

Welcome – Commissioner Akita calls the meeting to order at 6:30pm. The board introduce themselves.

Public Comment:

Mike Stanley – Green Lake Rowing – In 2019, Green Lake Rowing had a record number of young people in their programs. They need to build capacity. They have partnered with Seize the Oar, an adaptive rowing program and submitted program grants for an adaptive rowing program at Green Lake, another reason the renovation of their facilities is so important. The current boathouse is not Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible. Green Lake Rowing provided \$30,000 in financial aid. They are committed to equity and have formed a committee that is working with local high schools. Their fundraising and grant funding was very successful. The project, to renovate the Green Lake Rowing center has a lot of public support. They request the Boards support for more funding for this project.

Tim Motzer – He is the Chair of the Lake City Neighborhood Alliance and he came to discuss the establishment of the six-year tax rate and creating a line item to replace aging facilities.

Michelle Nash – 10-year resident of Queen Anne – She wants a dog park within walking distance. She doesn't feel safe at Kinnear.

Doug Luetjen – Friends of Seattle's Olmsted Park – Doug gifts the board members with autographed copies of the Olmsted book to thank them for their service. He recently went to Asheville, North Carolina and Louisville, Kentucky both of whose park systems were designed by the Olmsteds.

Sally Li – She is a member of the Rainier Beach Beer Sheva Project. She requests a copy of metrics for RSJI Outcomes, Strategies, and Actions.

Jack Goldberg – He came to advocate funding for Beer Sheva. The community looks forward to fundraising for the project and they want to work with SPR to develop this park, but they have no information about next steps or timelines to entice potential donors.

Simon Wright – This group created a community-led public process. He requests SPR name BEER SHEVA as an official Park District project. This is a rapidly developing area and this park has potential for a great community gathering place.

Bill Pickard – Rainier Beach community member wants to provide an update on the Beer Sheva project; King County suggested the shoreline is not great for baby salmon. The community is applying for grants to update the habitat to make it healthier for the fish. How does the community get on the list of named projects?

Jenny Frankl – This park will be right across the street from the newly renovated Rainier Beach high school. Her group is frustrated that they do not know what will happen next and when. They would like to know how to position themselves to be successful in the next phase.

George Lee – Community leaders have been designing the project and engaging with the community for input. They are at 100% design documents and could break ground tomorrow. Beer Sheva Park has not changed much in the last 20 years. He asks SPR to improve the waterfront and the park to make better access.

Commissioner Akita thanks the public for their testimony and that the SPR system could not be what it is without the residence who put in the work to make the community better.

Seattle Park District Planning Outreach Overview with Rachel Schulkin, Communications Manager

Plan for public meetings to inform the process for Park District recommendations they will be making.

Seattle Parks and Recreation is holding three community meetings across the city to help inform priorities for the upcoming Park District budget proposal. The goal is to have community weigh in a few key priority areas to help both Board of Park Commissioners and Park District Oversight Committee members provide a community-informed recommendation regarding the next six-year budget.

Our request is that you attend at least one of the three meetings. Your role will listen to community in small groups while helping facilitate the conversation.

Meeting format:

- Short presentation on Park District accomplishments and lessons learned to date, and Strategic Plan priorities
- Break into self-selected groups—Building a City of the Future, Leveraging our System to Serve People, and Building on Fix It First, or Other
- After group discussions, each group will report the high points of their discussion.
- After each group has shared, then members of the public will be able to share out any thoughts or write them down on cards.
- Meeting will adjourn when all members of the public are able to share. Closing remarks on the timeline going forward and places where they can continue to advocate.

Additional Outreach Opportunities:

- Social media polls (over 50 responses to date)
- Online survey (over 180 responses to date)
- Email PDplanning@seattle.gov
- All emails or comments about the Park District budget to any staff will be routed to Rachel to be cataloged with other community input.

Meeting and Outreach advertising:

- SPR newsletter (over 50K subscribed)
- Park District and PDOC newsletters (over 1K subscribed)

- Sent out to all Councilmembers with request to send to their constituents
- Flyers posted at Community Centers, Pools, Libraries, and Neighborhood Service Centers
- Translated flyers distributed to community centers and pools
- Info shared on website, press release, and social media (Twitter, Next Door, Facebook, and Instagram)
- Info shared with dozens of SPR partners, tenants, and community groups

Other important info:

- This process builds off the over 10,000 community members who gave comment during the Strategic Plan
- A summary of all feedback will be presented at the March 17 meeting
- Facilitation guide will be sent out before the meeting and available at the meeting

The commissioners ask about how to respond to community groups when they attend these meetings and ask about next steps or how to move forward. Rachel says coming to these meetings is great and there are other avenues for advocacy – Mayor and City Council; the Park District Board date is already set. She cautions that the community groups are not going to get a “yes or no” answer to whether their projects will be funded during the upcoming funding cycle at these meetings.

All comments and feedback through social media, the online survey, and emails will be collected by Rachel S. She will provide a summary of feedback at the March 17 meeting. She will work with Shanyanika to give weekly updates.

Community groups can come to the public meetings to talk about their projects, but they should also contact their City Council representative and the Mayor.

2019 Seattle Park District Annual Report – with David Takami, Strategic Advisor

Michele reminds the Board that PDOC leads the charge for the Annual Report every year. Since the Board is busy with the Financial Plan, she suggests David draft the report and, either 1) the board can provide feedback via email or 2) work on it with David through a subcommittee.

David reviews the outline and timeline he has created for the Annual Report. It is available [here](#).

He requests the Park District Oversight Committee come to the March 17 meeting 15 minutes early, so they can have their picture taken for the Annual Report.

Follow outline proposed with an option create a subcommittee to provide feedback and work with David in his timeframe before the draft comes to the Board. OR, wait for a draft from David and provide feedback via email. They will have the opportunity to review both a draft and the final version.

Commissioner McCaffrey is happy to see metrics and performance management information added since they had requested it in previous years.

Since the report is a standard format and there is a short timeframe; Commissioner Akita suggests going with the staff recommendation. David will work on draft; Commissioners Watt and Potter offer to provide feedback. David asks for comments on previous years’ Annual Report and talking points for PDOC letter by mid-March.

Old/New Business

Subcommittee Charter for Mayor and Council Relations

Commissioners Herrera, Potter, Byers and Sivaranjan have created a Charter to guide their advocacy work with elected officials.

Commissioner Herrera wants to touch base with the commissioners to discuss their potential connections.

Commissioner Hundley has a general concern as a member of the Park Board since they seem to be meeting less and less; and confusion over the mission of this subcommittee. Commissioner Potter says the idea of the subcommittee is to keep the board members in the forefront of the minds of the elected officials. This subcommittee idea started at the Park Board retreat to be more engaged with elected officials. During the period of the strategic planning/financial plan process, SPR wanted to combine resources to reduce workload for staff. If there is a need for the Board of Park Commissioners to meet, then they can call a meeting.

Sean says the Charter should have a statement about decision-making.

Commissioner Herrera moves to table the motion to allow for more conversation and edits. Dewey seconds and the Board approves the motion to continue working on this. Commissioner Byers says this is important and moving in the right direction. He encourages the Board to get it done.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourns at 7:30pm.