

**PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES**  
**Tuesday April 26, 2022– 5:30 PM**  
**Zoom Meeting**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Jason Gerwen called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

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

**PRAB Members Excused:** Alan Billingsley, Fred Ramey

**Youth Council:** Brandon Elliott, absent

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

**Council Liaisons:** Don Anderson, absent

**Guests:** Becky Newton, Stacey Reding, Eric Gold, Principal Landscape Architect- DA Hogan & Associates, Dr. Julie White, President- Pierce College, Duncan Stevenson, Director of Athletics- Pierce College, Gus Lim, Director of Facilities & Operations- Pierce College, Sylvia James, Vice President for Administrative Services.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Michael Lacadie moved and Sylvia Allen seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2022 meeting as written. MPU.

**Public Comments:** No public comments

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Economic Development Strategic Plan:** Becky Newton shared the Economic Strategic Plan covering the goals and areas of focus. She is reaching out to the advisory boards for review and comments. It will be reviewed by the City Council in Spring of 2022. Mary Dodsworth proposed a prioritization schedule. Becky stated that the plan includes specific action items and implementation plan. Janet Spingath asked about businesses in the Lake City Neighborhood. Becky would be happy to meet with her to discuss challenges. Jason Gerwen thanked Becky for the presentation.

**Turf Infields at Fort Steilacoom Park:** Mary Dodsworth provided background regarding funding from grants and legislative allocations for turf infields. Pierce College approached the City about having their home field at Fort Steilacoom Park. A design consultant was hired and it was discovered that additional funding is needed. Pierce College is willing to pay the difference needed. Council had a few other questions and asked the Parks and Recreation advisory board (PRAB) to review the proposed changes. Mary Dodsworth shared a power point reviewing proposed Pierce County College home field options. Dr. Julie White spoke the PRAB about the field. Dr. White discussed that the athletics program opens up opportunity for students. This is about more than just a baseball field. The options are field 1 or field 3 because of the direction

facing the sun. The board initially agreed that field 3 would have the least impact to the park overall. Duncan Stevenson asked that PRAB consider using field 1 because it should be showcased to take pride in it not hide it. Pierce College would cover the additional costs to use field 1. The board unanimously decided that the colors of maroon and gray would be fine. The board unanimously agreed to make the recommendation to move forward with the Pierce College home field. The location was split 2.5-2.5 between field 1 & 3.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**


**Parks Appreciation Day Recap:** Parks Appreciation Day. Volunteers was a success with over 200 volunteers clean up trash, pulling scotch broom, spreading mulch, spreading play chips, cleaning up around the pavilion and painting over graffiti at the following locations: American Lake Park, Fort Steilacoom Park, Springbrook Park, the Police Station, Community Garden, Kiwanis Park and Wards Lake Park. Sylvia Allen reported that the Kiwanis were at Kiwanis Park and the Community Garden. Vito Iacobazzi commented that there was a great turnout. Michael Lacadie asked that the list of projects be prioritized with the number of people for each. Janet Spingath reported that the debris cleanup at American Lake Park was a success.

**Directors Report:** Mary Dodsworth briefly discussed the Nisqually meeting with a focus on the plaza and the Chief Leschi Story, Wards Lake Park Phase 2 and the Harry Todd Park Pickle Ball Court.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting is a regular PRAB meeting on Tuesday, May 24, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the Pavilion at Fort Steilacoom Park 9107 Angle Ln SW, Lakewood, WA 98498

**ADJOURNMENT:** Janet Spingath made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. Sylvia Allen seconded. MPU.

  
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Jason Gerwen, Chairman

  
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Nikki York, Office Assistant