

**CITY OF BLAINE  
PARK AND CEMETERY BOARD MINUTES**

**Thursday, August 9, 2018**

**9:00 AM – 10:30 AM**

**Pickard - Chair**

**A. CALL TO ORDER: 9:00 PM**

**B. ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Joan Clark, Janet Pickard, Zach Shirk, Michael King, Garth Baldwin

**ABSENT:** Paul Freeman

**STAFF:** Planner II Alex Wenger, Public Works Director Ravyn Whitewolf, and Planner I Andrew Boucher

**C. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**D. NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Wenger introduced Mr. Boucher to the board.

Mr. Wenger noted that Mr. Castro will be assuming day-to-day responsibilities for the Parks and Cemetery Board.

Ms. Clark asked about the potential for police patrol at sunset; gathering of teenagers at Marine Drive – reported possible drinking.

**MOTION INTRODUCED BY MS. CLARK TO INCREASE POLICE PRESENCE AT MARINE DRIVE; SECONDED BY MR. SHIRK; (BALDWIN/CLARK OBSTAINED); MOTION PASS 3-0-2 (TWO ABSTENTIONS)**

Ms. Pickard inquired about improving the view at Marine Drive by trimming vegetation by the picnic tables; Mr. Wenger and Ms. Whitewolf were responsive to this. Ms. Pickard brought up trees/vegetation coverage at Brickyard Park; missing traffic bollard – case in progress.

Ms. Pickard and Ms. Clark brought up the (Madison/Peace Portal/Clyde) apartment complex developments and whether the park capacity could accommodate the increased traffic. The presence of limited parking was discussed.

Ms. Clark questioned if there was requirement for amenities for apartment complexes of a certain size; it was report that there was not.

## **E. CONTINUED BUSINESS:**

### **Skallman Pond Report**

Mr. Wenger informed the Board on the Skallman Pond updates; the City settled on a property line and plans to sell off the north portion of Skallman Pond to a developer interested in starting a truck repair business. A future meeting with Grateful Dogs organization was discussed; training equipment for dogs were mentioned – Grateful Dogs not initially interested (potential Phase 2). Mr. Wenger further discussed the expansion of Skallman Park grounds and development of these grounds. Discussions on proposal for funding for next year (CIP) as part of Phase 1 development. Mr. Wenger gave an informal CDS Recommendation which included the estimated property line and expansion territory; city staff discussed potential of the area. Mr. Wenger and Ms. Whitewolf discussed Phase 1 of the development which included; pond gets dredged and filled and a new pond eventually gets constructed. Once lawn area is determined, a buffer between the park and the business will be established to create and fence in a recreational area expanding a third area for the park. Additional components of Phase 1 were discussed including purchasing picnic tables and a drinking fountain. City staff and board acknowledgement of park's use, parking requirements. Ms. Clark had questions regarding the hill grade and Lincoln Park trail ADA potential to connect to Skallman Park. Ms. Pickard further expanded on potential development of facilities for non-dog park users/double gates necessary – needs to primarily remain as a dog park – difference in cost of materials for trails using gravel vs. asphalt. Mr. Baldwin asked about the depth of pond. Ms. Whitewolf questioned the necessity of making park ADA compliant and discussed future evaluation of ADA use; additionally noted it would have to be paved or concrete at a 2% grade. Furthermore, Ms. Whitewolf contented that it may be better for future park development to dry out existing pond –noting it would be unattractive for a season, but would require less digging if structure construction is desired – Ms. Whitewolf also addressed cul-da-sac parking and access right denied to adjacent Gateway property users. Mr. Wenger suggested adding 1 ADA parking stall and developing a gravel trail using city resources; moreover, he stated that vegetation trimming would be required.

### **Parklets and Signage**

Mr. Wenger stated that CDS was tasked to complete Downtown Parklet signage by the end of the year; designated to Mr. Boucher – consider actual signs, size, style; each individual park is to have a customized sign representing each park. Other signage improvement discussed to an extent – once parklet signage is finished - Skallman Park and Skate Park signage proposed – picnic tables/etc. Ms. Pickard was interested in additional improvements to parklets beyond signage. Mr. Baldwin noted that the new Chamber office next to Starbucks has a parking issue, there may be future parking structure interest; moreover, directional signage/maps/ or an informational kiosk at the VIC were discussed.

