

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING MINUTES

April 25, 2002

**Present:**

Bruce Bentley, Chair  
James Fearn  
Yale Lewis  
Sarah Neilson  
Kathleen Warren

**Excused:**

Susan Golub  
Kate Pflaumer

**Staff:**

Ken Bounds, Superintendent  
Michele Daly, Park Board Coordinator

Chair Bruce Bentley called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**Superintendent's Report:**

- **Budget** - The Department received instructions from the Mayor and the Department of Finance to identify a range of cuts from 9% to 15% of the General Fund budget which results in a reduction \$3 and \$5 million to the base budget. In anticipation of this news, the Superintendent recently proposed a reorganization of Parks Department administration. The Department is also in the process of looking at other administrative reductions as well as looking at services, programs, community center hours and park maintenance. The Department is not going to be able to cut \$3 to \$5 million without some reductions in direct services.
- **2002 Youth Appreciation Week** - Community Center Pro Parks Teen Development Leaders conducted a variety of teen events during the public school spring break week, April 5-14.
- **Aquarium Manager Awarded** - Robert Anderson was awarded the First Annual Slade Gorton Leadership Award last week at the annual meeting of the Mid-Puget Sound Fish Enhancement Group. Robert was acknowledged for his outstanding work in salmon preservation and his commitment to protecting the environment.
- **Earth Day** - During April the Department volunteer coordinators organized 89 work parties, half of them on Earth Day Weekend, April 20-22. Hundreds of volunteers helped restore parks citywide by removing blackberry and other "invasive" plants, cleaning up litter, mulching, edging and planting. The

Superintendent participated in a project at South Lake Union Park with a group of 30 volunteers from the Downtown Rotary and the Department's Teens for Recreation and Environmental Conservation (TREC).

- **Pro Parks Oversight Committee** - On April 23 approximately 70 citizens provided public comment on the Pro Parks Opportunity Fund preliminary recommendations, including \$2 million for acquisition and \$1 million for development projects. The Oversight Committee is expected to make its final recommendations on May 14.

Bruce Bentley inquired about vehicles being eliminated as part of the budget cuts. The Superintendent stated at least 20 vehicles would be cut, which are mostly low mileage cars and trucks. The Southwest Community Center has concerns about field trips. The Superintendent has not heard any discussion about cutting vans from programs. The vehicle reduction discussions have been vehicles used in the field by employees.

**Consent Items:** The agenda consent items were approved as submitted including the April 25 agenda, minutes of the April 11 meeting and acknowledgment of correspondence.

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

Chair Bruce Bentley reminded the audience of the Board's rules on civil discourse. They include no personal attacks, respect for the opposition and respect for others' time. The general public comment portion of the agenda will be reserved for topics that have not had or are not scheduled for a public hearing.

**Sharon LeVine**, Friends of the Queen Anne Bowl, formally requested for the record that Kathleen Warren reclude herself from the Board's determination and discussions on JAFDP as she does have a special interest and her organizations do stand to gain by the decision.

Chair Bruce Bentley stated he has read the Board's rules and all of the Commissioners have a good understanding of the operating procedures. He does not personally think Kathleen Warren needs to reclude herself from the JAFDP discussion and recommendation.

**Andrew Taylor**, Miller Park Neighborhood Association, stated one way to save money is not to light playfields when there is no one playing on them. Miller Playfield, since the time change, has had lights on Saturdays and Sundays from 7:30 p.m. to midnight when games are not scheduled. He has been working with Patti Petesch on the problem but it has been a continual problem over the years. He knows it will cost money to fix but once it is fixed it will save money in the future. He also praised the Board for its dedication and the Board members' attendance at many long meetings.

**Renee Barton**, Seattle Residents for Fair Field Lighting, proposed a joint venture for the Seattle Public Schools and the Department of Parks and Recreation to preserve natural spaces entitled "Joint Wildlife Habitat Preservation Program" (JWHPP). Schools have contributed \$55 million of the \$95 million collected and are a good source for wildlife preservation on joint property in the future. Thornton Creek has a beaver pond, threatened Chinook salmon (which are light sensitive), Cutthroat trout, nearly threatened Coho salmon, wetlands and birds. Should there become time for a hearing on some of the projects and plans, and there are two opposing camps, she encouraged the Board to have two microphones at the hearings. Instead of having all of one side testify first at the hearings it would be an alternating type of public hearing. She also stated the need to have all the stakeholders involved from the beginning before anything gets to the ballot stage.

