and summarizes the ideas put forth during the planning and concept design phases. Also in July the Central Waterfront Committee, a 42 member civic group that is guiding the design process and providing recommendations to the City, completed a Waterfront Strategic Plan, which includes a funding strategy and action plan recommendation. Park Commissioner Diana Kincaid is a member of the Central Waterfront Committee. All three work products were highlighted at a large public event July 12 at the Seattle Center. In August the City Council adopted and the Mayor concurred on Resolution 31399, which recognizes these work products and calls for partnerships with the Pike Place Market and the Seattle Aquarium. Finally, the Friends of the Waterfront, a new nonprofit advocacy organization for the Waterfront project, was incorporated this past summer.

## **Project Description and Background**

Waterfront Seattle is a partnership between the City of Seattle and the entire community to create a dynamic public waterfront, which will become a new civic heart for the city. Building on 10 years of public planning, Waterfront Seattle is a large-scale design process for a range of improvements to our waterfront covering 26 city blocks from King Street to Broad Street. Waterfront Seattle is guided by the City's Departments of Transportation, Planning and Development, and Parks and Recreation.

The transformation of Seattle's waterfront is made possible by the need to replace the failing Alaskan Way Viaduct and Elliott Bay Seawall. A \$290 million bond measure to replace part of the Elliott Bay Seawall and Parks' Piers 58 (Waterfront Park) and Piers 62-63 will go to the voters in the November general election. In place of the Viaduct, the project will create an exciting destination with vibrant public and cultural spaces, access to the water and a new urban street that will accommodate all modes of travel and provide an important connection in the City's transportation system.

#### The core project includes:

- Removal of the Alaskan Way Viaduct;
- A new Alaskan Way surface street, located under the present day Viaduct, between King and Pine Street serving all travel modes;
- A city street connection between the waterfront and Belltown connecting Alaskan Way to Elliott and Western Avenues;
- A new Promenade between the waterfront piers and the new Alaskan Way surface street;
- New waterfront public spaces, including redesign of Pier 62/63 (the "concert pier") and Waterfront Park (the new Union Street Pier); and
- Improved connections to the waterfront, including east-west pedestrian connections (green streets, hillclimb assists, pedestrian bridges).

#### Funding

The Waterfront Strategic Plan lays out a funding source recommendation for the entire project:

WSDOT	Viaduct Demolition and new surface street	\$290 milllion	Committed
City and King County—	Seawall/ Design	\$70 million	Current

Commercial Parking Tax and Flood Control District			
30 year Voted Bond	Seawall/Piers	\$290 million	Pending
Benefited property owners	Local Improvement District (LID)	\$200-300 million	Future
Philanthropy		\$80 to \$120 million	Future
9 year Lid Lift or other City source		\$55 to \$65 million	Future
General Fund /Debt		\$15 to \$85 million	Future

<sup>\*</sup>Highlighted portions represent 60% of project costs

## **Schedule**

October 2012: Contract signed for next Phase of Waterfront Seattle design work (up to 30% design)

2013 Update City land use codes and design regulations for waterfront corridor

2013-2014 Implement several "early win" projects and initiatives, including east-west corridor

improvements and programming

2013-2016 Elliott Bay Seawall Phase 1 Construction (Washington to Virginia Street)

2014 Complete formation of Waterfront LID

2015-2017 Rebuild Piers 62/63 and/or Union Street Pier/Waterfront Park

Late 2015-16 Tunnel opening/ Demolish Alaskan Way Viaduct and Begin Waterfront Seattle Core Project

construction

2018 Completion of Waterfront Seattle Core Project

## **Public Participation**

At the core of Waterfront Seattle is perhaps its most critical guiding principal—creating a Waterfront for All. Toward this mission, an innovative new level of civic outreach engagement has happened in tandem with waterfront planning and design. From community-based "pop-up" activities that draw new attention to the waterfront, to interactive workshops that let the community guide the conversation, Seattle's voice has been and will continue to be infused into the future waterfront. Five community forums were held in the winter of 2012, with more than 750 total attendees, on topics including mobility and access, habitat, the culture and uniqueness of Seattle. Four large-scale public meetings with approximately 1,000 attendees each were held in February, May and October 2011, and July 2012.

#### Parks Issues

If the Seawall Bond measure is approved by voters, design work on Piers 62/63 and Waterfront Park (Union Street Pier) will begin immediately. Included in the design work will be a much broader discussion of programming and providing for uses that are envisioned today while not precluding emerging uses we have yet to consider. There is the opportunity for short term programming over the next several years for art and activities on the existing piers during construction to continue to encourage people to visit the waterfront.

The seawall project includes habitat enhancements along the seawall as part of the project. There is the opportunity to engage the public and include the Aquarium to let people know what is going on and the benefits of the improvements prior to and after the core projects. The seawall project is installing light penetrating surfaces (glass panels) on Pier 62/63 this fall to test their effectiveness for light transmission and as a pedestrian surface. Issues will arise in the next two years concerning the future maintenance, operations and programming of the Waterfront space.