### **Salishan Park garbage can proposal**

Mr. Wenger and Ms. Whitewolf continued discussion of implementing a volunteer garbage service; further waste issue regarding cost of garbage cans, building a corral/plastic garbage can vs. buying less aesthetically pleasing cans, and the dissatisfaction of the Marine Park garbage cans were brought up. It was noted that a backup service would be necessary; parks' crew schedule/responsibilities or contracting service were discussed. Location of trash disposal must be verified as well as the cost effectiveness of seasonal vs. year round use of garbage disposal was mentioned. Mr. Baldwin inquired on the cost of installation labor, while Ms. Pickard asked if that could fall under the parameters of volunteer labor; both Ms. Clark and Mr. Shirk

were interested in the proposal, while Mr. King inquired as to where the waste would be disposed.

### **G Street Plaza covering idea**

Mr. Wenger recapped the last city council discussion on the G Street Plaza covering idea; council and board both unsupportive at this time, but has potential as a CIP project in the future. Mr. Wenger plans to report back to the Alliance. Mr. Shirk discussed the potential for city to install temporary coverings for special events; Mr. Baldwin mentioned covering the Skate Park; Mr. King noted that G Street Plaza was jam packed for the Fourth of July, covering may impede these activities.

### **Upcoming Capital Improvement Plan for 2019**

Mr. Wenger and Ms. Whitewolf updated the status of three projects for 2019:

- Lincoln Park (Phase 3 – H St. Entrance) – no estimates for parking at this point.

Board expressed this as a low priority.

- Semiahmoo Spit Trail (Phase 2 – Build) – technical challenges, may need to carryover.
- Marine Park Shoreline (Phase 2 – Build) – Additional funding resources required and to expect an extended timeframe, but the design permitting is moving forward well and the conceptual design is completed.

### **Potential 2018 Carry – Over Projects:**

Mr. Wenger and Ms. Whitewolf gave updates on the Semiahmoo Spit Trail Phase 1 Cemetery Niche Wall; they said to expect an extended timeframe beyond 2018. Ms. Whitewolf stated they were making progress with necessary documents, but recommended the City try to find a company that provides “niches”/structural details for foundations. This would be a separate contract to build the foundation. Expected to go to bid soon – may need additional funding depending on schedule. Ms. Whitewolf also discussed trail aspects/transportation benefit grant and requested a re-prioritization of trail development to allow Skallman Park to dry out naturally, with the expansion pushed to 2020 if structure construction is desired.

### **New projects:**

Mr. Baldwin started discussions about the trail between the school and athletic fields; Ms. Whitewolf suggested that a gate be added to access trail/new pond and look to build trail connection to Boblett Court – connection to Boblett expected to be completed in 2020. This led to a discussion on park funding for project as part of existing planned improvements. Mr. Wenger expressed support and expanded on improvement plans; Blaine industrial park – approved easement to build trail from old airport across Pipeline Road to connect to Odell – then from Odell to Pipeline, crossing county roads. Ms. Clark asked about the Semiahmoo trail timeframe (unknown); then expressed support to prioritize Cain Creek trail over Semiahmoo. Ms. Clark and Ms. Pickard both support re-prioritizing trail projects as kids would benefit from the amenity; Mr. Baldwin was unsure at this point.

CIP proposal at next meeting for re-prioritizing trail projects; alternative to paving parking lot at Lincoln – scope of field development limited by funding.

**F. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

Summer Fun in the Park (August 25<sup>th</sup>) Ms. Whitewolf presented her Public Works update on Splash Days and the Rodeo. Ms. Clark discussed Splash Days – further spray park consideration. Ms. Whitewolf expressed interest in holding combined meeting with Public Works to interact with CIP projects to align departmental budgets – better coordination - for September meeting

**September meeting: 9AM-11AM; 10AM-12PM for PWAC.**

**G. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

***MOTION BY BOARD MEMBER PICKARD, SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER CLARK, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JULY 2018, APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0).***

**ADJOURNMENT: 10:25 AM**

Park and Cemetery Board minutes of August, 2018 will be approved at the September, 2018 Park and Cemetery Board meeting.