

**PORTLAND PARKS BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**

September 11, 2018 | 8:00 – 10:00am
City Hall | Lovejoy Meeting Room

Board Members Present: Paul Agrimis, Jeff Anderson, Tonya Booker, Kendall Clawson, Michelle Dedeo, Pat Frobos, Bonnie Gee Yosick, Jenny Glass, Ian Jaquiss, Tamara Layden, Joe O’Leary, Jim Owens, Gladys Ruiz, Paddy Tillett

Board Members Absent: Katy Holland

PP&R Staff Present: Amy Archer-Masters, Eileen Argentina, Jenn Cairo, Margaret Evans, Brooke Gardner, Trang Lam, Lauren McGuire, Kia Selley, Jason Smith, Josh Wells

Commissioner’s Office: Todd Lofgren

Call to Order and Welcome Chair, Pat Frobos called the meeting to order at 8:06am.

Pat welcomed Todd Lofgren, Senior Policy Director in Commissioner Fish’s office. Todd shared that Commissioner Fish will be joining the Board at the next Parks Board meeting.

Pat reviewed the materials and meeting protocol and gathered feedback for the new Board member orientation.

SDC Comment Letter Board member, Jim Owens reviewed the Board’s SDC comment letter. Two main items in the letter are the Board’s recommendation of an annual report on SDCs and an SDC review committee that should include two Parks Board representatives.

Pat asked for a motion to approve the letter. Board member, Bonnie Gee Yosick offered one amendment to change “I” to “we.” Board member, Gladys Ruiz made a motion to approve the letter with this edit. Board member, Paul Agrimis seconded the motion. The letter was unanimously approved.

UFC Nominee for Ex Officio Position Pat shared that the Parks Board traditionally has had Ex Officio members from partner organizations such as the Portland Parks Foundation, Portland Public Schools and the Urban Forestry Commission. With Meryl Redisch stepping off the Board, a new Urban Forestry Commission Ex Officio member is needed. Lorena Nascimento has been identified as a candidate for this position. Pat asked for a motion to nominate Lorena to the Parks Board as an Ex Officio member. Jim Owens made a motion. Board member, Joe O’Leary seconded the motion. Lorena was unanimously nominated to serve as a Parks Board Ex Officio member.



Director's Update

Interim Director, Kia Selley shared that the Stories of Summer – Summer Free For All report – will be coming out soon. Through the PP&R partnership with Nike and the Trailblazers, Project Unite, work began on resurfacing 30 basketball courts within the Portland Parks system. There is a community celebration being planned for mid-October. Kia updated the Board on other news and events at parks since their last meeting.

As of September 4, 2018, Commissioner Fish is our Commissioner-In-Charge. The Commissioner had already met with Pat and Jeff Anderson, Executive Director at Portland Parks Foundation. Todd Lofgren will be serving on the Portland Parks Foundation Board as an Ex Officio member. The Commissioner is interested in highlighting PP&R partnership stories.

Pat shared with the Board that Jeff is organizing a meeting for both PP&R and PPF Boards to meet with the City Council campaigns at a meeting outside of the regular schedule. This will be an opportunity for Board members to hear their vision for Parks.

Preparation for Meeting with Mayor Wheeler

Pat reminded the Board that the Mayor will be attending the November Parks Board meeting and the agenda in September and October will allow for some planning for this engagement with the Mayor.

Vice Chair, Kendall Clawson asked the Board to share what they would like to focus on in building the Boards relationship with the Mayor.

Paul would like to get a deeper understanding of where the Mayor stands with Parks. He would like to know more about the Mayor's interest in river access. He would like to talk about the budget and how houselessness is affecting Parks. Paul would like to hear how the Mayor is approaching this issue and how Bureaus can work together on this issue.

Bonnie agreed with Paul that she'd like to hear from the Mayor on the current livability issues. She would like to know what his vision is for the system – trails, developing services, planning sustainability, collaboration with other Bureaus. What is his vision for what Parks could be?

Jim shared that he would also like to hear from the Mayor a more in-depth vision. What does access to the river mean to him? How can the Parks Board fit into the budget process from a policy perspective? Jim added that he'd like to highlight the Portland Parks Foundation as a unique feature of the city that the Mayor should take advantage of. He would also like to know how the Parks Board should interact with the Mayor's staff and how the Mayor would like to use the Board.

Gladys echoed the importance of learning the Mayor's vision for Parks and specifically how he plans to address concerns with gentrification and





the role the city plays in mitigating gentrification. She would also like to know how the Mayor ensures that equity is a part of his commitment to swimming and access to water.

Jenny echoed the concerns with gentrification as new parks are built in East Portland. Is he working with the Housing Bureau and others to ensure people living in those East Portland neighborhoods aren't pushed out?

Pat would like to spark the Mayor's imagination about Parks and expand his appreciation for Parks as a vehicle for civic engagement. Pat suggested getting the Mayor out on a tour and providing visual materials that are outside our usual way of engaging.

Gladys agreed that getting the Mayor out in the community is important as there is a disconnect between Parks and the people which are at the center of the Parks experience. She would like to have space to hear what drives him.

Ian added that he would like to hear what the Mayor loves about parks. He would like the Board to have an opportunity to share why Parks matters to them and to hear from the Mayor and Commissioner Fish their Parks stories. He would like to hear more about why the Mayor loves the water. Ian highlighted that he would like to hear the Mayor talk about Parks not exclusively in the context of the budget.

Kendall agreed that the Board should share why they show up at 8am monthly – story telling is critical.

Jeff echoed previous comments on the importance of hearing the Mayor's vision for Parks and the plan to mitigate gentrification as well as highlighting the asset that Parks is to a big city.

Paul suggested having community members share their experiences in the parks that have been built recently and how they add to their lives.

Jim suggested that there should be a social event for the Mayor and Commissioner Fish to get to know the Parks Board and their capacity to advocate for policy and community engagement.

Kia noted that Parks includes Urban Forestry and Recreation, and it is important to make sure the Mayor understands the diversity of the Parks portfolio as each divisions' work is a vital part of the community.

Kendall noted that we would like an update on the Director search process. The Board needs to be a part of the process.



Tamara shared that she would like to hear from the Mayor what his top 3-5 priorities are with regards to Parks.

Tonya would like to know more about why water and swimming is a top priority for him.

Michelle would like to understand more about the Mayor's plans for addressing safety concerns in parks, houselessness and livability.

Kendall and Pat will follow up as this list comes together.

**Cost Recovery
(Vision 2035
Foundational Project)**

Jason Smith, PP&R Performance & Analysis Manager, presented an update on the Cost Recovery work that started about a year ago. The existing Cost Recovery policy is 12 years old.

Jim noted that it would be helpful to see how Cost Recovery work fits into the Vision 2035 plan.

The Board discussed the use of the word subsidy for General Fund dollars. They suggested that General Fund dollars be referred to as investment.

The Board divided into four groups and Jason lead them in an activity to plot where service categories fit on the Cost Recovery continuum. The Board reconvened and shared their results. This information will be brought to the Cost Recovery Steering Committee and will inform the policy.

**Approve August
Meeting Minutes**

Pat asked for approval of the August minutes. Paddy Tillett made the motion to approve, Paul Agrimis seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned

Pat Frobos adjourned the meeting at 10:02am.

Next Meeting October 9, 2018

