

KEY PENINSULA METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT

***D.b.a.* KEY PEN PARKS**

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Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 13, 2023

This public meeting was a hybrid in-person/digital meeting.

1. The regular public meeting of Monday, February 13, 2023, was called to order at 7:00 PM in the Home Fire Station Meeting Room by Executive Director Tracey Perkosky. This Key Pen Parks meeting is a hybrid in-person/digital meeting format.

2. Roll Call--Commissioners Present: Commissioners Linda Parry, Shawn Jensen, Ed Robison and Kip Clinton; Commissioner Mark Michel attended digitally. Key Pen Parks Staff present: Executive Director Tracey Perkosky, Office and Outreach Coordinator Trielle Alstead, Fiscal Specialist Laura Armstrong and Special Events Coordinator Veronica Grandt.

Citizens Present: Sami Jensen, Stan Moffett, Jesse Routley, Ben Rasmussen, Chuck West (Peninsula School District Board Member), Kirsten Bahr (Superintendent Peninsula School District) and Lisa Bryan (KP News).

3. Pledge of Allegiance: Executive Director Perkosky led all present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance after which she turned the meeting over to President Parry.

4. Approval of Agenda: President Parry asked if there were any changes or amendments to the agenda; hearing none, the agenda was approved as submitted.

5. Special Presentations:

a) Peninsula School District Environmental and Agricultural Program: Peninsula School Board Member Chuck West and Peninsula School District Superintendent Kirsten Bahr discussed potentially partnering with Key Pen Parks on development of Environmental and Agricultural Program(s) within the Peninsula School District. The School District would develop and run the programs using various Key Pen Parks facilities.

b) 2022 Special Events Year in Review, Special Events Coordinator Veronica Grandt: Special Events Coordinator Grandt detailed the relative success of the 8 (eight) public special events provided fully, or in partnership with Fire District 16, by Key Pen Parks. Those events were: 1) 5K Walk, Run or Ride; 2) Kids Easter Egg Hunt; 3) Mom & Me Tea; 4) Makers' Market; 5) Family Fun Fest; 6) Cinema Under The Stars (every Friday in August); 7) All Hallows Eve; and 8) Letters to Santa (in partnership with Fire District 16). Commissioner Michel asked why the 2022 5K Walk, Run or Ride event was cancelled; Executive Director Perkosky said it was because of lack of participation possibly due to weather, other cycling event schedule conflicts, requests for a timed event, and requests for 'bibs. Special Events Coordinator Grant is working on the 2023 Kids Easter Egg Hunt at Gateway Park which is the year's first scheduled event; she said it will take place in a different

location at Gateway Park and will have a slightly different format. Sami Jensen was recognized by Board President Parry to offer a comment; she suggested that Special Events Coordinator Grandt contact School Board Superintendent Bahr about volunteer opportunities for Peninsula School District high school students.

6. Citizen Comments: Chuck West, as a private citizen, said the Civic Center Association is discussing revisiting Pioneer Days (a celebration of Key Peninsula pioneer culture which consisted of a local parade from Key Center to Vaughn via Olson Road and a subsequent day-long festival on the Civic Center grounds). They are thinking about including a “fun run” (a new feature) as part of the festivities.

Sami Jensen reminded the Board that a Commissioner’s job is to accept comments by the public and listen respectfully. She also said that many of the current Key Pen Parks administration’s problems are based upon the previous administration and that this administration has moved mountains in improving Key Pen Parks’ facilities and procedures. She advised the Park Board to “be supportive of who you have”.

Jessy Routley asked if all three divisions of the 2022 5K Walk, Run, or Ride event were to follow the same course; Commissioner Robison replied that, in previous similar events, cyclists followed a different trail than pedestrians.

Stan Moffett said that, as a representative of the KP Beautification Project and Key-Pen It Clean, they and Pierce County are promoting a community-wide litter pickup project featuring large container dumpsters which will be placed in several publicly accessible locations (and monitored) for citizens to dispose of litter they clear from roadsides. Timing has not yet been determined though autumn seems most likely.

