

KEY PENINSULA METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT

D.b.a. KEY PEN PARKS

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Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 9, 2022

This public meeting was a digital Zoom meeting due to Washington State's COVID-19 "Stay Safe--Stay Healthy" directive.

1. The regular public Zoom meeting of Monday, May 9, 2022, was called to order at 7:32 PM by Executive Director Tracey Perkosky.

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

Citizens present via Zoom: Sami Jensen and Moxee Wuesthoff.

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 Michel.

4. Approval of Agenda: President Michel said that the agenda will be modified to reflect that the March 28, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes and the April 11, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes will be addressed at the June 13, 2022, Park Board Meeting. He asked if there were any other additions or changes to the agenda; hearing none the agenda was adopted as modified.

5. Special Presentations: There were no special presentations.

6. Citizen Comments: Moxee Wuesthoff spoke in support of Key Pen Parks possible purchase of the Leahy properties (90 acres adjacent to, and directly north of, Key Central Forest's easterly north facing fork). She said that property is again for sale and wants to voice support for habitat preservation through Key Pen Parks acquisition. She's a neighbor to the east and her game cameras have documented bobcat, racoon, fox, deer and coyotes, among other creatures. She said that some neighbors are concerned if the Park District purchases it, there will be hundreds of people using the property daily; she hopes for habitat preservation instead.

7. Approval of Minutes: The March 28, 2022, Special Meeting Minutes and the April 11, 2022, Minutes are deferred to the June 13, 2022, Park Board Meeting.

8. Financial Report: The April 2022 Springbrook financial balance was \$4,829,061.33. April 2022 Zoo/Trek deposit was \$20,690.34. Total Zoo/Trek collections to date were \$88,257,21. April 2022 Real and Personal Property Tax deposit was \$562,715.90. 2022 Real and Personal Property Tax collections to date were \$695,844.14. Springbrook Expenditures for April 2022 were \$96,956.95. Board President Michel asked if there were any objections to adoption of the April 2022 Financial Report; hearing none the April 2022 Financial Report was approved as presented.

9. Executive Director's Report: Executive Director Perkosky said the Easter Egg Hunt at Gateway Park was a huge success; several hundred kids and parents participated. 7000 candy filled eggs disappeared in about 7 minutes; it was a traditional Easter Egg scramble. There was a lot of positive feedback from participants; one thing especially appreciated was that registration was not required. The Mom and Me Tea had 45 participants. As usual, Event Coordinator Grandt did a superb job and a supporting grant from the Angel Guild permitted catering for the event. COVID restrictions did not permit a celebration in 2021 when the Splash Pad became operational so that is being remedied on Friday, May 27, 2022. Dignitaries and others who were

critical to the project have been invited to speak at this year's event. Other summer events include June's Makers' Market, July's Family Fun Fest and August's Cinema Under the Stars. Executive Director Perkosky said she is excited to welcome Luke Jacobs as the new Parks and Facilities Manager; he starts May 16th. The Raffle Ride was cancelled due to lack of participation; two other in-state major mountain bike events were scheduled for the same day. The Governor's emergency proclamation governing public meetings, OPMA, and records ends June 1, 2022, so the June Park Board meeting will be "in person". Executive Director Perkosky has reserved the Home Fire Station's meeting room to allow for sufficient social distancing. There is a new virtual public comment requirement by the State Legislature, so future meetings will be hybrid with virtual participation possible (and a video recording made of each meeting). Executive Director Perkosky manned a booth at the Livable Community Fair; there was a lot of public feedback on DNR's logging plans for part of Key Central Forest (KP News front page May 2022 issue) and crime at trail head parking areas. There were also a lot of positive feedback on Key Pen Parks. There have been inquiries about a private organization refreshing the Volunteer Park disk golf course; she's scheduled a telephone meeting with the volunteers. Commissioner Robison asked if the stolen game cameras placed around trailhead parking areas had GPS trackers; Executive Director Perkosky said no and no additional camera surveillance is planned at this time due to how quickly the cameras are stolen (1-2 weeks after placement). If law enforcement recommends additional cameras to discourage theft at the trailhead parking areas, then Executive Director Perkosky will take that under advisement.

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 said the Foundation did the bench placement dedication at Volunteer Park; former Executive Director Gallacher's family was present and appreciated the community sentiment.
- c) **Trails Committee (Commissioner Michel):** Commissioner Michel said the Student Racing League and BuDu mountain bike events went well. 200+ student riders participated and Commissioner Michel directed 300+ cars where to park. He thought it worked well.

11. President's Report: President Michel noted that Commissioner Parry said she will not be able to attend the June meeting in person. He said that Key Pen Parks is growing up as a district and should be able to accommodate remote participation for Board members.

12. Unfinished Business: No Unfinished Business

13. New Business:

- a) **Provide Direction on Potential Land Acquisition:** Moxee Wuesthoff contacted Executive Director Perkosky about the 90-acre Leahy timberland parcels being for sale about the same time Executive Director Perkosky was looking into the newly-on-the-market property. It shares its southern boundary line with Key Central Forest's east "fork" north boundary line. The northernmost reach of Vaughn Creek, a salmon bearing stream, runs through it. Access appears to be via private road easement along 154th Ave. NW from 128th St. NW, a public roadway; it is 0.7 miles south of SR302/Elgin Clifton Rd. and Rocky Creek Conservation Area. It is zoned R10 and was logged 10 to 15 years ago and replanted. Parking and access from the north would be challenging so, should Key Pen Parks acquire it, access would likely be through

Key Central Forest. Executive Director Perkosky said she received 3 additional calls in support of park acquisition though they tempered by some reluctance about potential increased public use/traffic. If the Board gives the Executive Director approval to go forward, she will work with the relator toward public acquisition (possibly through the Pierce Co. Conservation Futures grant program and State RCO grants). The Board discussed the potential of this acquisition. Commissioner Parry noted that there is 40 acres of in-holding property between the two northern fork parcels of Key Central Forest and asked about contacting that property owner also; discussion about that potential action sometime in the future. Commissioner Robison noted that the Leahy 90-acres are listed at \$1,100,000.00; he believes the land is overpriced and the owner would have to be willing to negotiate a lower price. Executive Director Perkosky said, should Key Pen Parks pursue acquisition, the land owner would have to agree to accept whatever the RCO appraisal; she is doing research into easements and access; she needs Board approval to find out if the landowner might be interested in dealing with Key Pen Parks and waiting through the grant process before completing any sale. Commissioner Michel summarized that consensus seems to be that the Board is in favor of researching it, but not getting in too deep without more information. Executive Director Perkosky said that is sufficient Board direction; she will do more serious outreach to the real estate agent.

14. Other minor matters: No minor matters.

15. Good of the Order: Commissioner Michel said we've had some really successful large events: the Student Cycling League; BuDu; the Easter Egg Hunt; and the Mom & Me Tea. He's looking forward to future good events. Commissioner Parry told Executive Director Perkosky she really liked the scotch broom pulling tools; they worked great! Executive Director Perkosky replied that volunteers Angela and Dale McKee brought them; she's placed an order for some for the Park District.

16. Meeting Adjourned: The public Zoom meeting of May 9, 2022, was adjourned at 8:26 PM. The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, June 13, 2022, at 7:30 PM **in person at the Home Fire Station's Meeting Room**; it will be a hybrid in-person/virtual format. 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.