The Superintendent stated the Department has dozens of projects every year with the schools on the habitat, working with teachers and principals.

**George Taft**, Magnolia resident, referenced that the Legislature gerrymandered the appropriation of approximately a billion dollars in tax money for two stadiums, which are only used 15% - 25% of the time. There should be some way the public could use the stadiums for soccer.

**Peter Lukevich**, resident of Meadowbrook and Lake City area, praised the work done by Janine VanSanden, Volunteer Program Coordinator. She is a trusted and faithful employee who works countless hours before 8 a.m. and well after 4:30 p.m. and on weekends and holidays. He has had the opportunity to work with her on at least four different occasions. She is doing some wonderful things and providing incredible leadership, community stewardship and guidance to young people.

When the Seahawks Stadium was built, Paul Allen was required to make a deposit of \$10 million towards youth athletic facilities in the state. The bonds are beginning to be paid off and the administrative costs are being handled. There should be a minimum of \$400,000 available next year and he encouraged the Board to have the Department continue to be vigilant and look at grant opportunities.

**Kathleen Warren**, Park Board Commissioner, in response to the earlier request she reclude herself from the Board's discussion of the JAFDP, stated she has many special interests at Parks. Her children kayak, she walks and rollerblades around Green Lake, she is an organic gardener, and she has a special interest in gray water and organic parks. Kathleen plays soccer and has coached soccer for many years but that does not mean that she is blind to any other issues. It does not mean that she cannot be fair about what she does nor does it mean that is her one and only sole interest in the parks. Everybody on the Board is here because they have special interests in parks. Kathleen has a long-term investment in parks, kids and good healthy sport. She has a healthier life to gain, healthier mental attitude, probably a longer life span, and a healthier and active aging. She is proud to be a member of the national soccer team that won first place in the finals. She pays to play soccer; she does not get paid to coach soccer. There is no monetary gain and she

wants to make it clear that she does not stand to gain in any other way except from her own personal well being and what she hopes is bettering the community that she lives in and doing something positive.

### **Revocable Use Permit - Fautleroy Park**

Terry Dunning, Manager of Major Transactions and GIS, introduced JoAnn Cowan, Strategic Advisor for Real Property Services, who recently joined the Department staff. Terry asked the Board to recommend approval of an application from the owners of two private residential properties adjacent to Fautleroy Park. The issuance of the Revocable Use Permit would allow removal of landslide debris and installation of a rock buttress slope stabilization (retaining) wall on public property to repair and control slide activity that occurred on and from the adjacent private properties onto park land. The installation will have two feet of topsoil cover planted with native plants. Part of it would be located on parkland and the remainder on the private properties and unopened street right of way for 39th Avenue SW. The two private properties are located at 3821 and 3901 SW Barton Street. The permit is conditioned on future purchase of a permanent easement for the installation from the city, subject to an appraisal and City Council approval.

**James Fearn moved the Board recommend to the Superintendent approval of the Revocable Use Permit. Kathleen Warren seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.**

### **Ballfield Lighting Design Guidelines/Use and Field Scheduling Policy/Sports Participation Policy - Board Discussion/Recommendation**

Chair Bruce Bentley thanked Alix Ogden and Parks' staff for their work in setting up the public hearing held at the South Lake Union facility on April 11. Alix praised Robert Verdecias, Maintenance Laborer, as the unsung hero.

Alix Ogden, Superintendent's Staff Analyst, distributed copies of an April 25, 2002 Athletic Facilities Issues packet to the Board members and to the audience. Patti Petesch, Manager of Citywide Recreation Programs; Dennis Cook, Citywide Athletics Program Manager; John Bates Athletic Fields Scheduler; and Michele Finnegan, Central Division Staff Assistant, were introduced. The Board has involved the public in a process to develop recommendations to the Superintendent regarding the Joint Athletic Facilities Development Program (JAFDP) and related issues of sports participation, field lighting and field scheduling since the beginning of the year. On April 11, the Board held a public hearing to solicit comment on the staff recommendations for the Sports Participation, Use and Scheduling Policies and the Lighting Design Guidelines. Once the Board makes its JAFDP recommendation to the Superintendent, the Superintendent will make his decisions, confer with the Mayor, and transmit the program to the City Council for their review.

