



Magnuson Park Advisory Committee

Meeting Notes - 7/13/22

MPAC Present: Robin Melvin (co-chair), Jan Bragg (co-chair), Mary Ellen Bicknell, Garrett Arnold, Ruth Fruland, Samantha De Abreu, Bladimir Recinos, Kate Parker, Aaron Hoard, Karey Kessler

Presenters: Tom Kelly, Andy Sheffer (SPR), Oliver Bazinet (SPR)

Also present: Brian Judd (SPR), Ben Burtzos (SPR)

Introductions

6:03 pm: Melvin calls meeting to order. Brief introductions of MPAC members, presenters, and SPR staff.

Consent Items: May 11, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Bragg moves to adopt the minutes into the record. Recinos seconds. There is no discussion. The motion passes without opposition.

Traffic control and regulation/Wading pool update – Andy Sheffer

Speeding vehicles in Magnuson Park have long been a problem, especially on 65th Street, Sportsfield Drive, Lakeshore Drive, and in parking lots. SPR is coordinating with DOT to investigate installing speed cushions at several locations to discourage speeding. Usually, a formal analysis precedes installation of cushions; given the volume of requests, the goal is to install the cushions and conduct analysis concurrent with new barriers.

Also looking at installing barriers in some parking lots to discourage vehicles doing donuts. Concrete jersey barriers are the most likely solution.

The wading pool is frequently a site for unpermitted bonfires, which damage the drain and necessitate very expensive repairs. In past years SPR conducted a media campaign to discourage damage to pool; this seemed somewhat effective but options for long-term solutions are somewhat limited.

Recinos and Arnold point out particular “trouble spots” in the park that would benefit from traffic speed control measures.

Melvin asks for clarification regarding parking lot striping, particularly in the W2 (Junior League) parking lot.

Pickleball development update – Oliver Bazinet

SPR is in the process of expanding its inventory of pickleball courts. As part of this process, locations throughout the city have been identified as potential sites for dedicated outdoor pickleball facilities. Two of these sites are within Magnuson Park: the outdoor tennis courts and the E5 parking lot.

Tennis courts: currently functional but in disrepair; ground is cracked and uneven.

E5 parking lot: currently in agreement with Seattle Children’s Hospital for park-and-pool. This agreement is set to expire in a few years.

Questions regarding court surface material and cleaning, particularly given the proximity of both proposed locations to Magnuson Park’s wetlands. Bazinet indicates that standard outdoor court surface includes acrylic

finish. Fruland asks whether a clay court (such as in some tennis centers) is a feasible court material; Bazinet will look into it. Bragg points out that baseball diamond near E5 lot is near enough that baseballs land in the ponds. Bazinet clarifies that exterior fencing of courts would likely be tennis court standard height, which should prevent most pickleballs from leaving the area. Bazinet also commits to investigating range of court surface options.

Magnuson Park Manager's Report – Brian Judd

[see attached]

Judd commits to not approving any further permits or agreements through the Magnuson Park Administration offices that would add gas generators to the Park. Bragg asks whether Judd will put that commitment into writing; Judd affirms.

Tape measuring calibration monument proposal – Tom Kelly

Magnuson Park hosts a survey tape measure calibration line in its south end. The line is rarely used, and its use necessitates clearing 100 feet of vegetation. Kelly proposes recommending that the tape measure line be moved to run North-South along the existing digital instrument calibration line, as this will remove the need to clear vegetation [supporting information attached; draft letter attached for MPAC's consideration]. Committee agrees to revisit idea of supporting recommendation. Further information may be sought from Thomas Barger (SPR chief surveyor).

Old & New Business

De Abreu presents proposal for local legislation to support health and habitability during extreme heat events and other climate crises. During the June 2021 heat dome, some residences at Mercy Magnuson Park reached 91 degrees Fahrenheit indoors. Some cities, including Baltimore, Chicago, and New York, have already adopted maximum allowable temperatures in housing. De Abreu presents legislative options on table for MPAC to consider lending formal support, including changes to building codes and increased tenant protections.

Election of co-chairs

Fruland and De Abreu volunteer to co-chair September 14, 2022, meeting.

There being no further business, Melvin adjourns the meeting at 7:39 pm.

Magnuson Park Advisory Committee (MPAC)
Report from Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR) – Brian M. Judd
July 13, 2022

Topic	Updates/Notes
Updates to Meeting Format	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPR is now providing an in-person option for all public meetings. MPAC members and attendees are invited to join us at Building 30. • Ben Burtzos will be updating the Webex information for the September meeting.
Update on Turf Damage at NE 65th ST entrance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vehicles are no longer using this path. • SPR Crew is aware of the need for repair and reseeding.
Update on Building 41 (gas station/visitor's center)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPR Superintendent has paused moving forward with the building for right now. • Magnuson Admin. has several development projects in the pipeline and needs to manage workload.
Current Contract Developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sail Sand Point • Broadway Bound Children's Theater • Magnuson Café and Brewery
Magnuson Children's Garden Mural Dedication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday, June 30th. • Mural developed by youth engaged in the children's garden. • SPR played a key partner role in getting this completed.
Update: Acting Superintendent response to MPAC letter on gas generators	Update to be provided to MPAC.
Request for Additional Recycle Bins	NE Crew has been provided with this proposal and understands the request is still pending.

