

KEY PENINSULA METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT

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

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Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 11, 2022

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

1. The regular public meeting of Monday, July 11, 2022, was called to order at 7:30 PM in the Home Fire Station Meeting Room by Executive Director Tracey Perkosky. This is Key Pen Parks second in-person meeting since the start of the COVID pandemic and the second hybrid in-person/digital meeting format.

2. Roll Call--Commissioners Present: Linda Parry, Ed Robison, Shawn Jensen, Kip Clinton; Commissioner Mark Michel joined digitally/telephonically. Key Pen Parks Staff present: Executive Director Tracey Perkosky.

Citizens Present: Ben Rasmussen (Disc Golf), Laura Armstrong.

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

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

5. Special Presentations: Executive Director Perkosky introduced Ben Rasmussen, a Disc Golf enthusiast and explained the circumstances leading to his presentation of July 11th. She said he contacted her about updating the disc golf course at Volunteer Park from a beginner level 9-hole course to a more advanced 18-hole course. To more readily accommodate 18 holes, Executive Director Perkosky reached out to Pierce County regarding the possibility of installing part of the course on a portion of Pierce Co. Public Works' Key Center Transfer Station. Because of uncertainty regarding any possible use of Pierce Co.'s adjacent property, she encouraged Ben Rasmussen to lay out an 18-hole course using only Volunteer Park. Executive Director Perkosky then turned the meeting over to Mr. Rasmussen.

Mr. Rasmussen introduced himself saying he is a life-long "KP-er" and a firefighter off the Key Peninsula. He now has some time to give back to the Key Peninsula community and desires to do so via an improved disc golf course. He shared a video about the sport of disc golf and its greatly increasing popularity. It is a sport accessible to people of all ages, youth especially, and economic groups. He said there is a huge demand for additional more challenging courses because of local growth of the sport.

He said disc golfers will play the current course at Volunteer Park once and not return; it is too simple. There are a number of configuration options for redesigning it to make it more challenging; the draft 18 "hole" layout he gave Executive Director Perkosky is mostly par 3s; all holes are "line-of-sight". When a fairway crosses a trail (as the draft design does near the horseshoe pits) warning is provided by ringing bells. He proposes West Sound Disc Golf Association, he and another disc golf friend would be responsible for course maintenance.

He mentioned that West Sound Disc Golf Association could hold tournaments at Volunteer Park with an appropriately challenging course; the course could also be used for clinics. The Board asked questions about the sport of disc golf and discussed possible additional locations for a destination course.

6. Citizen Comments: Laura Armstrong said she couldn't believe it's been about two years since Key Pen Parks has had a new Executive Director; there have been so very many intervening events. She is disappointed in citizen comments on Facebook about the change from former Executive Director Gallacher's leadership to that of current Executive Director Perkosky's leadership. She said park district staff is very happy with Executive Director Perkosky and where the Park District is now heading and how far Key Pen Parks has come since Executive Director Perkosky came on staff. She thanked Executive Director Perkosky for all the work she has done since she arrived.

7. Approval of Minutes: Vice President Parry asked if there were any corrections or additions to the Special Meeting Minutes of March 28, 2022; the Minutes of April 11, 2022; and the Minutes of May 9, 2022; hearing none, the Special Meeting Minutes of March 28, 2022; the Minutes of April 11, 2022; and the Minutes of May 9, 2022, were all approved as submitted. Executive Director Perkosky said the Minutes of June 13, 2022 will be presented at the August 8, 2022 meeting.

8. Financial Report: The 2022 May and June Financial Reports were presented at the July 11, 2022 Park Board Meeting.

The May 2022 Springbrook financial balance was \$4,912,079.64. The May 2022 Zoo/Trek deposit was \$24,386.43. Total 2022 Zoo/Trek collections to date were \$112,643.64. The May 2022 Real and Personal Property Tax deposit was \$114,026.15. 2022 Real and Personal Property Tax collections to date were \$809,870.29. Springbrook Expenditures for May 2022 were \$65,111.45.

The June 2022 Springbrook financial balance was \$4,889,512.23. The June 2022 Zoo/Trek deposit was \$23,388.24. Total 2022 Zoo/Trek collections to date were \$136,031.88. The June 2022 Real and Personal Property Tax was \$8,402.34. 2022 Real and Personal Property Tax collections to date were \$818,272.63. Springbrook Expenditures for June 2022 were \$119,404.64.

Vice President Parry asked if there were any objections to the May 2022 or June 2022 Financial Reports; hearing none, the May 2022 and June 2022 Financial Reports were approved as presented.