#### **Additional Information**

For more information, can contact David Graves at <a href="mailto:david.graves@seattle.gov">david.graves@seattle.gov</a> or Nathan Torgelson at <a href="mailto:nathan.torgelson@seattle.gov">nathan.torgelson@seattle.gov</a>. The project website is <a href="mailto:www.waterfrontseattle.org">www.waterfrontseattle.org</a>

## **Discussion and Agreement: Park Board Budget Letter**

Commissioners spent the remainder of the meeting discussing and approving the following letter to Seattle City Councilmembers in support of the Seattle Parks Department's 2013-2014 budget. Susan Golub, the Board's Strategic Advisor, distributed a draft of the letter and commissioners made a number of suggestions. To listen to the full presentation and hear the commissioner's discussion, see <a href="http://www.seattlechannel.org/videos/video.asp?ID=5591258">http://www.seattlechannel.org/videos/video.asp?ID=5591258</a> and move cursor to position 83.00. At the end of the discussion, Commissioner Barber moved that the acting chair, Commissioner Keith, be authorized to complete the letter and that Susan Golub produce and distribute the letter to City Councilmembers on Monday, October 15. Commissioner Angulo seconded. The vote was unanimous in favor.

### Dear Councilmembers:

Seattle is fortunate to have a world class parks and green space system that has long been recognized as a major contributor to the physical and aesthetic quality of our city. Recent research is confirming the long-held belief that parks and green space offer benefits far beyond providing opportunities for physical activity and beauty; they are essential to our public health, sense of community and wellbeing. Even when economic times are challenging, we must preserve our city's invaluable resources and make the necessary investments for our current and future generations.

The Board of Park Commissioners recognizes the difficult budget situation the City once again faces for the 2013-2014 biennium. For our parks, recreation and green spaces assets these lean years have been especially hard; for Seattle Parks and Recreation alone, the last several years of economic recession have meant over \$10 million in cuts since the 2009 budget was adopted, and the elimination of 131 positions in 2011 and 2012 alone. These budget cuts have meant shorter hours at community centers, lower levels of park maintenance, closed environmental learning centers, and generally caused a reduction in the quality and accessibility of our world class parks and green spaces system.

Fortunately, the slight uptick in the City's 2012 revenues provide the opportunity for moderate additions to Parks 2013 budget. Of particular value to the community and importance to the Board, the Mayor's budget provides the following critical investments. We ask you to support these in your budget deliberations.

- 1. **Restore Community Center Hour**s: The restoration of some of the hours previously cut from community centers and additional funding for the Late Night program are vital to the health, safety and welfare of our community, providing essential programming especially for at-risk youth.
- 2. **Fund the Green Seattle Partnership**: We are thrilled to see the Executive's budget has restored funding for the Green Seattle Partnership. The volunteer hours invested and the ecological benefits gained from this program are breathtaking in their scope and long-term value for the City, including \$9 million annually in stormwater retention savings. As you know, the GSP does have a long-term funding challenge, and for that reason we would recommend that the \$500,000 annual investment instead be provided by an increase in SPU's rate-payer fees, providing some level of stable funding for GSP in this biennium and in years to come.
- 3. Fund Summer Maintenance Program: Funding has been included to increase temporary maintenance employees during the high-use summer season. Preliminary results from the survey Parks has conducted for the Parks Legacy Strategic Plan show general maintenance is citizens' highest priority for parks funding; providing for more seasonal employees helps address this priority and keeps parks clean, safe and attractive.
- 4. **Stabilize Magnuson Park Building 18**: We strongly support the \$1 million designated in the budget to stabilize Building 18, the former fire station at Magnuson Park. Building 18 is in the heart of

the historic district at Magnuson and has the potential to be a future community asset in the Park. This building stabilization funding provides an excellent opportunity to develop unique and revenue-enhancing partnerships.

- 5. Investing in Neighborhood Greenways: Getting families to use active transportation while increasing safe access to parks is one of the critical benefits for neighborhood greenways and Safe Routes to Schools programs, so we are particularly excited to see these programs funded in Seattle Department of Transportation's budget for the upcoming biennium.
- 6. Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center: We support the shift of Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center from Seattle Parks and Recreation to the Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs which allows our nationally celebrated resource to continue to be recognized as a leading arts organization in Seattle and the region. We support the continued leadership and types of programs at this vital cultural and historical asset to the African-American community.

Above, we suggested an alternative funding mechanism for the Green Seattle Partnership, freeing up one million dollars in REET funding over the next two years. We would like to suggest the following re-allocation of those funds, as well as priorities if city revenues improve:

- 1. **Restore Maintenance (\$500,000):** The depth of cuts the department has endured in the last few years has significantly impacted its ability to maintain trails, prune vegetation, pick up litter and remove graffiti. In the interest of maintaining faith with Seattle residents, we ask you to consider providing additional funding for these types of basic services as you deliberate over the Mayor's budget.
- 2. **Restore Community Center Hours (\$500,000):** As outlined above, the services provided by our community centers are invaluable. More funding should be directed toward longer hours and better service in more community centers throughout the system.

Your budget decisions will without doubt be difficult ones. It may be that the City's revenue picture improves even further in the coming weeks to ease your way. Either way, we urge you to recognize the great value parks provide to the City and support these additions proposed for the Parks and Recreation budget.

# **Old/New Business**

There being no other business, the meeting adjourn	ned at 9:10 pm.	
APPROVED:	DATE	
Jourdan Keith, Vice-Chair Board of Park Commissioners		