



**LAKESWOOD PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday February 1, 2022– 5:30 PM  
Zoom Meeting**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Jason Gerwen called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

**PRAB Members Present:** Jason Gerwen-Chair, Vito Iacobazzi-Vice-Chair, Sylvia Allen, Michael Lacadie, Fred Ramey

**PRAB Members Excused:** Alan Billingsley

**Youth Council:** Brandon Elliott, absent

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

**Council Liaison:** Don Anderson, absent

**Guests:** Courtney Brunell and Dave Bugher

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Michael Lacadie moved and Fred Ramey seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the November 23, 2021 meeting as written. MPU.

**Public Comments:** No public comments

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Elect Chair/Vice-Chair:** Sylvia Allen nominated Vito Iacobazzi to continue as Vice-Chair. MPU. Sylvia Allen nominated Jason Gerwen to Continue as Chair. MPU.

**All Things Trees:** Courtney Brunell shared a tree preservation code update with the board. She shared history, overview of existing code, significant tree definition, property owner requirements, how one may go about removing trees, exemptions, critical issues to be addressed with the code update, and potential mitigation. Jason Gerwen asked about the timeframe to replace the trees under the mitigation policy. It is five years. Sylvia Allen noted that a neighbor removed Douglas Firs from their lot and were told that Douglas Firs are not significant trees. People in the community were shocked since there were many trees and now it is an open space. Courtney addressed most trees in Lakewood are significant but it could be that the property was less than 17,000 square feet and they would be allowed to move as many trees as they would like. Vito Iacobazzi asked if there were specific types of trees to be replaced. Individuals are allowed to choose as long as it is deciduous and native. They do require that the trees are alive for at least five years. Mary Dodsworth asked about replacing the trees at a different location. It is allowed but must be indicated on the tree removal permit. Dave Bugher discussed illegal tree removal fines and enforcement. Those funds are used to replace trees throughout the city and have been used to replace trees around Waughop Lake. Sylvia Allen asked how citizens would know it's an illegal removal. All approved permits are available

on the new permitting portal or citizens can call. Courtney Brunell discussed the next steps for the ad hoc Tree Committee and timeline for review of the code updates. Presentations will be made to boards and commissions in May. Planning Commission Review in June. City Council Review in July and City Council Adoption in August. Vito Iacobazzi commented that this is a great topic and he is anxious to hear more about it. Jason Gerwen gave a recommendation that the ad hoc Committee receive the presentation that Dave Bugher previously gave regarding Climate change. There were some interesting things presented that had to do with the tree canopy. It would be valuable for that committee to have that information. Jason Gerwen thought this is a good time to advocate for an Urban forestry division in the City. He suggested making the recommendation to Council to allocate funds to support this work. Jason Gerwen thanked Courtney Brunell for the presentation. Jason Gerwen thought it would be wonderful for Lakewood to be a Tree City, USA.

**Climate Change:** Dave Bugher shared the Planning Commission 3- year Climate Change Work plan. In 2021 the City Council adopted a climate change chapter to its comprehensive plan. Dave Bugher reviewed the implementation steps. This plan was unanimously approved by the Planning Commission and will be presented to Council very soon. Vito Iacobazzi commented that this is a great topic and thanked him for all of his hard work. The topic will be presented on February 14<sup>th</sup> Jason is happy to make a public comment to support this effort. The Board is proud of this plan, city council support and the hard work that is being done on this.

**2022 Work Plan:** Mary Dodsworth reviewed the Council approved Work Plan. Vito Iacobazzi asked about an update on Waughop Lake treatment and water quality.

**Directors Report:** Mary Dodsworth reviewed the Directors Report including: Capital Project updates (Springbrook Park, Gateways, Chambers Creek Trail Phase I, Park Signage update, Wards Lake improvements, Seeley Lake update, FSP Turf infields, American Lake Park, Oakbrook Park improvements, Primley Park playground replacement, FSP Boundary Line Adjustment, FSP Caretaker house updates, Nisqually partner projects), Senior Center updates, MLK Virtual Event, FSP Barn Restoration, Special events and Community outreach efforts.

**Board Comments:**

Michael Lacadie asked about the damage to the sign at Bridgeport and Pacific Highway. The City will be able to recover costs since the person that hit the sign had insurance.

Vito Iacobazzi commented that it was fun to go to the Chambers Creek Bridge Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and celebrating the accomplishment of completion of that step of the project.

Michael Lacadie asked about communication and statistics on the City YouTube channel viewing. Mary Dodsworth recommended inviting Jim Kopriva to a future meeting to ask him that question. Jason Gerwen was also curious about this.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting is the a regular PRAB meeting on Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. This will be a virtual Zoom Meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Sylvia Allen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. Vito Iacobazzi seconded. MPU

  
Jason Gerwen, Chairman



Nikki York, Office Assistant