9. Executive Director's Report: Vice President Parry handed the meeting over to Executive Director Perkosky for the Executive Director's Report. Executive Director Perkosky said that the first stand-alone Makers Market at Gateway Park was a success and that attendees and vendors asked Key Pen Parks to do them monthly; while that is not currently possible, it will be repeated in 2023. The Family Fun Fest happened on July 9 with food vendors, bounce houses, field and carnival games; this was Key Pen Parks first Family Fun Fest (replaces 4th of July Social) and was well attended. Few volunteers have shown up for volunteer events; weather seems to affect turnout. A mom and her two young children volunteered at the Home Park cleanup; staff was very appreciative of their efforts. The next two volunteer trail work events are July 16 and July 30 with a return to Home Park on August 13; work parties last from 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon. Maintenance staff have been working on trails at 360 Trails and Key Central Forest, as well as general maintenance at other park properties and removing trash from around the heavily used picnic shelters and Pavilion. They've also been rehabbing the Admin Building and

Concession Building at Volunteer Park; the Admin Building has been repainted gray and white with the Concession Building repainting scheduled for later in the summer. Two seasonal applicants have accepted job offers and will soon be on staff. She said she plans to release the RFQ for the Gateway Park Master Plan Update later this month. Commissioner Robison asked if the Commissioners could see it; Executive Director Perkosky said she would send it out to the Board. There is an online survey for dog park users about dog park features and challenges; Key Pen Parks has received 60 responses to date. Commissioner Robison said he has seen unattended dogs in the large dog area; Executive Director Perkosky said she would look into it. She said that Parks and Facilities Manager Jacobs recommended having a third-party inspector look at the Gateway Park buildings (house, barn and 5 car garage); the inspector has issued a detailed report which will be acted upon (dedicated funds in the Capital Budget).

10. Board Committee and Advisory Council Reports:

- a) **Land and Improvement Committee (Commissioner Robison):** Commissioner Robison said he had no report.
- b) **Key Peninsula Parks and Recreation Foundation Report (Commissioner Michel):** Commissioner Michel requested Executive Director Perkosky give the report about the Foundation. Executive Director Perkosky said she had a short conversation with them about two topics; the first was about a fund raiser and the second was regarding an additional shade structure in the Small Dog Park (something more robust than shade umbrellas). The Foundation wants to add three additional tables with rectangular shade umbrellas to each dog park (Large Dog Park and Small Dog Park). She said they are still seeking more Board members as they are now down to two people; Bob Green and Susan Quigley. Due to this, they have been discussing merging with other similar organizations or dissolving the Foundation. Executive Director Perkosky said she plans to put the Foundation on the August Agenda as a separate line-item topic.
- c) **Trails Committee (Commissioner Michel):** Commissioner Michel said the Red Barn Ride will be on July 14th; at previous Red Barn Rides, he had two incredible comments from kids about how fun mountain biking on 360 Trails was; they wanted to do it every day and it was “the best day of my life”. He said the trails are heavily overgrown and that a volunteer work party is scheduled July 16th at 360 Trails to cut back brush and another one will be held July 30 on National Trails Day.

11. President’s Report: President Michel was participating digitally and had no report.

12. Unfinished Business:

- a) **There was no Unfinished Business.**

13. New Business:

- a) **Direction on Private Businesses in Parks:** Executive Director Perkosky said people have been advertising private business events in the parks without Park District approval. One is a long-term “Nature Pre-School”, while others have been photo ops. Key Pen Parks has no set policies on the types of businesses that might be permitted to operate in its parks and the Executive Director asked for clarification from the Park Board. Commissioner Robison detailed the history of Key Pen Parks starting as a facilities-only provider and vendors do everything else; the early park board didn’t want to compete with private business vs. Tacoma Metro Parks which provides everything. Executive Director Perkosky said there is also an issue with parking if businesses are permitted in the parks. Commissioner Jensen said any business permitted in the parks should be, in some way, park related and it should not take over

an entire facility or feature in a park. Food trucks and other refreshment concessionaires might work at Gateway Park but not Volunteer Park. Executive Director Perkosky restated her understanding of the Board's direction which opened up additional Board discussion. Consensus was concessions/food trucks at Gateway Parks, not at Volunteer Park, would be fine and most other programs should be outdoors or nature focused. They could be relatively short-term like one week, not three months, but perhaps a series of day camps (like sports day camps at Volunteer Park) would be okay. There was additional discussion about some longer-term contracts. Executive Director Perkosky restated that there should be some sort of outdoor nexus, that short term is preferred said that her understanding is that during busier seasons, short term is preferred and during off seasons look at longer term opportunities, there is also a preference for a non-profit group and youth groups than for-profit ventures. There is a difference between a spur-of-the-moment event than something that is pre-advertised; if they are doing it on a regular basis (photographers) then they need to be contacted.

- b) **Mid-Year Budget Report:** Executive Director Perkosky said Key Pen Parks is on target regarding budget items and expounded upon same. Vice President Parry thanked Executive Director for her detailed report.

14. Other minor matters: No minor matters.

15. Good of the Order: President Michel (digitally) said the Family Fun Fest was outstanding! Commissioner Clinton said she worked the Key Pen Parks tent at the Family Fun Fest and said she received a lot of positive comments from the public about the event. Vice President Parry said she wanted to thank whoever picked the color scheme for the Admin Building; she likes it!

16. Meeting Adjourned: The in-person/digital hybrid public meeting of July 11, 2022, was adjourned at 9:36 PM. The next regular in-person/digital hybrid meeting will be held on Monday, August 8, 2022, at 7:30 PM at the Home Fire Station Meeting Room. The regular meeting may be preceded by a 6:30 PM or 7:00 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.