

Welcome –with Kelly McCaffrey, Park District Oversight Committee Chair

Public Comment:

- **Cesar Garcia**, Co-director of Lake City Collective - Little Brook Park is the northeastern most park in Seattle situated in a very densely populated area. Many renters live around the Park; it is important for the community. Little Brook Creek runs behind it. The dog waste is pervasive. This park is not suitable for dogs. Families do not feel comfortable sitting on the grass because there is so much dog waste.
- **Alder and Eichlen Garcia, Little Brook Park** - They want a clean park and clean grass to play and run. They wish they did not have to worry about stepping in poop. They want to have picnics on the grass.
- **Victoria Moseri, Little Brook Park** - Dog excrement contains zootomic diseases – caused by dog waste; if ingested can cause serious illness.
- **Alan Kirchner** - Delridge and Hiawatha Community Centers hours will be decreasing in 2020.
- **Mary Kirchner** - Senior woman who loves playing pickleball; she is at community centers 2-3 times per week. Private programs being shoved into public hours leaves the seniors without time in community centers. They want more hours and increased staff for today's needs, not 2008. Serve our community needs.
- **Vicky Stripe** – She loves pickleball. Active seniors are healthy seniors; studies show being active reduces the risk of Alzheimers. Lifelong Recreation and pickleball go together. Squeezing more programs into fewer hours does not make sense.
- **Larry Kirchner** - There is a passion and a desire to increase access to the sport [pickleball]; hopes decisions made are data driven and made in concert with various advisory committees. He requests SPR keep the needs of the community in mind.
- **Tim Motzer, Lake City Neighborhood Association** - PDOC recommend to Park District spending plan; Tim provides the Board with a copy of projected increased and resulting increase in revenue of 2020 Park District budget. He thanks PDOC for supporting maintaining tax rate and attending the Park District Board. He is hoping they will meet with Councilmember Juarez staff regarding Park District tax rates.
- **Dan Christopher, Lifelong Recreation Advisory Council** - Lives on Capitol Hill; Lifelong Recreation participant and he joined the Advisory Council and is on the cover of the summer catalog. He is concerned about reduction of community center hours. He requests a part-time position to support rainbow recreation – 50+ LGBTQ programming. Recently, Lifelong Recreation lost funding for an Americorps position.
- **Joyce Moty, Chair of Lifelong Recreation Advisory Council** - Seniors participate in various programs and the number of seniors has increased dramatically. SPR staff have stepped up and increased programming; please do not reduce hours at community centers. There needs to be more staffing at community centers to keep them safe and open. Fund the Rainbow Recreation program with ½ time staff position.
- **Susan Shinoda, Amy Yee Tennis Center** – Coordinates year-round leagues and supports expansion and renovation of the Amy Yee Tennis Center. Amy Yee has great staff that cares about the tennis community. United States Tennis Association indicated Seattle is top 5 in tennis popularity. The would like Amy Yee to have better viewing and more courts. This would allow them to host more teams. Since Amy Yee is a public facility all people can play regardless of socio-economic status.

- **Denise Derr, 12th Street and Howe Park** – She is critical of the process SPR went through to remove the slide at 12th street and Howe Park. They had an open house, but a public meeting allows people to hear from the community and think about issues from different sides.
- **Sharon Levine** - Planning meetings are a sham and SPR does what they want; Sharon and Denise made sure that there are policies and procedures for planning to ensure proper notification and a meaningful public meeting. 12th street and Howe Park – she wants to make sure there is proper public process before they take out the slide.
- **Bill Peckard, Rainier Beach Link 2 Lake Project** - 1st project is to fund and renovate Be'er Sheva Park; the community project would like to be included in the funding for the next cycle of the Park District. The Olmsted's recommended that Pritchard Beach and the area around it as part of the parks system before the Lake levels went down.
- **Martha Toffrey** - Open hours at community center are slated for reduction. Queen Anne, Magnolia, Ballard and Loyal Heights are losing hours. She wants 9 hours back for Queen Anne. They do not want to compete with youth basketball. It is crucial for seniors to have open hours in the morning.
- **Mackenzie, 12th Street and Howe Park** - They do not want the play structures removed; concerned about turning this area into forest land will diminish safety. She implores SPR to leave the structures. The greenbelt is not well cared for.
- **Tamara and Scout, 12th Street and Howe Park** – The park is important to her; playing outside makes her happy. She doesn't have a yard so this park makes her happy. It helps her have fun and feel independent. She's never been hurt on the slide and prefers to keep the slide. This is her habitat.

