



**LAKWOOD PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday September 24, 2019 – 5:30 PM  
City Hall, Council Chambers  
6000 MAIN ST SW  
LAKEWOOD, WA 98499**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Jason Gerwen called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

**PRAB Members Present:** Jason Gerwen, Vito Iacobazzi, Sylvia Allen, Alan Billingsley, Mike Darrah, Susan Dellinger, Michael Lacadie

**Staff Present:** Mary Dodsworth – Director, Nikki York – Office Assistant, absent

**Council Liaison:** Don Anderson

**Youth Council Liaison:** Gloria Arauja Ruiz, Yajaira Gonzalez, Anaya Davis-absent, Brian Noel-absent, Kayala Purdie-absent, Sammantha Reed-absent, Kloe Salazar-absent

**Guests:** Derek Eberle, Jessica Alverstad, Milton, Don and Jeaniene Korn

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Alan Billingsley moved and Vito Iacobazzi seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the July 23, 2019 meeting. MPU.

**INTRODUCTION:** Welcomed new member Mike Darrah

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Wards Lake Master Plan Update:** Mary Dodsworth reviewed city history to acquire the current 26 acre Wards Lake park along with previous master plans and park development. She then shared current opportunities to expand park with conservation futures and the public engagement process used to develop the current preferred master site plan we'll share tonight. Derek Eberle with Bruce Dress and Associates highlighted various elements to include enhanced entry, dog park, parking, playground and restroom upgrades, one mile loop trail, connections to current nature trails, and proposed efforts to improve wetland and ecological function of Wards lake (a storm water retention facility). He also expanded on potential public art, educational and interpretive information. Board comments included concerns regarding pedestrian access along 84th as well as supported potential connections to Tacoma trails. They liked the new layout including pump track and keeping it natural. Public comment included keeping the 88<sup>th</sup> street side natural and primarily pedestrian access and any proposed artwork should be organic and natural not theme park like. Concerns regarding visitor safety, drug use and homeless encampments and lack of notice regarding planning meeting. Balance opening

up (CPTEP) visibility in forest with maintaining that natural (away from it all) forest. Need way finding signs.

Alan Billingsley motioned to accept the Wards Lake master plan. Michael Lacadie seconded. MPU to move forward for Council review, approval and implementation.

**TPCHD-Tobacco in Parks Policy:** Jessica Alverstad thanked the PRAB and Council for recommending and approving the no smoking policy in parks. They are ready to help educate; and inform the community regarding this new policy. They will help promote and add Lakewood to their website. Based on studies, signage is the number one method to reduce smoking in parks. Look at slow implementation/education to inform citizens rather than instant enforcement. She also noted in Jan 2020, law will require smokers to be 21 years and older to buy or use tobacco.

**Directors Report:** Mary Dodsworth reviewed the Directors Report including, 2019 Capital projects updates, Kiwanis Park playground improvements, Colonial Plaza Grand Opening, American Lake milfoil treatment, no smoking in parks, SummerFEST successes, Farmers Market, Concerts in the Park, the Legacy Plan update and community outreach.

**Board Comments:** None

**NEXT MEETING:** The next PRAB meeting is scheduled for Tuesday October 22, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the American Lake Room at the Lakewood City Hall

**ADJOURNMENT:** Sylvia Allen moved to adjourn the meeting. Susan Dellinger seconded. MPU. The meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.



Jason Gerwen, Chairman



Nikki York, Office Assistant

*Vicki H. Trask*  
co-chairman