Ben Rasmussen said he has been working with Executive Director Perkosky regarding an upgrade of the Volunteer Park Disc Golf facility. He reiterated his request regarding a larger more advanced course at either Gateway Park or Key Central Forest. He said that there are committed local groups, as well as a larger regional disc golf community, that would maintain it.

Laura Armstrong (as a private citizen) said that the current Volunteer Park Disc Golf Course was installed by a volunteer group which was going to maintain it; they didn’t follow through. She also said that cyclists and bikes are out of control at 360 Trails and are pushing out other users and the cyclists don’t volunteer regarding maintenance of those trails that are mountain-bike-only.

Jesse Routley said that a large motivated citizen group would definitely maintain an updated Volunteer Park Disc Golf Course or any new larger more advanced course on Key Pen Parks’ property.

7. Approval of Minutes: Approval of the January 9, 2023 minutes was deferred to the next regular Key Pen Parks Park Board meeting.

8. Financial Report: Fiscal Specialist Armstrong said the details of the December 2022 and January 2023 are contained in the Agenda Packet. The December 2022 Springbrook financial balance was \$5,010,562.19. The December 2022 Zoo/Trek deposit was \$24,192.96. Total 2022 Zoo/Trek collections to date were \$278,730.78. The December 2022 Real and Personal Property Tax deposit was \$10,236.66. 2022 Real and Personal Property Tax collections to date were \$1,457,016.35. Springbrook expenditures for December 2022 were \$75,094.89.

The January 2023 Springbrook financial balance was \$4,972,003.63. The January 2023 Zoo/Trek deposit was \$22,106.46. Total 2023 Zoo/Trek collections to date were \$22,106.46. The January 2023 Real and Personal Property Tax deposit was \$3,846.25. 2023 Real and Personal Property Tax collections to date were \$3,846.25. Springbrook expenditures for January 2023 were \$75,847.09. Commissioner Robison asked about progress on the 2022 Year End Financial Report; Fiscal Specialist Armstrong said it should be ready for the April or May 2023 meeting. President Parry asked if there were any objections to the December 2022 and the January 2023 Financial Reports; hearing none the reports were approved as submitted.

9. Executive Director's Report: Executive Director Perkosky reported that it took about 60 days to finish all required DNR Derelict Boat program reports for removal of the boat beached at Taylor Bay Park; 90% to 100% of boat removal costs incurred by Key Pen Parks may be reimbursed from DNR under that program. She will be meeting with Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance regarding a mountain bike trail maintenance contract; Key Pen Parks maintenance staff have completed trail brush removal at 360 Trails and the outer loop trail at Rocky Creek Conservation Area. Maintenance staff have also been working on Volunteer Park for Key Peninsula Little League's season which has already begun; additional major field work will take place in May or June after season's end. L&I inspectors have identified several issues at Volunteer Park and Gateway Park which maintenance staff are addressing. Executive Director Perkosky is working on all L&I required safety plans; Key Pen Parks, under the previous director, had none of these required plans. Similarly, there was a surprise fire inspection at Volunteer Park; the inspector identified additional electrical issues which require repairs (ironically, maintenance staff was working on some of the electrical issues identified by L&I at the time of the fire inspection). Executive Director Perkosky said she has requested a meeting with Pierce County to discuss a heated break space in the Gateway Park barn and what fire standard upgrades would be required for this potential use change. Office and Outreach Coordinator Alstead is continuing to put all Key Pen Parks records in a scannable format in addition to updating the website; the updated website will launch soon. The propane heater in the Taylor Bay caretaker house failed; staff is researching a ductless heating system as replacement. Executive Director Perkosky said that Commissioners Jensen and Parry joined her at the virtual 2023 Great Outdoors Legislative Day; they met with Representatives Hutchins and Caldier. Executive Director Perkosky called the Board's attention to several pieces of legislation proposed by the Washington State Senate and House which may be important to the Park District; Bill numbers, titles and links are listed in her written report.

10. Board Committee and Advisory Council Reports:

- a) **Land and Improvement Committee (Commissioner Robison):** Commissioner Robison said he and Commissioner Michel have been trying to solicit more input

regarding the Gateway Park/Gateway Park amenity renaming/naming proposal. They are looking for citizens to serve on the committee.

