



# Minutes|Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners

100 Dexter Ave N/Kenneth R. Bounds Boardroom

Remote accessibility via Zoom

Thursday, January 25, 2024

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

## Attendance

Present: Phillip Meng, Joshua Seyfried, Marlon Herrera (co-chair), Amy Brockhaus, Stafford Mays, Jessica Farmer, Pasqual Contreras, Justin Umagat (co-chair)

Absent: Lauren Lanham

SPR Staff and Presenters: Anthony-Paul (AP) Diaz, Annie Hindenlang, Justin Hellier, David Takami, Benjamin Burtzos

## Welcome, Introductions & Land Acknowledgement

Herrera calls the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and provides logistical instructions for in-person and remote attendees.

Herrera reads the land acknowledgement.

Seattle Parks and Recreation acknowledges and affirms the indigenous Coast Salish as the original caretakers of our waters and landscape, who nurtured and shaped today's parkland. We honor their legacy with gratitude and appreciation and will safeguard their knowledge and stewardship as enduring treasures to promote community welfare, cultivate inclusive expressions of nature and recreation, and commit to land acknowledgment for each ensuing generation.

Commissioners and SPR staff introduce themselves around the table.

Herrera introduces the consent items for approval: tonight's meeting agenda and the meeting minutes from the 12/14/23 BPRC meeting. Brockhaus moves to approve both items; Mays seconds. The motion passes by unanimous consent.

Adopted: 12/14/23 BPRC Meeting Minutes

Adopted: 1/25/24 BPRC Meeting Agenda

Diaz shares that Commissioner Andrea Stuart-Lehalle has resigned from the Board to focus on her new position with the Seattle International Film Festival. Diaz thanks Stuart-Lehalle for her perspective and time given to the Board.

## Public Comment

Sandy Shettler – My comment regards SPR being in violation of multiple laws based on the proposed pickleball courts at Lincoln Park. The state GMA requires all cities to have a comprehensive plan which includes a parks plan with community input. Seattle's parks plan expired in August and it did not include pickleball in that plan. Since it was not in the expired plan and there is no new plan, this

project put Seattle in violation of state law. By continuing to push this illegal and very unpopular project, SPR is putting the City at legal risk and potentially jeopardizing state funding. Our attorney has a letter which I can share with you.

Kersti Muul – I'm a wildlife biologist representing myself as well as Birds Connect Seattle. My comment is in reference to the so-called wildlife study in Lincoln Park. I have researched and documented the wildlife in the park for decades. I am concerned with the way that SPR is framing this study and the disingenuous way that they are presenting all of this information about these [pickleball] courts to the public. I am involved in that study, and some of my colleagues are reluctantly participating in it, because it is not scientifically sound; there are no thresholds or parameters, and the timeframe to do a scientifically sound study is completely unreasonable. The study is also not part of the budget or grant for the pickleball courts, which, according to my public records, is already almost \$50,000 over budget, before any outside studies.

Denise Dahn – I started Seattle Nature Alliance 12 or 13 years ago when I began to see the trend of SPR to add more active uses to natural areas. That began with the zipline project in Lincoln Park. Since then, I've established some really good working relationships with the folks at Lincoln Park, most of whom are gone or retired during the pandemic. I know the park really well; I know it like the back of my hand. When these two projects came up, the dog park proposal and the pickleball proposal, out of nowhere, no prior planning that the public was aware of, these two things have me really concerned for a number of reasons, environmental and habitat. Today I want to talk about the impact it's going to have on community and for people. The idea of inserting active uses into a space like this in Lincoln Park that is so central to the way the park has been used in the community is going to be devastating. It's not just a matter of the square footage that is being used, it's the radiating impact. I think this violates a key tenet of recreation planning in a natural area of a park, in that is going to end up negatively impacting the very thing that people love about that park, the incomparable beauty of that park, the magnificence of that spot, how they use it, how they love it.

