

Welcome –with Kelly McCaffrey, Park District Oversight Committee Chair

Public Comment:

Tim Motzer- Chair, LCNA Parks, Open Space and Community Center Committee

Tim urged the PDOC to attend the June 24 Seattle Park District Board meeting and recommend changes outlined in their [cover letter](#) to the Seattle Park District [mid-cycle report](#). Tim requested that the PDOC also consider expressing supporting the three recommendations below.

Tim asked that the following three recommendations be considered during the next Seattle Park District financial planning process:

1. Approve the remaining \$501,000 for the Community Center Operations initiative, transferring the funds from the Community Center Rehabilitation initiative.
2. Allow for mid-6-year cycle corrections that would allow increases to the spending plan if needed.
3. Retain the current 2018 property tax rate of 24.5 cents through 2020 to minimize the amount of tax increase that may be needed to fund needed improvements in the second funding cycle.

Mike Shaughnessy- Member, Southwest Seattle Historical Society

Mike urged the PDOC to recommend that Seattle Parks and Recreation commit to the preservation of the last remaining beach cottage in the Alki neighborhood. The stone beach house called, “The Rockhouse” or “Eva’s Stone Cottage”, is located at 1123 Harbor Avenue SW in West Seattle. Mike proposed that the West Seattle community donate the building, fund the restoration, and fund the placement of the building in Alki Beach Park. Mike proposed the site be used as a visitor and interpretive center. In Mike’s proposal, the center would be staffed by the Southwest Seattle Historical Society. It would be maintained by an operation and a maintenance endowment.

Wil Look- Beacon Hill Community Member for Amy Yee Tennis Center

Wil shared information about the 50-year history of free tennis instruction at Amy Yee Tennis Center. Wil highlighted the life skill development and positive health outcomes experienced by youth who participate in Amy Yee tennis programs. Wil highlighted the demand in Seattle for access to tennis facilities. Wil stated that most other facilities in Seattle are exclusive and expensive to access. Wil urged the PDOC to support the expansion of the Amy Yee Tennis Center.

Gary Epstein- Member, Amy Yee Tennis Center Advisory Council

Gary highlighted the following benefits of the expansion of Amy Yee Tennis Center:

- Increased participation in popular programs
- Increase capacity for new program such as wheelchair tennis
- Offer a greater opportunity for kids and families to benefit for tennis
- Offer non-profit who work with children the opportunity to increase capacity
- Support area high schools and universities
- Make Amy Yee a Southeast tennis hub with an equity-focus

Jane Stonecipher- Executive Director, Arboretum Foundation

Jane cited the Arboretum Foundation's participation in the [Seattle Parks and Rec Fest](#) public engagement efforts. Jane expressed interested in and excitement about Seattle Parks and Recreation's strategic planning process on behalf of the Arboretum Foundation. Jane extended the Arboretum Foundation's support of future Seattle Parks and Recreation planning.

Michelle Messmer and Amy Davis- Potential Fresh Meat (PFM) Roller Derby

Michelle responded to questions posed by the PDOC about roller derby programs in community center gyms. Michelle provided the following information:

- Roller skating has been supported by Seattle Parks and Recreation at multiple community center locations since 2010 and the need is growing. Roller skating has been offered at Bitter Lake community for 40 years.
- In facilities the host roller skating activities, the wooden floors are refinished on a 12-18-month schedule, which is much higher than in roller rinks.
- PFM Roller requested 5% of the available gym time at Magnuson in support of roller derby. PFM Roller cited roller derby as an activity that serves predominantly women and members of the LGBTQ community. PFM Roller cites a discriminatory bias, nationwide, against roller derby.

Michelle urged the PDOC to recommend restatement of roller derby lines in community center gyms where lines previously existed.

Old/New Committee Business- with Kelly McCaffrey, Park District Oversight Committee, Chair

A PDOC member requested housing on parkland be a future agenda item for the PDOC and/or Board of Park Commissioners (Park Board), given public concern that parkland may repurposed for housing.

