

**Joint Work Study Session
Gig Harbor City Council / Parks Commission
October 5, 2011
Community Rooms A & B
5:30 pm**

PRESENT:

City Council Members: Steve Ekberg, Tim Payne, Ken Malich and Paul Kadzik
Commission Members: Nick Tarabochia, Michael Perrow and Robyn Denson
Staff: City Administrator Rob Karlinsey, Public Works Superintendent Marco Malich and
Community Development Assistant Terri Reed

WORKSESSION

1. **Parks Commission Meetings/Process:** Commission member Perrow spoke about his concerns of the Parks Commission not being a part of the process for parks development. He would also like the Commission to be a part of private development process when it impacts city parks. Commission Chair Tarabochia explained the need for the Commission to meet more frequently. Councilmember Kadzik asked how much impact meeting more often would have on staff. Councilmember Payne said that he would not be opposed to more meetings when needed. Commission member Perrow would like to have the meetings scheduled monthly, unless it is determined one is not needed. Councilmember Payne would like to see the Parks Commission involved in reviewing Operations Committee, Arts Committee, Public Works and making budget recommendations as it pertains to parks. Commission member Perrow described his concerns with the recent Wilco and Goodwill projects.
2. **Crescent Creek Playground Project:** Stephanie Payne gave an update on the playground project. She explained that the Fishermen's Club is interested in collaborating on the project and that the group is considering contacting Delta Boat for sponsorship possibilities. Ms. Payne asked about naming rights for sponsorship levels. Ms. Payne gave some details on the Landscape Structures essay contest and asked about looking at accessibility for the entire park to including parking issues. She will be meeting with a designer from Shane's Inspiration the first week in November. Councilmember Malich would like to see accessibility in all City parks reviewed. Ms. Payne said that the name of "Gig Harbor Maritime Playzone" is being used for their Facebook page and marketing purposes and said that she has had contact with local media. She is also working on the City hosting a Landscape Structures Inclusive Playground Seminar on October 26th in the local area. Rob Karlinsey added that the Rotary group has agreed to be a conduit for donations for the project and are considering a possible sponsorship.
3. **City Park Projects:**
 - **Eddon Boat Beach Restoration** – Rob Karlinsey showed the most current conceptual for the beach restoration project. The location of the art was questioned as Councilmember Kadzik and Commission Chair Tarabochia thought the location was previously on the other side of the park. Commission member Perrow commented that he would prefer that the amphitheater area not

be sliced up but preserved as open space without a trail. He asked about moving the ADA access by the house to come in closer. Commission Chair Tarabochia also preferred that the park remain natural and open without a trail. Jim O'Donnell, 4220 35th Avenue, Gig Harbor, mentioned that he would like to see the ADA access continue to the viewing deck at the house. Councilmember Kadzik asked about the possibility of including a fire pit in the park. **Project design to be discussed at next Parks Commission meeting.**

- **Austin Estuary Park** – Rob Karlinsey showed the most current conceptual for the project. Councilmember Kadzik asked about an load/unload zone for kayaks.
- **Donkey Creek Park** – Rob Karlinsey showed the most current bridge conceptals.
- **Maritime Pier** – Rob Karlinsey mentioned that the art donation resolution would go to Council on 10/10/11. Commission member Perrow explained his frustration of this not being considered as a city park. Councilmember Malich felt that it wasn't a park and felt its use should be kept for commercial fishermen. Councilmembers Ekberg and Payne both thought it should be considered a park. Councilmember Malich would like to see some recommendations for rules for usage of the pier. **To be discussed at next Parks Commission meeting.**
- **Crescent Creek Park Trees** – Marco Malich showed some photos of a deteriorating tree at Crescent Creek Park. He explained that they have been trying to protect the tree for the past few years and have installed a cable to stabilize the tree for a longer life. He said they are trying to reduce the target area and will be taking some weight off the top of the tree, while replacement trees are planted in the area. Councilmember Payne asked about the species of the new trees and mentioned he would like to see a larger caliper for the replacement trees. Councilmember Ekberg would like to see an on-going planting plan for City parks. **Species of replacement trees to be discussed at next Parks Commission meeting.**
- **Wilkinson Farm Park Trails** – Commission member Perrow explained that he would like to see a plan for the entire park and not just the wetland areas. Rob Karlinsey will review the consultant's scope and budget. Commission Chair Tarabochia brought up the concern of the park continuing to be used as an off-leash dog park.
- **Cushman Trail/Twalwelkax Trail** – Rob Karlinsey mentioned the federal earmark for the Cushman Trail. He also added that the City hopes to have the alignment and survey completed for the easement donation from Haven of Rest soon and then it will come back to the Parks Commission.
- **Harbor Hill Park** – Rob Karlinsey explained that a conceptual plan for the park will be designed in 2012. Councilmember Payne said that the City has a need for more baseball/soccer fields and would like to see this be an active park. Councilmember Ekberg said he would prefer a neighborhood park with an open field and shelter and not a complex-type park. Commission Chair Tarabochia would like to see something other than a typical sports park. Councilmember Malich prefers a diverse, community park. Rob Karlinsey explained that the park would also go to the public for input. Councilmember Payne suggested coordinating the park with the Harbor Hill transportation project planning.

4. Kayak Club Storage Facility in Skansie Brothers Park: Councilmember Kadzik distributed a proposal from the Kayak Club to place a storage facility in Skansie Brothers Park. He explained that Alan Anderson has proposed storage ideas over the years and that the club would fundraise to provide the shelter. Commission Chair Tarabochia would like to see the structure be of a non-permanent type. Councilmember Malich would like other locations to be considered, closer to the water for better access. Rob Karlinsey added that the club would be required to provide programming for the public's benefit. **Proposal to be discussed at next Parks Commission meeting.**

5. Other Parks Items:

- **Skansie Net Shed** – Rob Karlinsey explained that this project is currently being re-bid and that the Coastal Heritage Alliance has submitted a NetShed museum proposal.
- **Skansie House/Wilkinson Farm House** – Rob Karlinsey mentioned that the City will be having specs drawn up by an architect to upgrade these houses. Councilmember Payne asked about including the brick house at Eddon Boat Park.
- **Webcams in Parks** – Councilmember Malich asked for thoughts about placing webcams in city parks.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.