#### ***Sport Participation Policy (060-7.1.5)***

The Sports Participation Policy establishes standards for appropriate player conduct during games and events conducted on Department facilities; to assure equal opportunity

for full enjoyment and use of Department facilities to all sports participants; and to have a policy which establish the Department's standard expectation of behavior with regards to noise, cleanup, litter, parking, and respect for neighbors who live in close proximity to the sports fields.

The major revisions recommended by staff include: Expectations of High Standards of Behavior are outlined, Parks will work with field users and communities to provide information about preferred parking areas at fields at certain times, encourages carpooling and mass transit use by field users, prohibits the use of air horns and other such devices, and includes reference to these issues in the Certification Form signed at the beginning of each season by league leaders.

**James Fearn moved the Board adopt the Sport Participation Policy as revised. Yale Lewis seconded the motion.** Sarah Neilson inquired what section the carpooling and mass transit are referenced. Section 8.2 of Expectations for Field Use - "...carpooling and mass transit use by field users as appropriate will also be encouraged." Kathleen Warren questioned the reference to high school programs being exempt (10.2 - 3 of the Sports Participation Request Standard). Patti Petesch stated high schools are exempt because they are already bound by Title IX. Bruce Bentley inquired about the preferred parking areas. Alix Ogden related there are certain sites that the Department wants to do some work with the community and the specific groups that use the fields to communicate better about the appropriate places to park. Patti Petesch stated the preferred parking areas would go out to all of the users at the beginning of the season. The home organization would be responsible for distributing the information to other groups that come into the neighborhood. There would be a map and directions to the parking lots. Kathleen Warren inquired if it was difficult to determine if it was a sports team that littered the field versus people coming in after hours partying and littering. Patti Petesch related that has not been an issue. **The motion carried unanimously.**

### ***Lighting Design Guidelines***

Seattle Parks and Recreation is committed to supporting growth management and comprehensive plan goals by providing an inventory of athletic facilities within Seattle that are safe, quality fields. Due to the city's geographic location and environmental conditions, the use of synthetic surfaces and field lighting greatly increases the systems capacity. The decision to light playfields comes with impacts to the immediate residents and area neighbors, even when utilizing the latest technology. Within this context, the lighting guidelines outline the issues requiring consideration during the design phase of a playfield lighting project. They also outline design guidelines on technical issues such as levels of field lighting, obtrusive light and establishes design parameters for materials, all while allowing flexibility with regard to emerging technologies. The guidelines will become part of the direction the Department provides to architects and designers.

The major directions recommended by staff include: sets a standard of light trespass at the residential property line at a maintained foot candle level of 0.8fc (1.1 initial) for new lighting systems, sets guidelines for addressing obtrusive light (spill light, glare and sky glow), and recommends Level IV lighting (the lowest recommended level for athletic

fields) for most fields. Certain softball/baseball fields such as Lower Woodland #1 that can accommodate tournament play and have a limited spectator capacity will be built to Level III standards. The Department commissioned a ballfield lighting study last year that gave the Department important information about its lighting system.

The Department currently has two lighting projects going through the permit process - Lower Woodland # 1 and Genesee. There is also a lighting project ready to begin at High Point. Meeting illumination levels for safe play on the field while minimizing lighting impacts off site is the priority design consideration. It is anticipated the environmental zones as defined by the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America (IESNA) may be 0.3fc at some sites.

The decision whether to use full cut-off or aimable shielded varies depending on the sport. There are a lot of choices to be made during the design process.

James Fearn inquired if the technology changes does the policy have to be revised if the policy gets locked into numbers. Alix Ogden stated it would take some process to change the numbers. The IESNA is in the process of revising their policies and the Department's proposed guidelines reflect those revisions. The Superintendent stated the policy statement could be written to state the lowest level of lighting required to meet safe recreational play given the location of a particular site. Energy efficiency will also be a consideration. Kathleen Warren asked if there are any other sites being considered for Level III other than Lower Woodland. Alix Ogden stated there are no sites currently proposed but there could be sites in the JAFDP that would be good candidates for Level III. Kathleen Warren stated there are some concerns about pedestrian safety between the parking areas and play field. The lighting guidelines consider the safety of users and neighbors. On and off field safety will be considered in the design and development of playfields. Close coordination with user groups and good communication with neighbors to address issues and concerns should be on going. All lighted facilities shall provide pedestrian-scale lighting of sufficient intensity and duration to allow all participants to exit the site safely at the conclusion of any scheduled evening use.