Sarah Dolan – I live about six blocks away from [Lincoln] Park and I'm there at least once a day for walks with my husband. We adore the natural space that it is, and I'm here to tell you that I appreciate Kersti's noise study, but I think there needs to be a full noise study done. One of my friends is on the Lake Oswego city council, and they did both a noise and a parking study, due to lawsuits, unfortunately, and I think we need at least the same for our park, which is a regional park of incredible beauty, serenity, and it's my quiet time to walk in the park. Pickleball is about 70 decibels (db), if you don't know already, very loud, and it is a very highly intensive noise that is different from—it's akin to a truck backing up or an annoying noise. SPR thinks they are going to regulate having extra-quiet paddles, which have not been invented yet, by the way, and I can tell you that there is no way you can regulate unless you have someone standing right there, people are going to come with what they have, they're not buying new paddles. And abatement is very difficult and expensive, to the tune of \$50k for one piece of fencing around a park. So you can look at the Lake Oswego study to see that neither paddles nor fencing seem to help, maybe 10 db at most. And I can tell you from my own experience that I watch owls from there, and there are maybe 160 species of birds in the park, Kersti can tell you about that, and the owls go to the trees around this, and that will be disturbing the owls, as well as our resident bald eagles, we have two of them that I saw just last night, in the park, that go to the trees above this field.

Bret Barnecut – Most every day, the Fountleroy Ferry backs up to and through Lincoln Park. On any decent weather day, with zero sporting events in the park and zero picnic shelter group rentals, both Lincoln Park parking lots are completely full. Now, Lake Oswego, Oregon, converted two tennis courts into six pickleball – the same as the proposed storage site conversion at Lincoln Park. Their parking study showed that 25 parking spaces were used for peak pickleball, and 182 spaces over a day of play. Lincoln Park parking has 141 spaces total. You can't even see the proposed courts at Lincoln Park from where you would like to park your car, and you can't see your car getting buglarized from where you would be playing on a court that would be in the shade and covered in debris. SPR should build or lease an indoor space so that taxpayers get their full dollar value and everyone will get real playing time. Let's see a legitimate parking study and please take a hard look at all the vacancies up in Westwood Village – plenty of parking, nice neighborhood; looks like a good fit.

Diana Spence – My husband and I live in West Seattle, about 1500 feet from the proposed site of the pickleball courts. We enjoy pickleball, we just don't want it there in the park. Our main position is environmental. I don't know if you've been to that site, but there are what are called "exceptional trees" that surround the pickleball court. They surround it, they overhang it; there are roots already coming up through the asphalt. In March of 2023, Mayor Harrell issued an order to protect Seattle's tree canopy, so I'm just going to quote very quickly from his speech. He said, "Trees are essential to our efforts to combat the impacts of climate change and to build healthy communities. We must act now to get back on track toward meeting our tree canopy goals and building our climate-forward future we want to see." Those trees that surround the proposed site could not stand there if the pickleball courts go in. The first time somebody falls or rolls on a pinecone, there will be a lawsuit and those trees will go.

Diaz notes that SPR is committed to maintaining tree canopy and will not be removing trees as part of the Lincoln Park project. In addition, Diaz reiterates the department's commitment to environmental and parking review studies prior to any construction.

## Superintendent's Report

Anthony-Paul (AP) Diaz, Superintendent of Seattle Parks and Recreation, delivers the report.

**Happy New Year!** I hope you fared well with our recent cold weather spell. Our crews were ready for snow and ice a couple of weeks ago but it turned out to be only a few days of sub-freezing weather with minimal impact to our system. We did cancel or postpone a few programs and events as a precaution over the weekend of Jan. 13-15, including cancellation of the Martin Luther King, Jr. march on Jan. 13. Several synthetic-surface playfields were also closed.

**City Council Changes:** This month we welcomed six new City Councilmembers, including Tanya Woo, whom the Council appointed earlier this week. A new City Council President was selected, Sara Nelson, and we have a new parks committee, the Parks, Public Utilities and Technology Committee, chaired by new Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth. We look forward to working with Councilmember Hollingsworth. We are in the process of briefing all of the new councilmembers about parks and recreation issues.

**Park Rangers:** I'm excited to announce that as part of labor negotiations with the Seattle Police Officers Guild, geographic restrictions were lifted on our Park Rangers so they can work outside the

downtown core. We are in the process of hiring new Rangers and will be developing a deployment plan for Park Ranger coverage moving forward.

**Black Lives Matter Garden:** Since we last met in early December, as most of you know, we worked with the Seattle Police Department to remove the makeshift garden at Cal Anderson Park on Dec. 27 due to public health and public safety issues and the need for maintenance, including reseeding the area and turf restoration.

SPR was in frequent communication with community activists offering alternative locations for a garden, both within Cal Anderson, as well as in other Seattle parks. Unfortunately, these good faith conversations did not produce an alternative location acceptable to the organizers of the temporary garden. We remain committed to an ongoing dialogue to produce an alternative garden site.

