

**BREMERTON PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING**

Minutes of February 28, 2023 (*Approved 3/28/2023*)

Hybrid Meeting: In person at Sheridan Park Community Center with Remote Option via Zoom

**Commissioner's Present:** Ben Burnette, Tim Baker, Paul Dutky, Katherine Weigel, Jim McDonald, Greg Dawson (Attended Remotely)

**Staff Present:** Jeff Elevado, Director of Parks and Recreation  
Colette Berna, Park Preservation & Development Manager

- I. **Meeting Called to Order** at 5:30 p.m. by Chair Burnette
- II. **Approval of Minutes: A motion was made** to approve meetings held on January 24<sup>th</sup>. McDonald/Weigel (M/S/U - Baker abstained).
- III. **Public Comment:** Resident Charleen Burnette complimented the Parks & Recreation Department and thanked staff for keeping the parks looking so nice. She's an avid pickleball player at Sheridan Park Community Center but prefers to play outside at Lions Park.
- IV. **Business Items:**
  1. **Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) Training – Director Elevado** summarized history of Open Public Meetings Act (1971) to ensure openness and transparency for public. Commissioners and staff watched 15-minute training video with updates from 2022 amendments. **Commissioner Dutky** asked for clarification and **Director Elevado** provided more information and website link. Dawson suggested rather than a yearly video, have someone attend the meeting that can answer questions for a deeper discussion. **Commissioner McDonald** brought up how emails between Commissioners could be subject to Public Records Requests.
  2. **Forest Ridge Park Presentation (Commissioner Weigel) – Commissioner Weigel** provided informational slideshow of Forest Ridge Park, her backyard park for 18 years. She loves the green space and regularly volunteers (along with a core group of 4-5), performing trail maintenance and removal of invasive plants. **Director Elevado** responded to maintenance issues, signage questions, PROS Plan recommendations, and clarified that money from cell phone tower lease goes to a capital fund specifically for Forest Ridge Park. The group discussed the “Bremerton 1” application reporting system, methods to deter people from parking on grass, maintenance challenges of historic cabin, ongoing clean-up of encampments, issues of roadway/driveway access, and volunteer reporting requirements (L&I).
  3. **Trail Planning Discussion (Commissioner Dutky) – Commissioner Dutky** reviewed the need for trails as documented in the PROS Plan, and shared opportunities for a perimeter trail at Pendergast Regional Park (with potential connection from Soundview Estates). He also shared concept for a proposed separated path along Austin Drive through NAD Park and potential to improve/enlarge the southern entrance for pedestrians/cyclists by removing existing pillars and fencing. **Commissioner Dutky** offered to lead walk at Pendergast and develop photo essay to review with the Commission.
  4. **Glenn Jarstad Aquatic Center Discussion – Director Elevado** shared status of roof deterioration at City-owned pool and next steps for repair/replacement. In 2009 the City entered into a 10-year concession and management agreement with the YMCA. During the latest extension of this agreement the City learned that the YMCA is looking to move and build a new

facility, hopefully in Bremerton. Meanwhile the City is putting together a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to develop construction documents and cost estimates for the roof replacement; preliminary estimates were between 400k-500k. He also shared photos of the building's condition; cracking in brick was evaluated by a structural engineer who felt it was primarily cosmetic damage caused by moisture getting into the rebar which rusted and expanded. Initial estimates for chipping the loose material and patching the brick is 25-30k. Once this work is done an evaluation of the Glenn Jarstad Aquatic Center will be conducted to determine long-term plan.

## V. **Staff Reports & Updates:**

**1) Kitsap Lake Park Renovation Project – Ms. Berna** shared that the Biological Assessment to fulfill permitting requirements has been completed and submitted, awaiting response. 100% Construction Documents are ready to bid once permits are issued. Grant extensions are being requested from state granting agencies.

**2) Haddon Park Renovation Project – Ms. Berna** shared that additional cultural resource field work will occur this week which will hopefully allow geotechnical work to proceed so that construction documents can be completed, and project can be bid this year.

**3) Pendergast Regional Park Field Improvements – Ms. Berna** shared that edits to plan are being finalized and 30% design and estimates will be completed soon.

**4) Lions Park Court Resurfacing Project - Director Elevado** shared that the court resurfacing contract was approved. Awaiting 4-5 days of dry weather with temperatures exceeding 50 degrees to do the work.

**5) Kiwanis Park Playground Accessibility Upgrade – Ms. Berna** shared that the final renderings for the playground are completed, and the purchase agreement will be taken to Council next month. Project is funded by 130k Kiwanis Club donation and a 160k Dept. of Commerce grant however even with that healthy budget (290k) there is a 20k shortfall. Staff are working with the Bremerton Parks Foundation to apply for 8-10k to help reduce this shortfall.

## VI. **Commissioner's Comments:**

**Commissioner Dawson** felt it was a successful meeting and appreciated the work everyone did.

**Commissioner Weigel** thanked everyone for their input on Forest Ridge Park.

**Chair Burnette** asked what was going on at the Gateway and **Director Elevado** shared that Cascade Natural Gas is installing a new mainline.

## VII. **Adjournment:** **Chair Burnette** adjourned meeting at 8:07 pm.