**James Fearn moved the approval of the Playfield Lighting Design Guidelines.**

Kathleen Warren seconded the motion. Bruce Bentley noted there are concerns at Sealth about aimable lights and asked if both full cut-off and shield aimable could be used at a site. Alix Ogden stated it has been left open to have the maximum amount of flexibility. Michele Finnegan noted the guidelines also allow flexibility with regard to emerging technologies. If something new is developed that is different from full cut off or aimable it could be used. **The motion carried unanimously.**

***Use and Scheduling of Outdoor Facilities (060-P 7.1.1)***

The policy establishes guidelines for the use and scheduling of outdoor athletic fields which are scheduled by the Department of Parks and Recreation, excluding West Seattle Stadium, which is covered under separate policies. The Board reviewed the pros and cons of the three scheduling options presented by staff. Alix Ogden noted there is one small change in the policy: the scheduled time for Ultimate Frisbee is 1-1/2 hours not 1 hour.

1. **Status Quo** - Maintain current scheduling practices that allows for fields to be in use until 10:45 p.m. The lights will be turned off 15 minutes after the end of play. The Board can consider making this recommendation and asking the Department to revisit current scheduling practices in April 2003. This timeline would allow for progress on new projects that would provide additional capacity. It is likely that within the next year the permitting process for the lights at the four school complexes will be completed and installation be underway. If the projects stay on schedule, Seattle Parks also anticipates installation of lights at Lower Woodland #1 and Genesee Playfield before the end of 2002.

Pro - Would maintain existing field capacity at existing fields. Allows for a re-assessment of the capacity that will be gained with new projects versus the impacts of decreasing the number of currently scheduled hours. The majority of comments from the public about changes to the scheduling policy have been in favor of the status quo.

Con - During the JAFDP process and over the past several years, the Department has received complaints about light trespass, glare and noise. The Department may continue to receive complaints at specific sites. Does not provide relief in 2003 for residents near fields who feel that they are negatively impacted by field use until 11:00 p.m.

2. **Staff Recommendation** - Lights off at 10 p.m. on all lighted fields except for softball and baseball games that would be scheduled until 10:45 p.m. Lights would be turned off 15 minutes after game end time. Based on the Year 2000 field use data, the staff estimates that 740 adult soccer games and a limited number of softball practices would be affected by this recommendation. The fees for the estimated 740 games is approximately \$30,000 (about .04% of adult fees in 2000).

Pro - Some relief for nearby residents of existing and newly lighted fields. Soccer may be able to tweak the length of halves and half time to keep 2 games slots an evening. Impact of policy can be made up with project at Genesee.

Con - Significant public comment about proposal as it is perceived as treating one sport more favorably than another. Does have a significant impact on adult soccer games - estimate 740 if policy was in place in year 2000. Reduces current capacity and would require more fields to be lighted in order to serve the users than would be necessary with Option 1.

3. **Evening Scheduling by Field Type** - Develop criteria that will determine how late a given field is scheduled. Issues that should be taken into account could include number of adjacent residences, topography, arterials, vegetative buffers, etc. in order to identify selected specific sites that are seen to experience a greater impact because of late night field use.

Pro - Some relief for nearby residents of selected fields that meet the criteria.

Addresses perceived inequity of staff recommendation. Could provide flexibility on fields where there are few or no nearby residents.

Con - Applying criteria is challenging and somewhat subjective. Would not provide certainty to users, neighbors, and staff as any subjective criteria could be open to different interpretations. May be difficult to manage from a scheduling perspective.

**Possible approaches to Option 3:** **A.** Grandfather in all existing fields and schedule until 10:45 p.m. Develop criteria for new fields coming on line. **B.** Schedule all fields that are surrounded completely on 3 or more sides by residences until 10:00 p.m. unless arterials, significant topography, and/or vegetative buffers are found in between field and adjacent residences on two of the three sides. All other lighted fields would be scheduled until 10:45 p.m. **C.** Schedule all fields that are surrounded completely on 2 or more sides by residences until 10:00 p.m. unless arterials, significant topography, and/or vegetative buffers are found in between field and adjacent residences on one or both sides. All other lighted fields would be scheduled until 10:45 p.m.