In partnership with members of the Black farming community and leaders in Seattle's Black community, we will conceptualize a new commemorative garden at Cal Anderson Park.

**Tribal Summit:** SPR was honored to convene a two-day Tribal Summit with department staff and a number of local tribes earlier this week. This gathering was a follow-up to the City of Seattle Tribal Nations Summit held in May 2023. The dialogue focused on a subset of parks and recreation topics, including Cultural Resources, Habitat Restoration & Management, Park Development, Programming, and more. The goal of this gathering was to identify concrete actions that will strengthen relationships and improve tribal engagement.

**Denny Awards:** I was thrilled to help honor the winners of Seattle Parks and Recreation's Denny Awards for Outstanding Volunteer Stewardship in a reception and ceremony on Jan. 10 at the Seattle Asian Art Museum in Volunteer Park. The winners are a cross-section of Seattle's most creative, dedicated, and hard-working volunteers who donate precious time and energy to improving Seattle's parks and recreation programs.

HEALTHY PEOPLE – Antje Mueller

Antje is a Seattle Urban Nature Guide (SUN Guide) who has been leading walks and guiding active education programs in nature for 17 years.

THRIVING ENVIRONMENT – Eric Espenhorst

Eric is a founding member of the Friends of Dead Horse Canyon (FODHC). Dead Horse Canyon serves the communities of Rainier Beach, Skyway, and Lakeridge, some of the most diverse and underserved communities in Seattle when it comes to outdoor recreational opportunities.

EQUITY CHAMPION – Friends of Hutchinson Playground

The Friends of Hutchinson Playground was formed through the leadership and advocacy of community members coming together to create a safer and better park for the entire community.

VIBRANT COMMUNITY – Riley and Cooper Ridenour

Since they were four years old, Riley and Cooper have volunteered with their parents to support SPR events such as the annual Polar Bear Plunge and Halloween special event at Meadowbrook Pool.

Riley and Cooper are now 16 years old and have spent hundreds of hours this year helping with the swimming program.

#### **SUPERINTENDENT AWARD – Rainier Beach Distance Running Program (Cross Country Team)**

Rainier Beach Distance Running Program (Cross Country Team) coaches have always been welcoming of all youth, and for the past several years the program has been offered for free to get more people of color to join. The running coach group is always encouraging and working to provide opportunities for the team to participate in running off season, as well as supporting the team in giving back to the community through volunteer efforts.

Diaz notes a departmental reorganization and makes special mention that Daisy Catague has been named Deputy Superintendent of Recreation and Operational Services.

Diaz also notes the recent tragic shooting death of a Chief Sealth High School student at an SPR facility. This investigation is ongoing, so there is not much to add at the moment. However, Diaz asks for the commissioners to hold the SPR staff that responded to the incident in their thoughts.

**Polar Bear Plunge:** The annual Polar Bear Plunge was a huge success on New Year's Day. 1,500 participants jumped into Lake Washington at Matthews Beach where the water was 48 degrees and the air was 43 degrees. The event was organized by Meadowbrook Pool staff with support from other Aquatics, community center, facilities and grounds maintenance staff.

**Swim Seattle Update:** Recreation held its first Swim Seattle Community Workshops in November 2023 lead by Medgar Evers Pool and Garfield Teen Life Center to educate 21 teens on water safety to raise awareness about drowning prevention, impart essential boat safety knowledge, and spark interest in swimming safety among the youth. The next teen workshop is Jan. 26 at Meadowbrook Pool.

**Get Moving and Recreation for All:** Grant applications for these two recreation programs funded by the Seattle Park District are open and due by Feb. 15. Get Moving funds culturally relevant physical activities to communities where health disparities are prevalent. Recreation for All funds new, innovative, and culturally relevant recreation opportunities. Funded programs will take place in community centers, parks, and facilities.

**Rainbow Recreation:** Rainbow Recreation offers options throughout the city for community members 50+ who identify as LGBTQ+, and their Allies, to engage and connect. Register now and share with others you know who may enjoy! Search "Rainbow" in Seattle Parks and Recreation's registration system for more!

**Citywide athletics:** Currently in recreation, we are in the midst of our youth basketball season, serving up to 3,000 youth. Adult Athletics is also in winter session, offering the Adult Flag Football, Basketball and Roller Derby drop-ins.

