

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES
Tuesday September 24, 2022– 5:30 PM
American Lake Conference Room, City Hall & Zoom

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, Alan Billingsley, Michael Lacadie, Anessa Mclendon Janet Spingath

Youth Council: Brandon Elliott, absent

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

Council Liaisons: Don Anderson, absent

Guests: Stacey Reding

Jason welcomed Anessa Mclendon back to the PRAB. Each member introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Michael Lacadie moved and Alan Billingsley seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the May 24, 2022 meeting as written. MPU.

Public Comments: No public comments

NEW BUSINESS:

Presentation on NW Pollinators: Stacey Reding, Capital Projects Manager gave a presentation on pollinators which included information on the pollination process, honeybees and other native bees, colony collapse, environmental impacts, how to support pollinators, how the City of Lakewood supports pollinators, National Pollinator week in June and homeowner education. Alan Billingsley asked about wasps and yellow jackets being pollinators. Janet Spingath asked that the city consider keeping blackberry patches. Mary Dodsworth said that the parks are careful with the blackberries in parks and around the lake and try to wait to cut them back at the end of the growing season. Janet shared that she is part of the noxious weed council and that they provide free seed packets that they could provide to the City. Mary Dodsworth suggested giving those at Parks appreciation day. Vito Iacobazzai shared that mason bees that have outgrown their home are now in the shakes and cracks in pathways. Stacey advised that they will not destroy the wood and can be moved when they are dormant. Alan said that mason bees could also be rented out to pollinate orchards and gardens.

South Sound Wildlife Area Update: Alan Billingsley presented an update on the South Sound Wildlife area. An Eagle Scout project was done in the garden area. The native garden has over 40 indigenous plants with 20 of them having QR signage. NW Youth Corp removed tons of scotch broom and about 30% of the prairie is now cleared. Cement has been poured and they added local wildlife and animal footprints There is a big cleanup scheduled for the upcoming weekend with about 120 volunteers registered. Katie Leishman is the new Wildlife Director and

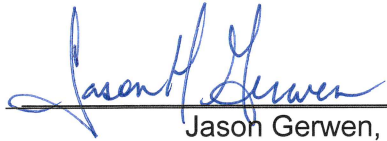
has an office at the hatchery located at the South Sound Wildlife Area. Alan is working to lift the discovery pass requirement. They are working at making capital improvements to support groups who visit the area. Alan noted that a sewer line has been added and is near where they want to build a restroom.

Directors Report: Mary Dodsworth provided an update that included: the budget which includes hiring maintenance workers, capital projects, RCO grants, pickle ball courts, access to senior center building, Primley Park neighborhood meeting, Oakbrook Park update, Truck and Tractor Day on October 8th and the Tree Lighting and Parade on December 10th.

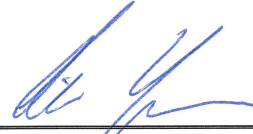
Board Member Comments: Vito Iacobazzi asked about the Tree Preservation Code Update. Council is still working on reaching a consensus. Vito is hoping they lean towards the urban tree program as it is a more comprehensive plan. Janet Spingath asked about awareness of the tree of heaven and the role it plays in life. Mary Dodsworth said that education is needed.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is on Tuesday, October 25, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the council Chambers at City Hall and neighbors near Primley Park will be invited to attend.

ADJOURNMENT: Vito Iacobazzi made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:29 p.m. Michael Lacadie seconded. MPU.



Jason Gerwen, Chairman



Nikki York, Office Assistant