Kathleen Warren thought the only complaints received were from Magnolia. Patti Petesch noted a few complaints have been received regarding fields at Miller, Rainier, High Point, Bitter Lake, Loyal Heights, Rainier as well as Magnolia. The complaints include lights not going off when the fields are not in use, glare into homes and equipment failures. Patti Petesch noted sometimes a baseball or softball game early in the season will not take place due to the weather. A soccer game scheduled to follow the ballgame will be played rain or shine so the lights may be on before there is anyone on the field. It is a real choice between turning the lights off and turning them on again and how long it takes them to come up. There is different weather in one part of the city than another so it is not a 100% predictable process.

Kathleen Warren stated soccer has "tweaked" its games and does not play international rules - there are no shoot outs, they do not play overtime and they do not have the length of the half times. The soccer community has done a lot already to keep their game as short as possible. Softball and baseball has not been asked to "tweak" their game.

Sarah Neilson asked if the Department agrees with Co-Rec Soccer that there has been a 20% decrease in softball/baseball and a 20% increase in soccer use of fields. Patti Petesch stated there has been a decrease of 22% in adult softball. Sarah stated it would not be good to reduce capacity for soccer.

Yale Lewis inquired about the number of non-Seattle residents that use the fields as mentioned in correspondence sent to the Board. The Superintendent stated blocks of times are scheduled with organizations and the Department does not necessarily collect information about individual participants. Yale stated he thinks there is a genuine crisis in capacity and we need more capacity for Seattle residents to play sports. The impact of providing fields at night on neighborhoods is quite obvious. He suggested a guideline



could be adopted stating that teams should be comprised of at least 75% Seattle residents. Kathleen Warren noted the Board heard testimony from Co-Rec Soccer that 75% of their players were from Seattle with only 55% of their games played within the Seattle city limits. Youth teams are usually made up from the neighborhood youth while adult teams are made up of people from their places of employment and other sources. If an adult moves do you kick them off the team because they live outside the city limits? Kathleen stated it would be difficult to police and require a lot of work to maintain city resident team levels. Yale stated what we are struggling for is something that will maximize field capacity and minimize neighborhood impacts. Kathleen does not think this needs to be done by setting a percentage of people who have to live in the city. Sarah noted the Board received testimony that sports field users are noisy and rowdy and come from outside the city. In order to counteract those comments, statistics could be gathered to help the Department quantify the rhetoric that has been received. James Fearn asked if it is being said that the impacts are different if the people live in Seattle. The impacts on the neighborhoods are the same. James Fearn does not see what the gain would be whether the field users are residents or not.

Yale Lewis noted people testified that lights interfere with residents' sleep, with star gazing, views, and their restful atmosphere. Lighted fields by their nature increase the period of time where there is noise, people say trash is increased, and there is a lack of parking spaces. He noted testimony was also received if you light the fields you cannot have grass. Lighted fields result in the loss of unstructured field use. There is an influx of people from outside of the neighborhood and city. People agree that more soccer fields are needed but do not want them in their neighborhoods. There have been complaints about the process and the poor management of the existing lighted facilities. Wildlife impacts have also been noted. Yale stated he has been trying to come up with some thoughts for ways to address the issues. We could shut off the lights at certain time but that leaves too many things unaddressed. Yale proposes the Department field turf as many fields as rapidly as it can, in a fiscally responsible way, to increase capacity and take some pressure off of the demand for night time use. Until the capacity is significantly increased it is appropriate to use as a target the current capacity for Seattle residents. Yale further stated that a number of these issues can be addressed through strict enforcement of the guidelines. The Department could hire staff to monitor the use of the lighted fields and to be available to the neighbors. That person could be familiar enough with the fields to propose mitigation. It would be appropriate to charge an increased modest fee to the people who use the field after hours to pay for the field monitoring. Yale would like the youth to have 1-1/2 hours of practice time twice a week. He does not think there should be any distinction among sports, whether the Department sponsors them or the length of the games. If teams and individuals do not comply with the rules of conduct they should be tossed off the fields. He thinks the standards should remain until 11:00 p.m. until there can be a field by field analysis completed. New sports will be coming causing an explosion for use of the city fields.