Winter, spring, summer and fall, our **Grounds Maintenance** staff are always busy and working hard to maintain and beautify our parks.

**New Safety Striping at Seacrest Park:** Kudos to Paint Shop's quick response to slippery concerns by putting down non-skid tape at Seacrest Park.

**Planting of Annuals:** Our crews planted beautiful annual flowers at Denny Park and Tilikum Place in downtown Seattle.

**Illegal Dumping:** Our staff sometimes encounters hazardous, illegally dumped materials in our parks grounds and waters. Pictured are paint cans and other hazardous waste that were carefully removed from Lake Washington in Magnuson Park.

**Lakewood Marina Plantings:** Our Natural Area Crew recently finished the first planting project of the season at Lakewood Marina on Lake Washington, installing 700 plants, spreading 20 yards of mulch, and caged over 100 woody plants to prevent damage from beavers and rabbits.

**Graffiti Removal:** In 2023, our crews completed 1,683 graffiti removal work orders. 86% of all graffiti work orders were finished in 6 business days or less

Overall last year, our Facilities shops completed 18,429 work orders – an all-time record high.

### **Recent Bid openings:**

South Park CC & Playfield: We issued a Notice to Proceed for the South Park Plaza project; construction is set to begin on this long-awaited project in early Feb.

Bradner Gardens (renovation of restroom, which was damaged in arson incident)

Hiawatha CC (major maintenance and facility upgrades and accessibility improvements)

**1125 Harvard Ave. E property:** We held a public meeting last week (Jan. 17) to present a design concept for the new park site in the North Capitol Hill neighborhood, which was donated to the City by the Bullitt family. There is also an interim plan for opening a portion of the site to the public until additional funding becomes available (likely through future Park District funding)

**Little Saigon Construction Update:** This new park site is under construction and well underway. An art piece funded by 1% for the Arts program is being installed on site. Some construction delays are occurring due to additional contaminated soils and coordination issues along Jackson St.

**SPR/SDOT I-90 Trail & Judkins Station Access Lighting & Staircase system:** This multi-agency project coordinated by the Seattle Department of Transportation installs lighting and a new staircase along trail the and several parks in the I-90 corridor near the new Judkins Park light rail station in Seattle's Central Area. Pictured here is the new staircase at the end of Hiawatha PI S; it will be open to the public by the end of January. Other partners include Seattle City Light (lighting), Seattle Public Utilities (new staircase), Washington State Dept. of Transportation (WSDOT ROW), Sound Transit (funding partner).

**Year-end data:** PCD completed (44) projects and planning studies in 2023 (\$109M worth of projects).

**Athletic and Event Scheduling:** Our Athletic and Event Scheduling unit has made a number improvements to help streamline several registration processes for the public:

Athletic scheduling enhanced its GIS mapping tool to reflect updated information about all our SPR athletic courts and fields (synthetic vs. grass, lighted vs. non-lighted, size and orientation, etc.) which will provide more detailed field information across our system.

Event scheduling will post promotional material at SPR's 12 amenity rental sites and at our community centers with a QR code so anyone walking by can quickly gain access to information and reserve a particular space.

To better accommodate many reservation requests for summer Day Camps, Event Scheduling will begin a new lottery system this year. Applications submitted between January 1-31 will be entered into the lottery; subsequent applications will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Event Scheduling's newly automated online picnic application is now live, It provides customers with a customized response and has been translated into 7 languages: Spanish, Vietnamese, Mandarin, Somali, Amharic, Korean, and Tagalog.

**Contracting:** The Request for Proposal (RFP) for Seasonal Concessions for the 2024 season is open (at 22 locations in 20 parks); the RFP will close on Feb. 6

### **Upcoming Events**

#### **Pancake Breakfasts:**

Feb. 11 at Bitter Lake CC, 9 a.m. to noon

March 3 at Loyal Heights CC, 9 a.m. to noon

**Open Mic Poetry Night:** Feb. 2 and March 1 at Miller CC, 6 to 8 p.m.

**Swim Seattle Open Swim:** Free family swim for scholarship-eligible families at Rainier Beach Pool, 10:30 a.m. to noon

**Spring Egg Hunts:** Coming at the end of March!

I'd be glad to answer any questions Board members may have.

