



**City of Gig Harbor
Parks Commission Meeting Minutes
February 7, 2007 @ 5:30 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: Ken Malich called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Roll was taken.

PRESENT: Commissioners Peter Hampl, Ken Malich, Michael Perrow and Jacquie Goodwill were present. City Staff included David Brereton, Eric Mendenhall, Jeff Langhelm and Terri Reed.

MAYOR'S INTRODUCTION: Mayor Hunter introduced the new City Administrator, Rob Karlinsey. Rob stated that his goal is to get some of our park properties developed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The Commission members reviewed the minutes of the January 10, 2007 meeting.

MOTION: Move to approve the January 10, 2007 meeting minutes as presented.
Goodwill / Perrow - unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Vashon Island Skateboard Park Leadership Visit

Saul Fortunoff, who is a steward of the Vashon Island Skate Park, shared some of his experiences with skateboard parks. Their park is only open 21 hours per week and is supervised during that time. He stated that the Gig Harbor Skate Park is very well designed. He said that it is unusual for a skate park to have disreputable activities occurring.

Michael Perrow asked Saul if smoking was allowed in their park. Saul responded that smoking is not allowed on any park property in the Vashon system. Saul encouraged the formation of a community group to oversee the skate park that could report to the Parks Commission.

Parks Appreciation Day (April 28, 2007) – This item was moved to the end of the meeting agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

Westside Park

Dave Brereton gave an overview of the progress of this project. He mentioned a grant application that was submitted last year. Dave introduced Colie Hough-Beck and Dave Skinner, who are the consultants working on creating a master plan for the park.

Colie Hough-Beck discussed the master plan process, site analysis, opportunities and constraints, recreation elements and schedule for the park plan. Dave Skinner encouraged input and comments from the audience.

Dave Brereton answered a question brought up as to whether 50th Street will be opened up. He stated that it will be improved and continue through with the improvements made with the proposed retirement center across the street and the park improvements.

Dave Skinner mentioned that this is a neighborhood park. There is a goal to have a multiple ways to get to park including a trail system, bicycle access, sidewalks and not just access by car.

The possibility of a combined baseball/soccer field was discussed. PAA expressed support for the need of baseball fields. The City of Gig Harbor does not schedule programmed games on City fields.

Dave Skinner discussed the IAC grant and the recreation elements that were submitted and will be required for grant funding. This included a baseball/soccer field, play area, covered shelter, picnic tables, trails and restrooms. The need for an active park is identified in the Parks Comp plan.

A trail system was discussed and the various options for path surfaces. There is also a desire and need for a half court basketball area.

Alfred Babinsky, 5002 36th Avenue Ct., asked that the park be fenced on three sides and possibly locked up at night.

Yvonne Hendrickson, 3519 48th Street Ct. NW, expressed her concern with safety and would like to see a fence between the park and the adjacent neighborhood where she lives.

Sandra Kern, PAA Youth, spoke about the structured programs in the area and would like to see many athletic elements included in the park.

Jim Pasin, who owns the adjoining property, asked that the park include athletic elements but not be for organized, programmed sports. He also has some concerns about parking, security, lighting and litter control.

The Westside Park development will be discussed again at the April 4th Parks Commission meeting.

Parks Appreciation Day (April 28, 2007)

Peter Hampl and Michael Perrow attended a meeting on February 6th about community involvement coordination for this project.

Commission members present each chose which park they want to be involved with on Parks Appreciation Day:

Jacque Goodwill – Skate Park or City Park
Peter Hampl – Wilkinson Farm Park
Ken Malich – Scofield Estuary Park
Michael Perrow – Grandview Forest Park

Peter Hampl requested a Civic Center conference room to use for the site leader training on April 17th @ 7:00 p.m. Dave Brereton confirmed that five city employees will also be assigned to each of the parks chosen and he will provide a list of projects desired and volunteers needed.


Sponsors – Commissioners will create a list of organizations, with addresses and contact names, to send the sponsor request letter to.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, March 7, 2007 at 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURN:

MOTION: Move to adjourn at 7:30 p.m.
Hampl / Perrow – unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,


Terri Reed