Deputy Superintendent's Report

Pickleball – There are no plans to reduce budgeted hours at community centers. The Recreation Division Director is scheduling a meeting with the pickleball community.

Sharon Levine – 12th and Howe Park – SPR pushed pause on that.

Little Brook – Deputy Superintendent Williams says SPR staff are discussing the issue with Grounds Maintenance and may reseed.

Amy Yee – SPR previously committed to consider funding a renovation and it is still on the radar for capital projects.

SPR received the draft letter the Park Board wrote to the Mayor regarding golf; they will have a discussion about this at the 7/25 Park Board meeting.

2 groups coming to Seattle – 1) Reimagine City Commons – using investments and city connectedness; they will tour Yesler Terrace Park; City Hall Park; Victor Steinbrueck, and the Waterfront; Deputy Superintendent Williams extends an invitation to PDOC and Park Board for a tour.

2) San Francisco Parks and Recreation Executive Team – engage in discussion around the same issues; host them for 2 days. September 12 and 13.

Yesler Crescent – City Council lifted a budget proviso at City Hall Park – for \$925,000 to foster public recreation uses and make the space more inviting. \$600,000 will be used for programming and activation. SPR is partnering with SDOT for physical improvements after their study is completed using the remaining \$300,000.

Golf – Mayor’s Office asked SPR to convene a Citizen’s Advisory Task Force. SPR is engaging Steve Boyd, a consultant, on the public testimony component. What would recommendations look like? SPR staff are hoping to have a scope of work by September 1. The work will take about a year. SPR is partnering with the Office of Planning and Community Development to engage the public. The implications are huge, and the City has never before talked about the wholesale reuse of park land.

Cheasty – The Board of Park Commissioners approved a mountain bike trail pilot for Cheasty Greenspace five years ago. SPR went through mediation and a plan was negotiated to reduce access points next to the neighbors. SPR is having a discussion with Seattle Housing Authority’s Executive Director, Andrew Lofton.

Aquarium expansion – The City is contributing \$34 million toward the expansion of the Seattle Aquarium. SPR is working with Office of the Waterfront to define the City’s role on the expansion agreement.

Summer of Safety – Intervention programs for youth to engage in positive recreation during the summer.

Golden Gardens – SPR is collaborating with Seattle Police Department to ensure there is a police presence every night. SPR appreciates their support.

Personnel - Cheryl Fraser, Enterprise, Partnerships in Community Division Director, retired; Robert Stowers, Parks and Environment Division Director is taking over Cheryl’s position.

NE 130th Street Beach - Opened in time for summer.

Old/New Business

PDOC testified in front of the Park District Board (City Council); Commissioner McCaffrey will follow-up to schedule a meeting with Councilmember Juarez.

Lifelong Recreation Briefing – with Brenda Kramer, Lifelong Recreation Manager

Summary:

Lifelong Recreation – Lifelong Recreation has offered arts, fitness and social opportunities for adults aged 50 to 100+ since prior to 1970. In 2018 over 93,880 Seattleites have made our programming an integral part of their lives by attending over 1,160 activities with 11,063 program hours. Staff consists of 10 full- and part-time employees.

Dementia friendly programming – several programs offered for people with early onset dementia.

- Camp Momentia – started at Camp Long in 2015 and includes art, camp activities, singing and storytelling. Momentia is a city-wide grass roots movement empowering people with memory loss and their loved ones to remain connected and active in the community.
- Momentia Mondays – at Southeast Senior Center – improvised drumming and movement
- Momentia meetups at Lake City – all-Spanish get together

Food and Fitness Program – offering ethnic groups an opportunity to celebrate their culture through food and fitness; they hold events that are open to the public.

- Provide educational programs with translators

- In 2018, 21, 979 meals were served to participants of the Food and Fitness Program.

Sound Steps began in 2003 and is designed to reduce the incidence of obesity and diabetes in people over 50 by encouraging exercise. Walking groups are led by volunteer walk leaders who help develop the routes and provide motivation and encouragement to participants.

- There were 23 weekly walks in 2018, with an average of over 268 walkers per week.

Rainbow Recreation – Rainbow Recreation started in 2017 to offer fitness, arts and social opportunities for the LGBTQ community ages 50+. The program has steadily grown, serving 386 participants this year.