- b) Key Peninsula Parks and Recreation Foundation Report (Commissioner Michel):** Executive Director Perkosky said that she and Commissioner Michel attended the Foundation's most recent meeting. The Foundation solidified its funding projects. They are: an informational kiosk in Gateway Park to be used for Key Pen Parks' notices and Pavilion use schedules; emergency trail markers for 360 Trails; tree planting in the Dog Park; and recognizing the late Ruth Bramhall's contributions to the Key Peninsula community by funding a memorial bench to be placed in the Dog Park. They will also send informational letters to previous donors regarding their donations' use.
- c) Trails Committee (Commissioner Michel):** Commissioner Michel said that the trails are doing well and are clean; staff have been working on them. He has reached out to community members on the Trails Committee regarding naming trails.

11. President's Report: President Parry said she had no report.

12. Unfinished Business

- a) Consideration of Renaming of Gateway Park or a Park Amenity after Scott Gallacher:** Commissioner Robison said he and Commissioner Michel are working on reaching out to certain individuals who have previously been active and expressed past interest in the Park District. He said they infer that the Land and Improvements Committee is a standing committee; Commissioner Jensen concurred that is what the Naming Policy seems to imply. There was discussion about standing vs. ad hoc committees and committee meetings regarding OPMA; Executive Director Perkosky said she would research this topic for the March Park Board meeting.

13. New Business:

- a) Consideration of Property for Conservation Futures Grant Application and/or Acquisition:** Executive Director Perkosky said that the Great Peninsula Conservancy (GPC) contacted her regarding the 50 acres due north of the Gateway Park caretaker house and barn; Kim Zeren, the owner, wants to sell it to Key Pen Parks via a Conservation Easement sale and have GPC act as third-party negotiator. GPC said the access dispute between Kim Zeren and the neighboring northern 40 acres owned by the Carlson family had been resolved giving the Carlson's legal access across the Zeren parcels; GPC said the Carlson's had also expressed interest in selling their 40 acres to Key Pen Parks after a planned timber harvest. Executive Director Perkosky asked the Board if it was interested in this proposal and whether there were sections of the Zeren property where Key Pen Parks might want unrestricted use. Commissioner Robison moved to authorized the Executive Director to move forward with GPC to look into potential Conservation Futures grant acquisition with Zeren. Commissioner Clinton seconded the motion; the motion passed 5/0. Consensus was to include the Carlson property in negotiations.

14. Other Minor Matters: Commissioner Parry asked if eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt will be hidden to make finding them a greater challenge instead of simply placed out in field; Executive

Director Perkosky said the location will be different from previous years so that is still being worked out. Fiscal Specialist Armstrong asked Board President Parry about the potential special break room for maintenance staff at Gateway Park; she doesn't understand why it's necessary given the fact that the maintenance office has been a designated break room for some time. President Parry said she understood that the issue had been resolved by having an additional table in the office. Fiscal Specialist Armstrong said she still doesn't understand why the Executive Director has been taken to task by some Board members for not providing a special maintenance staff break room when this space had been available and used as a break room before the Executive Director came to the agency; President Parry reiterated that the issue had been resolved and Executive Director Perkosky said the office room had been reconfigured to be more accommodating and an additional space heater had been provided.

15. Good of the Order: Commissioner Jensen said that he was glad that Fiscal Specialist Armstrong was back in the park office and that her knee surgery went well; Fiscal Specialist Armstrong thanked him and said she has a few more months of physical therapy to go.

16. Meeting Adjourned: The in-person/digital hybrid public meeting of February 13, 2023, was adjourned at 8:48 PM. The next regular in-person/digital hybrid meeting will be held on Monday, March 13, 2023, at 7:00 PM at the Home Fire Station Meeting Room. The regular meeting may be preceded by a 6:00 PM or 6:30 PM study session. 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 Commissioner Kip Clinton, Board Clerk.

Disclaimer: Key Pen Parks minutes are not official until approved by the Board of Commissioners. Discrepancies or errors in the unofficial minutes may be corrected at the time the Board addresses and approves the minutes.