

KEY PENINSULA METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
*d.b.a.* **KEY PEN PARKS**  
P.O. Box 70, Lakebay, WA. 98349  
253-884-9240 and answers@keypenparks.com  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Monday August 11, 2014

The regular meeting was preceded by a 7:00 PM study session/staff report. Executive Director Gallacher reminded the Board that a special meeting is scheduled for September 22, 2014, at Volunteer Park to meet with the Gateway Park Conceptual Master Plan consultant; the consultant has not yet been chosen.

**The public meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM in the Volunteer Park Office by Vice President Mark Michel.**

**Commissioners Present:** Ed Robison, Kip Clinton, John Kelly, and Mark Michel. Bill Trandum excused due to illness. Staff present for Key Pen Parks: Executive Director Scott Gallacher, Administrative Assistant Laura Armstrong.

**Citizens present:** Carolyn Abolins and Talis Abolins.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Recited.

**Approval of Agenda:** Commissioner Michel asked if there were any objections or changes to the agenda; hearing none the agenda was approved.

**Special Presentations:** There were no special presentations.

**Citizen Comments:** none

**Business Meeting**

**1. Minutes:** Commissioner Michel asked if there were any objections or correction to the July 14, 2014 meeting minutes, hearing none, the July 14, 2014 meeting minutes were approved as written.

**2. Financial Report:** The July 2014 Pierce Co. Budget and Finance balance was \$1,682,922.40. The Zoo Trek May deposit was \$11,592.88. Total Zoo Trek collections to date are \$77,391.85. Real and Personal Property Tax collections were \$3,965.28 and 2013 delinquent property tax was \$1,625.05. Total 2014 Real and Personal Property Tax collections to date are \$387,935.33. Total delinquent property tax collected for 2013 was \$24,358.80. The First Citizens Bank balance shows \$2,333.06 as of July 31, 2014. July's expenses totaled \$51,340.24. Commissioner Michel asked if there were any corrections or objections to the July financial report. Hearing none the July 2014 Financial report was accepted as submitted.

**3. Staff Report:** The staff report was reviewed during the study session.

**4. Board Committee and Advisory Council Reports:**

**a. Land and Improvement Committee (Commissioner Robison):** No updates at this time. Executive Director Gallacher stated that Manke had requested a modification to the Gateway Park easement document; Manke wants liability indemnification written into the easement for insurance purposes.

**b. Key Peninsula Park and Recreation Foundation Report (Commissioner Trandum):** No updates at this time. Executive Director Gallacher stated that the Foundation's president Mike Hays will be attending one more Foundation meeting before moving out of state.

**c. Trail Updates (Commissioner Michel):** Executive Director Gallacher stated that he had contracted for the Washington Conservation Crew to do some general trail work/cleanup for the Park District around the first part of November. Commissioner Michel asked if the Wright Bliss-KCF access property was flagged. Executive Director Gallacher stated that the trees that will be staying have been flagged by DNR and the road that will be developed will go right up the middle of the property.

**d. Recreation Committee (Commissioner Kelly):** Commissioner Kelly stated that he currently has a few volunteers willing to help with this committee and is working on coming up with the best plan to study the current programs.

**5. Board Presidents Report:** none

**6. Unfinished Business/Open & Transparent Government Best Practices Reviewing R2007-03 Public Records Request policy:** Executive Director Gallacher asked the Board to review R2007-03 as part of an ongoing update to Key Pen Parks resolutions and policies.

**7. New Business/ Request to leave gate at Maple Hollow open at all times, a request brought forth by Commissioner Kelly:** Commissioner Kelly stated that he had talked to a few people who thought that Maple Hollow was closed/abandoned and he felt the problem was the unclear communication people received by having a locked gate at this property; it was noted that there is currently an "open from dusk to dawn" sign on the gate. Commissioner Kelly also stated that he understands the problems with people dumping trash but feels this is just something the Park District will have to work with; his goal is to get more people to use the parks.

Carolyn Abolins and Talis Abolins, stewards for Maple Hollow Park, presented themselves as citizens who were against having the gates open without having someone on site to monitor activities. Mr. Abolins stated that there had always been a bad trash dumping problem along Van Beck road until Key Pen Parks took over control of this property. Mr. Abolins feels that leaving the gates open will attract people to start dumping again since they will be able to go inside the park and be out of sight from the main road. He also stated that this would give people going into the park to party at night easier access since they will not have to haul stuff in on foot.

Commissioner Robison stated that the last time he was at the park working with the boy scouts and left the gate open for about 4 hours during the day someone came in and dumped trash. The commissioners also talked about the fact that the security cameras placed at the park were stolen along with the large wood park entrance sign. A Commissioner stated that before the Park District was given control over Maple Hollow by DNR it had originally been developed as an overnight park with room for a park host to manage it. Other discussion covered electric gates, better signage, and creating a walkway for ADA access (note: Executive Director Gallacher stated that ADA access is already in place.) Commissioner Clinton stated that "it just needs better signage." Commissioner Kelly made a motion "that we open the gate for the duration of summer on a trial bases." Commissioner Robison seconded the motion. Commissioner Robison stated that he felt Commissioner Kelly had a good point regarding a trial test to see what will happen but feels it will need to be monitored closely. Commissioner Clinton asked what time frame the gate will remain open; the Gate will remain open 24/7 until after Labor Day,

Mr. Abolins stated "that he was very disappointed because someone is just closing his eyes and saying let's hope that nothing happens. Think about it, 24/7 with kids driving in with kegs, partying, and bonfires; you can see signs of this even when they have to carry these things in, it's very irresponsible." Executive Director Gallacher made a statement "I don't feel that this is going to benefit many individuals, I think the consequences of the illegal dumping will probably outweigh the benefits because of the previous history on the property." Commissioner Kelly amended his motion to "I move that the gate at Maple Hollow be unlocked and the parking lot be opened through the duration of the summer until Labor Day." The motion was voted on and passed 2/1; Acting President Mark Michel did not vote.

**8. New Business/ Proclamation thanking Mike Hays:** Commissioner Robison made a motion "that we issue a proclamation thanking Mike Hays for all of his great work on the Park Foundation." Commissioner Clinton seconded the motion and the motion was passed 4/0.

**9. Executive Session/ to received and evaluate complaint or charges brought against a public officer or employee; 20 minutes with no action expected:** Vice President Michel called the Executive Session at 8:19pm. The Executive Session closed at 8:39pm and the regular public meeting of August 11, 2014, resumed; Administrative Assistant Laura Armstrong went to

announce the close of the executive session and found that no citizens remained in the area. There was no action taken.

**10. Other minor matters:** The commissioners wished Commissioner Trandum a speedy recovery.

**11. Commissioners Comments/Good of the Order:** none

**12. Meeting Adjourned:** The regular public meeting of July 14, 2014, was adjourned at 8:43pm. The regular September meeting will be on Monday September 8, 2014 at 7:30 PM at the Volunteer Park annex building and may be preceded by a 7:00 PM study session. A second meeting is scheduled for September 22<sup>nd</sup> as a study session regarding the conceptual plan for Gateway Park. Key Pen Parks reserves the fourth Monday of each month for special topic meetings should any be needed. Should any regular meeting date fall on a public holiday, the substitute date is the Tuesday following the regular meeting date.

Respectfully submitted by: Laura Armstrong, Administrative Assistant

*Disclaimer: Key Pen Park's minutes are not official until approved by the Board of Commissioners. There may be errors in the unofficial minutes which are brought to the Administrative Assistant's attention and corrected at the time the Board addresses and approves the minutes.*