

# BREMERTON PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

## REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

Minutes of April 27, 2021

Virtual Meeting

**Commissioner's Present:** Tim Baker, Ben Burnette, Pat Watson, Dave Hedger and Maggie Williams

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

**I. Meeting Called to Order** at 5:36 p.m. by Chair Burnette

**II. Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made to approve the minutes from the March 23rd meeting. Hedger/Williams (M/S/U)

**III. Public Comment:** N/A

**IV. Business Items:**

### 1. Parks & Recreation COVID-19 Status Update

**Director Elevado** shared that Kitsap County is still in Phase 3 and by May 3<sup>rd</sup> we'll know if the case numbers reverse the county back to Phase 2. Park shelter rentals are currently allowed for a maximum of 50 people as well as ballfield rentals. Special event applications are getting prepared for later in the summer and if the county does go back to Phase 2 the number of people in those groups will probably need to be reduced. The Bremerton Community Farmers Market is moving back to Evergreen Rotary Park starting May 6<sup>th</sup>. Recreation staff are working with adult softball leagues and will start accepting registrations soon and hopefully start league play by end of May or beginning of June depending on the current phase. **Chair Burnette** asked about how staff are getting the word out about softball and **Director Elevado** shared that the Athletics phone number is on the website and staff can also use email blasts and Facebook posts.

### 2. Bike Pump Track Interest Group Presentation

**Phil Babcock** presented a vision that he and others have for a pump track in Bremerton. As a cyclist and parent he sees a lot of interest in cycling in the city and a pump track would provide a safe place for children of all ages and abilities to ride to build confidence and increase skills along a series of smooth bumps, berms and turns. He reached out to local cycling organizations, Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance and West Sound Cycling Club, who both pledged enthusiastic support. Mr. Babcock explained that there are three different types of pump tracks. The most expensive being asphalt tracks (like the one in Leavenworth) which are best for all-wheeled users including skateboarders and scooters; once they're built they are very low-maintenance but they come with the highest upfront cost. The second type is a modular pump track, also accessible by all-wheeled users but with a more limited number of lines available which means they have lower repeatability and the cost is somewhere between an asphalt and dirt track. The third option is a dirt track (like the Poulsbo Pumptrack) which are excellent for cyclists and have a high repeatability and the lowest upfront build cost but they require more maintenance and must be built in a shaded environment so that the summer sun doesn't bake the dirt dry. A pump track needs about 4,000-10,000 square feet of space, ample parking and a restroom. He shared several locations in East Park (near YMCA) that might be viable. **Chair Burnette** asked how closely a pump track correlates with BMX riding in the Olympics and who funded the track in Leavenworth. **Mr. Babcock** responded that Olympic BMX riding is basically a pump track at really high speeds and that he believed the Leavenworth pump track was at least partially crowd-

sourced but there are also several grants available which he would share with city staff. Bremerton resident **Kevin Wise** with Evergreen West Sound shared that pump tracks are great for kids of all ages from those just starting to ride without pedals and that the Poulsbo pump track has been really popular (especially during pandemic) with 15-20 kids using it on any given afternoon when it's not raining. **Commissioner Baker** asked what the costs are and if there is enough parking as the Ice Arena parking lot tends to fill up. Mr. Babcock shared that depending on the size, an asphalt track is around 150k, modular pump track 50-60k and dirt track 13-14k. **Mr. Wise** added that a dirt track needs to be watered twice a week and that the one in Leavenworth was designed/installed by Velosolutions so might have been more. **Chair Burnette** asked if we would have access to the Ice Area parking lot. **Director Elevado** shared that the Ice Area and YMCA are on city property and that there are several parking lots including one adjacent to the skatepark. **Commissioner Hedger** asked if Pendergast was a possibility. **Mr Babcock** agreed that while Pendergast might have more space and available parking that it's not centralized and most kids would not be able to get there on their own. **Mr. Wise** asked about the city property on Olympus in East Bremerton and **Director Elevado** shared that this is Public Works property which may need to be used for a future reservoir. **Chair Burnette** said he liked the idea of a pump track at the East Park hillside location and asked what's the next step. **Director Elevado** said that the site needs to be analyzed more to confirm that it's viable. **Commissioner Baker** added that as a bicycle advocate he would love to see a pump track in Bremerton. **Chair Burnette** thanked Mr. Babcock for his presentation.

## V. Staff Reports:

### 1) Warren Ave. Park Renovation Project Update

**Director Elevado** shared that Ms. Berna is working on the interpretive sign and he's been working to complete the main entry signs. Public Works completed the sidewalk, the plantings are in and the field is coming in nicely. There is still a bit of work to do with some additional fencing along the hillside but the park is open to the public and we hope to be able to get people together to have an official grand opening soon.

### 2) Kitsap Lake Park Renovation Project Update

**Ms. Berna** shared that the cultural resource survey is complete and the consultant recommended no further investigations. This is good news as the predictive model for encountering archeological deposits was high given the lakeside location. Upon approval by the Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation we will proceed with the geotechnical work needed to determine engineered footings and continue with construction documents. The permit with the Army Corps of Engineers is not expected to be approved until January so we are working towards having construction documents completed by then and starting construction next spring. The Department of Commerce grant request of 258k was approved so we are excited to be able to include the playground at the north end of the site in the construction contract.

### 3) Ivy Green Cemetery Improvement Project Update

**Director Elevado** shared that the Dept. was awarded a 25k grant from Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation to make improvements to the cemetery. The main entry building was given a new roof and paint job and we are currently working with a contractor to install improvements to the entry including a new wrought iron entry gate. **Ms. Berna** added that we are developing an interpretive sign to highlight some of the historical gravesites and it will have a QR code linked to a website for the public to find gravesites.

### 4) CDBG Accessibility Improvement Project Update

**Ms. Berna** shared the project scope of the 75k Community Development Block Grant to make accessibility improvements at 4 sites including Kitsap Lake Park, Lions Park, Pendergast Park

and Sheridan Park Community Center. The grant has not been executed yet but we were given pre-authorization to proceed.

**VI. Commissioner's Comments:**

**Commissioner Williams** asked if the shrubbery that had been cut back to the ground at Kiwanis Park was normal maintenance or something to do with people camping there. **Director Elevado** said it was probably normal maintenance, but it does deter people from setting up there. **Ms. Berna** added that while we do consider plant height in our plans to maintain site lines the yellow and red twig dogwood in the rain garden get leggy overtime and benefit from being cut to the ground.

**Commissioner Hedger** reported that he and Commissioner Watson had a guided tour of the Madrona Forest from Josh Farley and were very impressed with the volunteer effort there. **Director Elevado** concurred that the work they've done has been a big help. **Chair Baker** asked about the trailhead being so close to someone's house. **Director Elevado** shared that the trailheads on the east side of the forest are on HOA property. The discussion led to the parking lot on the west side which had been used by hospital staff and can now be reclaimed for recreational use.

**Commissioner Watson** shared enthusiasm for volunteer effort at Madrona Trails and asked if restroom at East Park is fully functional. **Director Elevado** responded that one side is still closed due to vandalism and is being worked on.

**Commissioner Baker** reiterated enthusiasm for pump track in city and asked if the flowers are out yet and if Commissioners could get a tour of the greenhouse. **Director Elevado** agreed that a greenhouse tour would be great and that the flower baskets are typically out by the Armed Forces Day parade.

**Chair Burnette** reiterated support for pump track and appreciated Mr. Babcock's presentation.

**VII. Adjournment: Chair Burnette** adjourned the meeting at 6:51 pm.