Encampments	<p>The City of Seattle continues to respond to encampments throughout Seattle. This response included a few parts of Magnuson Park and neighboring areas.</p> <p>The City’s response includes helping people become connected to services that may help shorten their time living unsheltered.</p> <p>If you would like to report an encampment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please call the Customer Service Bureau at 206-684-CITY <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use the City’s “Find It, Fix It” app to report the location. Find It, Fix It - Service Request Mobile App - Customer Service Bureau seattle.gov
Reflections on MPAC	<p>Discussion on how MPAC is going this year and facilitating reflections from the group on the future of the group.</p>

Charles M. J.

**Amendment to Master Memorandum of Agreement
Seattle Public Utilities and Seattle Parks and Recreation**

Action #1 - Amend Section 4: Coordination Principles and Procedures of the MOA to add the following:

Section H: Magnuson Park Calibration Baseline

Action #2 - Amend Attachment #3 Coordination Principles and Procedures to include the following new Section:

H. Magnuson Park Calibration Baseline

The US National Geodetic Survey established a nationally certified survey calibration baseline at Magnuson Park on the Sand Point peninsula in 1982. This baseline is used by Seattle Parks survey crews, and others including SPU survey crews, law enforcement, other public and private sector surveying, construction, and engineering interests for the purpose of calibrating distance measuring equipment. This baseline is the only one located in the central Puget Sound region and is extensively used throughout the year. Magnuson Parks' central location provides a cost-effective and convenient means of calibration.

The baseline is comprised of a line of five fixed survey monuments along approximately a one-kilometer cleared pathway running NNW from the SE parking lot to the northerly perimeter of the north ball field at Sand Point Magnuson Park.

Through this MOA, Parks agrees to the following regarding the Magnuson Park Calibration Baseline:

1. Parks will continue to maintain this portion of Magnuson Park as a nationally certified survey calibration baseline.
2. Parks' will re-establish and have the National Geodetic Survey re-certify the calibration baseline as part of the redevelopment/regrading of the multi-purpose sports meadow, future wetland restoration and other planned projects in the baseline's vicinity.
3. Parks will maintain a clear line of site (defined as a 4' high tripod sitting on the furthest north monument being intervisible from a 4' high tripod sitting on all other monuments along the baseline) along the length of the baseline and fixed survey monuments by ensuring there are no vegetative or non-vegetative obstructions to the line of site. Parks will retain flexibility in the maintenance techniques employed to meet this requirement (e.g. mowing or using low growing shrubs or ground cover). The area to be maintained is generally defined as three (3) to five (5) feet from either side of the baseline. To retain line of site, vegetation will generally be no greater than 1 foot high.
4. Parks will not restrict SPU access to the baseline.
5. The Parks Superintendent may consider imposing a fee for non-SPU use of the calibration baseline.

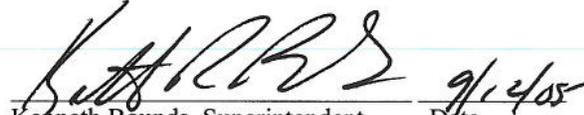
SPU agrees to the following regarding the Magnuson Park Calibration Baseline:

1. SPU will ensure that its users of the calibration baseline respect Parks property by staying on designated roads or parking lots and keeping all vehicles off the turf and landscaped areas.
2. As necessary and desirable to Parks, SPU will work with representatives of the survey community to ensure that all users of the calibration baseline respect and utilize Parks property appropriately.
3. Should the baseline and monuments be vandalized and/or disturbed in a way that is not the result of planned Park projects, SPU will work with the survey community and others to identify and apprehend the responsible parties and/or work to replace and re-certify the baseline as necessary.