Herrera congratulates Catague on her recent appointment; it is well deserved. Herrera also notes that Washington Senate Bill 5444 would permit municipalities to regulate the carrying of firearms in parks and community centers. Herrera asks that SPR keep the BPRC informed about budget developments throughout the year, particularly given the new council. He expresses some concern that the new council members may not fully understand the General Fund obligations still owed to SPR in light of the Park District. Farmer concurs; the Park District is separate from the General Fund and should not be seen as a "safety valve" in lean times.

Umagat asks for a specific report back on the shooting at the Southwest Teen Life Center and pool at the next meeting, particularly regarding what options SPR has to increase security on its own and what conversations are occurring with other partners in the city.

Umagat asks what level of maintenance SPR performs near and around docks. Diaz elaborates that crews do keep basic maintenance levels around public docks, and that one of the major items for trash removal tends to be abandoned fishing line. Umagat notes that fishing, especially in the city, really took off during the pandemic closures, so this makes sense.

Mays asks if the Mayor's hiring freeze will affect the Park Ranger program. Diaz explains that public safety programs and hires are specifically exempted from this freeze, so the Rangers program will not be impacted.

## Parks & Open Space Plan Briefing

Diaz introduces the briefing.

The next item is a briefing on the Draft 2024 Parks and Open Space Plan. The plan serves several purposes: it inventories the city's park system including lands and facilities; reviews city demographics, recreation participation, and needs; and defines a level of service standard. The plan also identifies capital projects and prioritizes funding for park development and asset maintenance. The Parks and Open Space Plan is required by the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) to maintain the department's eligibility for state grants.

Kevin Bergsrud, Senior Park Planner, delivers the briefing.

As Superintendent Diaz indicated, I'm here to present to you how we have developed the 2024 Parks and Open Space Plan and what the next steps are.

Today we do not need any action from the BPRC. We will introduce the Board to the Parks and Open Space Plan (POSP), review a minor update of the 2017 POSP to stay in compliance with state regulations, and give a high-level walkthrough of plan contents. We will come back on March 14<sup>th</sup> for a Board recommendation following a public hearing on February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Park departments statewide must develop and submit POSPs to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) to maintain eligibility for state grants and funding programs. Our previous POSP was adopted in 2017. As one commenter accurately noted, our plan did expire in 2023; there's not really any harm in it being expired, but we do want it to be in line with the One Seattle Plan and want to do that as soon as possible.

The objectives of the POSP are:

- Document and describe SPR parks, open spaces, and facilities;
- Review changes in city demographics and recreation participation; and
- Define near-term spending priorities.

The POSP guides long-term planning, capital development, asset management, acquisition, and general prioritization of all of the above.

The proposed approach for this plan is to reduce duplicative, time-intensive planning processes to a single more comprehensive process. That is the purpose of doing a minor revision to the POSP this year. By late 2025, we will kickoff a major revision of the POSP and align the adoption of that next phase in line with the One Seattle plan as well as the next cycle of the Park District.

Our public engagement has proceeded as follows:

- 5 OPCD One Seattle Comprehensive Plan meetings
- Virtual public meeting on May 18, 2023
- POSP-specific online engagement hub



- 6 in-person public meetings summer 2023
- 60+ themes recorded in more than a dozen categories

Throughout this process we Targeted outreach to identify and uplift voice of marginalized communities, including:

- Compensation for 5 community-based organizations outreach support
- Flyers and press releases translated into 7 languages (Amharic, Chinese, Korean, Somali, Spanish, Tagalog, Vietnamese)
- Advertising in the Northwest Asian Weekly and South Seattle Emerald
- Interpreters at meetings for areas of the city with higher language diversity (Delridge, Yesler and Van Asselt CCs)

Some of the changes we made to the 2024 POSP include updates utilizing public engagement and data analysis, a new Level of Service (LOS) standard, and preparations for a larger update in 2025. This new LOS standard takes SPR from acres of park per 1000 people (in the 2017 POSP) to a measure of distance people need to walk to a park or open space (walkability). This is a meaningful measure based on user experience, rather than proximity to an SPR site or facility, and it aligns with the approaches of other city departments (OPCD, SDOT, etc.).

- 5-minute walkability guideline to be applied within the Urban Center boundaries; and
- 10-minute walkability guideline to be applied outside of the Urban Center boundaries.