Kathleen Warren is in favor of sportsfield turfing but does not know if that increases capacity in and of itself. Most of the fields are sand fields and playable year round. If money is going to spent for turf then those fields should be lighted. Kathleen also noted

her youth soccer team practices once a week and she would have a hard time coaching if she had two practices plus one game per week.

**James Fearn moved approval of Option 3, Evening Scheduling by Field Type. Bruce Bentley seconded the motion for the purpose of discussion.**

James Fearn stated it may be the most difficult Option but it provides the most benefit - the largest potential use with the least impacts. James would like to apply the 10:00 p.m. closing and make the 11:00 p.m. the exception on the fields where it is known there will not be an impact. Kathleen Warren stated what the Board heard in the public hearing is the demand is not being met for youth and adults in any number of sports. We are in danger of losing the entire sport of rugby because they have no where to play. Lacrosse is a new and emerging sport and has no place to play. The thought of cutting off lights at fields that have been lit for 30, 40 or 50 years until 11:00 p.m. and further damping down the demand that we are no where near is to her unconscionable. We keep talking about the neighbors' rights but all of us have rights as we all own the parks. There might be neighborhoods where it is appropriate but not until there are a lot more fields brought onto line. Not until at least the fields that the voters have already approved be brought on line. Kathleen could go along with Option 3 if it were 3A - grandfathering in all existing fields and schedule until 10:45 p.m. Kathleen referenced the negatives that Yale pointed out but there are also a lot of positives. She has a problem with B & C because the criteria has not been adopted. She does not know how many fields would be affected. James Fearn stated the supply for fields will never meet the demand. The neighbors living next to fields are being impacted. Kathleen Warren stated adult athletes are impacted by having to drive unreasonable distances, adding to the traffic congestion. Bruce Bentley stated the Board is looking for some balance. The neighbors have a right to go to sleep at night without all the impacts from noise, etc. Neighbors also need some unscheduled time to use their neighborhood fields.

Sarah Neilson suggested Option 3A, and adding the contingency of asking the Department to revisit current scheduling practices in one year. James Fearn accepted this as a friendly amendment to his motion.

Kathleen Warren asked if the impacts are known for Option 3C. Alix Ogden stated it is subjective and the Department does not have all the information. Kathleen further noted that 3A grandfathers in all the current fields and schedules until 10:45 p.m. and wonders if James accepts that. Alix Ogden noted most of the Department's lighted fields are not surrounded on two or more sides by residences so most of the fields would remain lighted until 11:00 p.m. Kathleen Warren thinks time should be taken to develop criteria. Until criteria is developed to identify the impacts we ought to allow the fields that have been lit to stay lit. The opposition is partly the lights issue but it is also the fear of having people come into their neighborhoods, the traffic and other issues. When she read all the email she was saddened that adult athletes seemed to be depicted as transients, not family people, that they only play for an hour and go eat pizza, athletes vandalize cars, that their drives outside the city are only ten or twenty minutes, and that they should play during the day. The adults are really doing a healthy thing for themselves. She thinks time needs to be taken to develop the criteria for residences on two sides, three sides, what kind of

topography and cool things off a bit. James Fearn has no ill will towards adult athletes. We are talking about a value choice of playing a game and be able to rest.

**James Fearn rejected Sarah's friendly amendment after the discussion. The motion before the Board is Option 3, with 10:00 p.m. lights shut off. The motion failed by a vote of 3 to 2.**

**Kathleen Warren moved the Board recommend Option 3 A. Sarah requested the addition of the stipulation that the Board can consider making this recommendation and asking the Department to revisit the current scheduling practices in April 2003. Kathleen accepted the friendly amendment to her motion. Sarah Neilson seconded the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 3 - 2.**

***Joint Athletic Facilities Development Program (JAFDP)***

At the Park Board meeting held on February 14, 2002, the Board made a series of preliminary recommendations regarding the JAFDP. The Board also decided to hold a final decision about the JAFDP in abeyance until they could hear a staff briefing, hold a hearing, and make recommendations on the three related issues of sports participation, field scheduling, and field lighting.

