

# SPOKANE PARK BOARD

Regular Monthly Study Session - 3:20 P.M. – August 11, 2011 – City Conference Room 5A

## Notes

1. Park Board Members Present: Ross Kelley, Jim Quigley, Gary Lawton, Jim Santorsola, Randy Cameron, Susan Traver, Ken Van Voorhis, Councilman Bob Apple

Park Board Members Absent Excused: Martha Lou Wheatley-Billeter, Chris Wright

Staff Present: Leroy Eadie, Jacki Faught, Mike Aho, Craig Butz, Debby Dodson, Garrett Jones, Nancy Goodspeed, Taylor Bressler, Carl Strong, Rebecca Madany

Others Present: Bonnie McDade, Hal McGlathery, Mark Reilly, Luella Cantalini

2. **Riverfront Park Master Plan**: A presentation was given on the three master plan options currently being considered. This presentation was given to the Riverfront Park Committee at their last meeting. Input was taken and the presentation was updated.
  - A. The common threads between all the previous master plans and studies were put together. A survey was created and sent to key stakeholders to see what common threads were still relevant. The results were tabulated.
  - B. The existing conditions on a current map of Riverfront Park were identified. Conditions included passive zones, pedestrian circulation constraints, gateways, active/passive nodes, and transportation hubs.
  - C. According to the current conditions:
    - most commercial activities are located in the center of the Park.
    - there is limited pedestrian flow to existing parking areas
    - river and lack of access presents pedestrian barriers
    - the former Boeing Amphitheater has deteriorated
    - lacks pedestrian flow but presents programming opportunities
    - assumed fixed locations from here into the future include the YMCA restoration site, the Sister Cities Garden, Red Wagon, Rotary Fountain, Clocktower, Pavilion, Native American Culture Center on the old Bosch lot (still in negotiations), infrastructure issues including the Howard Street Bridge corridors
    - North Bank presents programming opportunities
    - existing impact nodes lack access to surrounding amenities
    - limited access to park from Bosch lot
    - plans for Post Street conversion has pedestrian use only
  - D. Centennial Trail connections with Kendall Yards and Greenstone were discussed.
  - E. Funding opportunities for bridges were discussed.
  - F. The details, along with the advantages and disadvantages, of the three options were reviewed.
  - G. There was a lengthy discussion was had on the options for the Carrousel, Rotary Fountain and a permanent bathroom solution. A suggestion was made to use the \$380K one time funds for the restroom solution.
  - H. Staff will come back with some different alternatives for use of the \$380K along with costs for consideration of the Board.

- I. The Board indicated that they would like to concentrate the first part of the master plan on the south entrance to the park.
  - J. Concern was expressed about concentrating on one area of the park as opposed to the park as a whole in the planning process.
3. **Athletic Fields Fee Structure:** Craig Butz distributed the proposed fee schedules for Soccer, Softball, Baseball and Youth Baseball and Proforma Scenarios
- A. Softball, soccer and youth baseball units will be charged by the hour prorated to the ¼ hour in 2012 as opposed to by the game like last year.
  - B. Soccer discounts for early morning rentals and 500 plus hours rented are being withdrawn. The early morning was not utilized in 2011 and the budget bottom line dictates that we cannot discount for 500 plus hours.
  - C. Soccer fees for Merkel, Southeast and Franklin Complexes were outlined.
  - D. Softball/baseball discounts for 200 plus games/practices rented are being withdrawn.
  - E. Softball/baseball fees for Merkel, Franklin, Southeast Complexes, new youth baseball fields and all other soccer/baseball fields were outlined.
  - F. Use at the Southeast Complex is approximately the same as before we were running the complex.
  - G. Thunder Concessions is contracted for the Southeast Complex and Franklin.
  - H. We are working with all user groups to make sure we are billing correctly and that the funds are being paid. We have several outstanding right now.
  - I. Inquiry was made regarding IEYSA's account being in arrears. There have been changes in staff and the board at IEYSA. They are approximately \$63K in arrears and are paying according with an agreement between IEYSA and Parks and Recreation on the past due balance and catching up to their current use. IEYSA has been notified both at a meeting and in writing that they must meet the outstanding balance before being considered for the next allocation process. We are doing everything we can to work with them to be successful in this.
  - J. SYSA and IEYSA service the majority of the kids in our area. A brief history of these clubs was given.
  - K. The proposed fees are a better fit than 2011 to cover maintenance of the turf. We are not yet at a point where we can set aside money towards replacement.
  - L. The Board expressed concern that money is not being set aside for replacement. In order to do this we would have to have more than 100% cost recovery. The proposed fees do not bring us to 100% cost recovery.
  - M. Discussion was had regarding the pricing vs. capacity, and pricing ourselves out of the market.
  - N. The policy and rules on reservation cancellations and changes were discussed.
  - O. We want to begin charging for cancellations.
  - P. Typically all of our fields are used during peak time.
4. **Adjournment:** 5:10 p.m.
- A. Next Park Board Study Session: September 8, 2011, 3:00 p.m. or as soon as possible thereafter directly following the Regular Park Board meeting, City Council Chambers