The goals and policies of the 2024 POSP remain unchanged from 2017:

- Provide a variety of outdoor and indoor spaces throughout the city for all people to play, learn, contemplate, and build community
- Continue to provide opportunities for all people across Seattle to participate in a variety of recreational activities
- Manage the City's park and recreation facilities to provide safe and welcoming places
- Plan and maintain Seattle's parks and facilities to attract additional park users and visitors
- Engage with community members to design and development parks and facilities that are based on the specific needs and cultures of the communities that the park is intended to serve

Here is the schedule of next steps:

- January 25                      Brief Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners (BPRC)
- February 9                     Public release of Draft Plan (public comment period begins)
- February 16                    State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Checklist posted
- February 22                    BPRC public hearing
- March 9                         Public comment period closes for Draft Plan
- March 14                        BPRC discussion and recommendations
- March 22                        Transmit legislation to City Council pending Superintendent approval
- May                                Submit to RCO pending Council approval

Thank you for listening, and I'm happy to answer any questions the Board might have.

Seyfried appreciates the switch of the measurement metric from the somewhat arbitrary acres per capita to something much more meaningful and tangible. This new measure seems much more helpful. Seyfried asks whether a layer of land use or zoning could be added to GIS or mapping to help illustrate why some of the ostensible gaps in service (i.e., Harbor Island) could be better contextualized. Seyfried also asks if SPR's current planned capital projects are lined up to address current identified gaps in service, and if not, how might the department start to think about closing these gaps? Bergsrud acknowledges that this question is a bit outside the scope of the presentation, but notes that Diaz and the property team do use both long-term planning and also opportunity basis to acquire land within the city. Bergsrud relates that he is a history buff and has familiarity with the difficulties for the Olmsted firm to acquire land even at the turn of the last century. Bergsrud shares a few anecdotes regarding specific proproperty acquisitions. Annie Hindenlang, SPR Planning and Development manager, adds that SPR priorities properties in service gap areas and high equity index areas when considering acquisition.

Farmer requests that SPR keeps the Board well-informed throughout the public comment and SEPA review process. Bergsrud affirms.

Herrera echoes support for the updated Level of Service standard, and notes that Serattle's growing population will continue to put a strain on the per capita measurement identified in the 2017 POSP.

## Seattle Shines! Mission Moment – Community Centers

Diaz introduces the presentation.

Next, Justin Hellier will be introducing a new format for brief updates on high-priority initiatives, a sort of "mission moment" we're calling Seattle Shines. For each of these updates, we'll spend about 10 minutes learning a little more about a part of the organization, new programs and services we are working on, and hearing from staff directly working in those areas. Today we will focus on community center expansion of operating hours.

Justin Hellier, SPR Strategic Advisor, delivers the presentation.

We're taking a look at the detailed line of business pertaining to Community Centers. This is about a \$17 million budget line for 2023, so a bit more in 2024. The big way that we measure performance of community center is this performance target: 60,000 annual operating hours. Our communications team has done a great job making videos to highlight some of the projects and initiatives we prioritized in Cycle 2 of the Park District, and I'll make sure you get a link to that video. [\[Watch the video here\]](#)

One of the outcomes of the Cycle 2 investment was that it expands public access to SPR's community centers system by 8% and realigns public operating hours to increase evening and weekend access in response to stated community preference. This investment increases facility availability for free drop-in activities, childcare programs, recreation programming, community events, and building rentals.

Meng thanks Hellier for the highlight of the program and notes that the format of these "Mission Moments" is great. Meng asks if labor market conditions have improved or worsened relative to last summer, and how that change has affected hiring for community centers and other programming. Diaz notes that challenges in hiring persist, especially in skilled trades and lifeguards. These

positions are considered essential, so SPR will still pursue hiring for these roles despite the current hiring freeze. However, 2023 was a successful hiring year.

The Board broadly agrees that the Mission Moment format is excellent.

Farmer asks if there will be a public-facing presentation of SPR's accomplishments, akin to these short presentations. Hellier notes that this exact format probably will not translate to public messaging, but something similar probably will be put out for the public. Diaz agrees, and notes that more video testimonials and other multimedia messages are forthcoming. Farmer notes that "Before and After" work photos have also been great.

Umagat notes that the recreation staff also deserves gratitude for the expanded hours, and thanks SPR staff for hitting the mark with this project.

## Old & New Business

Farmer notes the upcoming ARC Fund the Fun fundraiser breakfast on 4/30.

## Gratitude & Adjournment

There being no further business, Umagat adjourns the meeting at 8:06 pm.