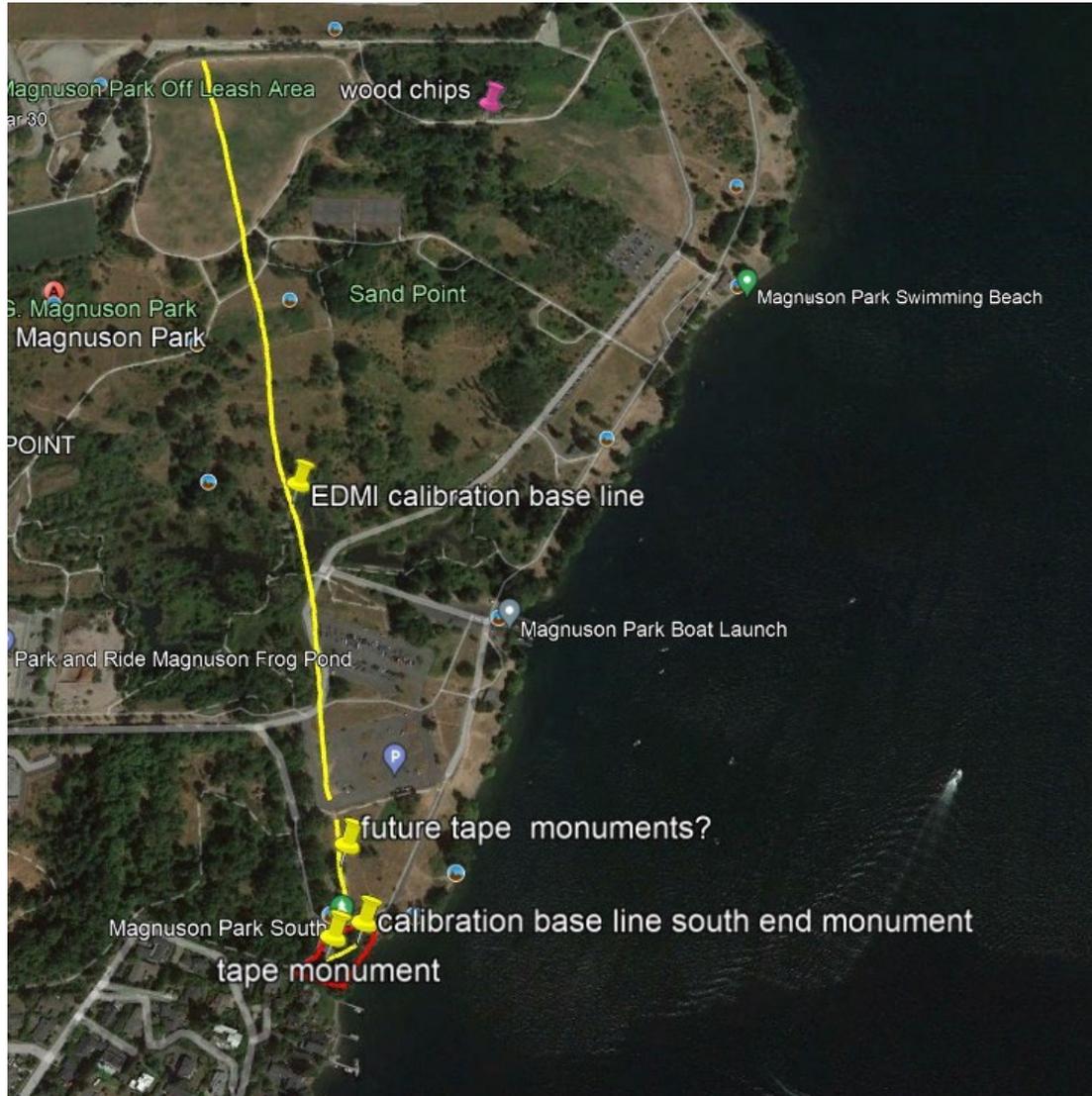
4. SPU will commission, pay for and maintain artwork at the Magnuson Park Calibration Baseline since it is a facility utilized extensively by its employees. SPU will execute a separate MOA with Parks and Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs covering coordination and approval issues related to this artwork. The artwork may take the form of free-standing sculpture, baseline insets and or plaques in conjunction with or alongside the calibration markers. It is intended that the artwork create an educational opportunity for the public that highlights the fields of surveying and measurement technology and provides the viewer a sense of scale.
5. As appropriate, SPU will work with surveying communities to encourage educational programming along the baseline.

This Amendment is approved by:


Chuck Clarke, Director Date
Seattle Public Utilities


Kenneth Bounds, Superintendent Date
Seattle Parks and Recreation





Dear Acting Superintendent Williams,

The Magnuson Park Advisory Committee suggests that you have the Department stop use of the present tape measuring monument associated with the electronic measuring instrument calibration line located in Warren G. Magnuson Park.

Use of the present monument unnecessarily detracts from the core mission of the Department, eliminates natural area vegetation, reduces human enjoyment of the park, and reduces provision of ecosystem services provided by park natural area.

If having tape measuring capacity is needed it could be provided with far less negative impact by placing two new monuments somewhere within the southernmost 150-meter section of the existing 1080-meter-long electronic distance measuring calibration line. Relocating would eliminate the negative impacts of the present tape measuring monument and would eliminate maintenance cost for keeping the route to the present tape measuring monument clear.

Stopping use of the present tape measuring monument would simply require communicating with NOAA to have it remove mention of the monument from descriptions of the Magnuson calibration line or perhaps to add a warning not to use the existing monument.

Physically removing the existing monument should not be necessary. It will quickly become covered by soil because it is below the level of the adjacent ground. Natural covering process could be hastened by intentional burying and supplemented by placing a habitat enhancing rock or brush pile above it.

If having tape measuring capacity is needed, the cost to the city for adding it elsewhere should be very low and near nothing. It is likely that most of the work and cost of installation for additional monuments could come from the surveying community if it felt having tape measuring capacity was useful. The installation work would require digging the equivalent of two fence post holes, filling the holes with concrete, carefully placing non-ferrous metal discs in the concrete and marking them and lastly having NOAA add description of the new location to the calibration line documentation and website.

with regards,