

City of Lake Forest Park
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Regular Meeting Summary
17425 Ballinger Way NE – Lake/Forest Room
February 23, 2022

Regular Meeting: Call to Order – 7:05PM

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Members Present:

Tyler Dittman, Amy Hanegan, Tony Auriemma, Alice Pedersen

Staff and Others Present:

Cory Roche - Community Volunteer Coordinator, Councilmember Lorri Bodi, Jeff Perrigo - Public Works Director, Phillip Hill – City Administrator, Mayor Jeff Johnson

Members of the Public Present:

Mike Dee, Doug Wacker, Councilmember Tracy Furutani

Welcome and Introductions

Review/Approve February Agenda:

Amy motioned to approve the agenda, Alice seconded the motion to approve, the agenda was approved unanimously.

Review/Approve November Meeting Minutes:

Amy motioned to approve the November Meeting Minutes, Julie seconded the motion to approve, meeting minutes approved unanimously.

Lakefront Property – Discussion with City Administrator Phillip Hill:

Phillip Hill - In November of 2021, the City finalized the Lakefront Property purchase that includes 2 acres of land along Lake Washington. The City's next steps are to fund and plan a public planning process the Board will be involved with. There is hope that Conservation Futures (CFT) reallocation funds of \$600,000 will be allocated to the City, approval is needed by King County. The reallocation funds for this project is available because the value of the property raised so much during the process to purchase. These funds would help reimburse the City and go towards the planning process. LFP Staff and Councilmembers will want to check with King County Councilmembers to see if there is support of the reallocation funds that would be approved later this summer of 2022. Plans for the Lakefront property will need to go through a hearing examiner, make sure we follow guidelines along stream buffers, safely plan for a park to be near a single-family residence to the east, and take in all safety and environmental precautions planning the park and its surroundings. The planning process will be guided by a consultant that includes a lot of public outreach through the Board and City events.

Mayor Johnson - Excited for the Board and the process they will be part of. Mentioned he started with the Community Service Commission, no longer around,

which was half parks and half community service. No parks board has had this opportunity and is truly excited for what is to come for the Board while also reminding them there are other parks in the City that need upgrades and redevelopment.

Councilmember Bodi – Thanked the staff, Mayor, and Phil for the work on securing the Lakefront Property. Stated that the City only had around 10% of the needed funds to purchase this property at the beginning of this process. Wanted to remind the Board members that they are also representing the community, but will also be key components in helping to engage the community during the Lakefront Property planning process that will make sure safety is considered.

Tony – Was curious of the timing for the process. Phillip started that a standard call for bid will take place and the City has not yet begun the process. There will be a selection committee, a Parks Board member may be involved, awards go to the lowest qualified bidder.

Alice – Wondered what the big picture timeline for the Park is and process of public input with the Board's involvement. Phillip started that the Lakefront property will most likely take at least a year if not more of planning and gaining public input before any plans or drawings for construction will. The City is starting from scratch for this vision and funding currently, the vision will need to fit the dollar amount the City Can afford, which the City will also need to figure out funding for.

Tony – Asked what can be done at the park, amenities wise? Can a boat launch be done for kayak/paddle boards? What does access to water actually mean? Phillip stated the City anticipates a kayak/paddle board launch of some sort, swimming will be allowable. A drop off area for vehicles is envisioned where more parking will be allowable at City Hall.

Tyler – Asked what does the hearing examiner process entail? Phillip stated the hearing examiner process combs through impacts that will be addressed on the property. Facts of the case, not related to any parties of the project. Make sure plans for the park follows City Ordinances, environmental impacts, neighboring properties, protecting environmental and safety concerns. Once there is a plan in place, the Planning Commission would then take a look at conditions and concerns, make their revisions, then the hearing examiner hears all sides and will make decision on what conditions the City has to follow moving forward.

Parks and Public works – Discussion with Public Works Director Jeffrey Perrigo:

Jeff stated there has not been a whole lot of time yet to take a deep look at the parks. He would eventually like to get master plans for each park with public input, but will have to be aligned with the City's budget constraints and grant opportunities. There are no big projects in the works currently.

Amy – Curious as to what the role of a Public Works Director is. Jeff stated Public works oversees facility's, utilities (sewer), roadways, and parks. Anything outside of Police or Fire Department's, it is usually Public Works on the job. Lake Forest Park Public Works is made of 12 staff and crew members that are cross trained in many hats.

Alice – Wondered how can we the Board can best support you? Jeff stated that bringing new ideas once we get to park planning will be the most helpful. Phillip also mentioned there might be opportunities coming up to provide letters of support.

Jeff stated that later in the 2022 year the City will have a better grasp on parks and the future along with funding.

Introduction to Robert Rules – Online Course:

Cory gave a briefing of the online course, Alice and Tyler agreed this would be beneficial to the group, and others agreed. Cory will make sure the Board receives this training in the near future.

LFP Community Bird Project – Discussion with Doug Wacker:

Doug Wacker – Introduced and gave a short background, Associate Professor at UW, LFP resident, and Stewardship Foundation Board member. Began the Community Bird Project which is assessing the long-term impacts of urbanization on bird species diversity and behavior. Talked over the decline of bird species and looking for reasons why. Mentioned there will be a webpage and app to follow along and help take in data for the project, specifically species of birds and location. His group is looking to launch this summer of 2022. Mentioned that Birds have a direct connection with parks and planning for them, simple things even like specific plants, berries for food, can create a greater species diversity.

Tyler – Wondered if there was anything outstanding and with LFP. Doug mentioned there are common ravens at Grace Cole which can be rare for this area. There are many Birdwatchers in our parks, someone has said to of seen a Great Horned Owl at Five Acre Woods. Alice stated that there are many different forms of recreation and involvement connecting this all to parks. Even the age range and getting kids involved and participating either with field trips or recreation and learning a different way to be in parks with nature.

Board agreed it would be great to have Doug back once the website and app are up and running a bit more to see if they can be of help or tie any connection to the community and Board.

Other Business:

Amy – Would like to restripe the tennis court at Horizon View to add two pickle ball courts instead of the one. Stated some pricing on striping and netting equipment but believes that she can crowd source funds for this. Phil stated that staff will need to look at budget and will need to come back to the Board. Cory did mention she

pulled the previous invoice and it was much higher than Amy stated, but noted not as much work to the court would need to be done but the City does need to follow prevailing wages and Public Works Roster protocols. Group agreed to bring this item back to the March meeting for more discussion with budget information on the City and Amy's side.

Public Comments:

Mike Dee – Wondered if the Parks Board will be recorded and posted online or not. Cory responded she did not know if they would be required in the future but are currently not right now. Councilmember Bodi mentioned that minutes are being taken and are posted to the Boards webpage.

Adjourn: 8:20PM