- In 2018, we offered 33 LGBTQ classes, 8 trips, and 7 special events. This adds up to a total of 1,478 program hours serving 368 participants

SPR staff would like to expand their programs to all community centers in the City.

Park District Impacts –

- Full time Recreation Program Coordinator
- Half Time Dementia Friendly Recreation Specialist
- Half Time Food and Fitness Recreation Specialist
- Strategic Marketing Plan Funding

2018 Program Impacts –

- 33% increase in Food and Fitness program days offered, and 21,980 meals served to immigrant and refugee populations.
- 33% increase in 2018 of participation in Dementia Friendly Recreation programs.
- 386 participants and 1,478 hours of programming for Rainbow Recreation (LGBTQ programs).
- Registration exceeded the 5-year marketing goal of 10% by 7.9% illustrating increasing demand for our programs.

Comments/Questions

Performance indicators – What outcomes are SPR staff looking at for outcomes? Social isolation and underserved communities – not as many opportunities for them to engage. Important for SPR to reach in to communities. Outcomes based on achieving certain results and implementing best practices for better outcomes. The new registration system captures more demographic information, this will help SPR staff define programming.

SPR uses social media to get the word out about the programming.

Seniors like to exercise in the a.m. when space is available in community centers.

The hours are confusing to the public; highlight the impacts of the staff and the money received from the Park District.

Strategic Plan Discussion – with Kathleen Conner and Selena Elmer, Strategic Advisors in the Superintendent’s Division

Deputy Superintendent Williams introduces the topic; this is a follow up on the window pane exercise from the previous meeting. He asks the Board to be mindful that SPR does not have endless funding. There is more

demand for programs and services, driven by the density. SPR will need to make decisions about how money is spent. He challenges the Board with finding things that SPR should not continue to fund.

Selena and Kathleen do an exercise with the Boards. Context pane will have themes to guide the conversation. Given the confluence on these elements, the Board is asked to focus on a specific theme. Keeping in mind the planning values, the Board and audience break into two groups to discuss their window panes.

Major Projects Challenge Fund – with Michael Shiosaki, Planning and Development Division Director

Summary:

Initiative 4.2: Major Projects Challenge Fund: *Renovate, expand or upgrade parks and park facilities, funding through a combination of City and community-generated funds.*

- Two rounds of funding completed (2016 and 2018) -All Cycle 1 funding has been appropriated (\$8.4 million total)
- To date, completed Green Lake Small Craft Center study, Magnuson Park field cost estimate and conceptual design, and Phase 1 of Kubota Garden construction.

The MPCF allows local community groups to leverage funds from private and public sources.

In the past, the MPCF funded larger projects \$2million and up. Past projects included a feasibility at Kubota Gardens, South Park Redevelopment Plan, Madrona Bathhouse

As mandated by Mid-Cycle Park District Report; SPR is starting a committee to help form the new and improved Challenge Fund.

Purpose:

- Evaluate the Major Projects Challenge Fund
- Consider Major Project Challenge Fund and Other Models
- Identify and make recommendations for the 2021-2026 Park District cycle
- Subcommittee:
 - PDOC Members/Board of Park Commissioners (less than a quorum)
 - Seattle Parks Foundation (2)

The hope is to streamline the selection process, for a quicker process.

Lessons learned – Equity is an identified issue in the existing process. The funded projects are typically in neighborhoods with higher socio-economic status.

Has the purpose been achieved? Yes, community groups have been able to leverage private dollars to get their projects started.

There is an opportunity for further equity – King County has done programs that target dollars in a certain area of the city.

The Board is curious about the different regional grants available and whether there are grants to fit different sized projects.

>>>SPR to create a schedule of different funds to provide the Board a larger context.

The Challenge Fund Subcommittee will evaluate the challenge fund; lessons learned; identify, and make recommendations for the 2021-2026 Park District cycle.

The Subcommittee will consist of PDOC/Park Board, and Seattle Parks Foundation members.

Proposed meeting dates: July 16, August 14, September 18, and October 16

King County Open Space Equity Cabinet developed community engagement protocol. The core concerns about the Challenge Fund is to get communities up to capacity to even submit and be a part of the proposal process.

The Major Projects Challenge Fund was a matching fund opportunity.

Commissioner Akita and Commissioner Watt agree to participate in the Subcommittee.

Commissioner Akita mentions that the people who can attend meetings are not representative of the population.

Minutes Prepared by: [Name/Date]

Minutes Approved by:

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