Alix Ogden reviewed additional changes proposed by staff:

- Revised language on the goal of the JAFDP to reflect the approach to this update has been to increase scheduling capacity but also to assess the field system as a whole and look for opportunities to make improvements for field users and neighbors.
- Revised language to reflect verbatim the basic tenets of the School/Park Joint Use Agreement.
- Incorporated by reference the Use and Scheduling Policy, Sports Participation Policy, and Lighting Design Guidelines so that there is a clear understanding that those policies and guidelines are fundamental to how we design and operate athletic fields.
- Clarified issue about pole height. The Department has assumed poles used for new lighting systems will be higher than existing poles. However, many of the current light poles are 70-85 feet tall. It is possible that new poles may be of similar height. It will depend upon the lighting system, field configuration, etc.
- Revised the recommendation for West Magnolia Playfield. Remove the reference to developing the north fields with new lights and synthetic turf. Retain the recommendation to improve the condition of the north grass fields and the recommendation to replace lights at the south field and improve the site furnishings on both fields as necessary. Conversion of the south field to synthetic would remain a long term goal. After additional analysis, staff does not believe that lighting the north field meets criteria based on the proximity of residences

and the existing amount of capacity that is currently achieved at the site. The long-term goal of installing a synthetic turf on the south field would further concentrate capacity in a part of the site that is surrounded primarily by commercial uses.

- Add Jefferson Park to Attachment B of the JAFDP. The Department is involved in a process to development of a site plan for Jefferson Park in anticipation of developing Seattle Public Utility-owned property into new park space and the investment of park levy dollars into Jefferson Park. The Project Advisory Team recommended certain athletic field improvements. Staff recommended adding the following language to the JAFDP: Proposed improvements include conversion of Jefferson Field to synthetic turf, add field lights, and other site furnishings. Other field improvements in the park may occur with the abandonment and lidding of the existing reservoirs. The potential development of these fields would be consistent with the current and future public planning process in Jefferson Park.
- Move High Point from Attachment C to Attachment A. The Department has funding to replace the lights at High Point Playfield.

Bruce Bentley referenced Page 16, Community Involvement, and wanted to make sure mitigation measures included lights, traffic, noise and other issues. Lighting spill and glare, parking, traffic, player behavior, community access to unprogrammed park space, improving communication and other issues are included. The Department's Public Involvement Policies will be followed in developing or redeveloping athletic fields. The Project Advisory Team (PAT) structure will be used to involve interested stakeholders in advising the Department on projects where the use of the field would increase because the surface is proposed to be converted from grass to all-weather/synthetic or new lights will be installed.

**Yale Lewis moved the Board recommend adoption of the revised JAFDP. James Fearn seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.**

### **Seattle Monorail Project**

Parks Planner Peter Marshall introduced Michael Mariano from the Elevated Transportation Company who gave an overview of the project via a power point presentation. The mission of the Elevated Transportation Company (ETC) is to implement Initiative 53 on behalf of the citizens of Seattle. The goal is to create a regional compatible transportation system through coordination with other transportation and government entities and by inviting and involving private and neighborhood participation. Following the passage of I-53 in November 2000, ETC was given up to two years to complete the plan for a grade separated monorail system that uses public rights of way as much as possible, is quiet and uses rubber wheels. Once the plan is completed it will be scheduled for a citywide vote, most likely in November of 2002.

Phase I Monorail Corridor - The East and West Alternatives include 31 parks within 200 feet of the proposed monorail guideway and station areas, some of which overlap between alternatives and optional linkages. Both the East and the West Alternative routes contain 11 park and recreational resources within 200 feet of the guideway and station areas. Ten parks, mostly located in the Downtown segment, are also within close proximity to the optional linkages and station areas.

The Citywide Monorail Plan would comply with Ordinance 118477 regulations that protect existing parks. Implementation of the Plan and detail design of individual phases would include assessing all feasible and prudent alternatives to avoid impacts on park areas and execute all possible planning to minimize harm to parks or recreational resources. Adjusting the alignment and locating stations and the guideway so as to avoid parks in specific locations could avoid or minimize noise and access impacts on park and recreational resources. Reducing guideway elevations near parks to avoid obstruction of views and through proper design of facilities, including landscaping, special signage, and lighting could mitigate visual impacts during operation.

More details are available on the website: <http://www.elevated.org>

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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Bruce Bentley, Chair