The PDOC discussed a potential meeting with Councilmember Juarez in October 2019.

- A Doodle poll was circulated last month to determine who can attend a meeting with Councilmember Juarez in October.
- Two PDOC members confirmed they will attend. More members are encouraged to confirm attendance, if they are available.

The PDOC and Park Board discussed the potential of a joint appearance before the Seattle Park District Board on June 24, 2019.

- The Seattle Park District Board meeting will be on June 24, 2:30 pm at City Hall. PDOC members will use the public comment opportunity reiterate recommendations made in their [cover letter](#) to the Seattle Park District [mid-cycle report](#).
- Jessica, Marlon, Tom, and Dewey confirmed availability for the Seattle Park District Board meeting will be on June 24. Steve and Kelly may be able to attend.
- Kelly will coordinate by a pre-planning call to establish talking points for The Seattle Park District Board meeting will be on June 24.

The PDOC and Park Board discussed a potential PDOC/Board of Park Commissioners Merger

- There has been some discussion about combining the two commissions
- Members consider this proposal and ideas about how the commissions and their work might be restructured.
- Seattle Parks and Recreation will provide background information and some proposals.

The PDOC discussed the ongoing need for a Chairperson and Vice Chair

- PDOC needs both a Chair and Vice Chair
- Interested PDOC member should inquire with Shanyanika McElroy

A PDOC member requested PDOC agenda time to discuss community member recommendations to retain the current 2018 property tax rate of 24.5 cents through 2020 to minimize the amount of tax increase that may be needed to fund needed improvements in the second funding cycle.

Recreation Briefing: Innovative Programs in Recreation – with Justin Cutler, Recreation Director, Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR)

Summary: Justin Cutler, Recreation Director, highlighted ways in which SPR is a leading provider in traditional recreation activities and programs in support of Seattle’s diverse community. Justin outlined ways the Recreation Division has become creative in expanding their reach and providing increased services to specific demographics. Justin Cutler, shared some of the emerging best practices related to the program offerings below and how Seattle Parks & Recreation can capitalize on their benefits.

This included, but was not limited to:

- **Current Innovative Programming-** Seattle Parks & Recreation is a leader in Lifelong Recreation for people 50+; The Food and Fitness program which reaches the East African, Korean, and Vietnamese community; Rainbow Recreation for LGBTQ adults 50+; Parks Activation programs, Community Engagement Ambassadors (CEA’s) to bridge the gap between city services and underserved communities; and Citywide Teen and Young Adult programming.
- **Programming Opportunities-** SPR’s Recreation Division strives to be at the forefront of innovative programming by researching local and national trends, exploring new ways to reach our non-active community, and implementing best practices from our colleagues at other Parks and Recreation departments.
- **Adaptations for the Future-** As resources become more finite in Seattle, we are challenged to consider our investment and impact related to the use of scarce public resources. Within the Recreation Division we are challenged to consider the results and outcome of our work related to community center hours, program planning, grants distributed, and staffing resources. It is important that we review our work and our outputs on a regular basis to ensure that we are achieving our intended outcomes in alignment with Mayoral, Council, Parks & Recreation Board, Partner, and Neighborhood priorities.

[See the presentation](#) (Starts at 1:01:00, Ends at 1:31:00)

Q&A, Comments- Innovative Programs in Recreation

None

Recommendations/Decisions Made

None

Seattle Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan: Update and Goal Development– with Kathleen Conner, Seattle Parks and Recreation, Strategic Advisor and Jesús Aguirre, Superintendent, Seattle Parks and Recreation

Summary: The PDOC discussed, in small groups, the context within which we management our parks and recreation system and priority strategies. The groups were asked to consider these questions specifically relating to context and priority strategies:

1. What are the drivers we should pay attention to in our strategic planning effort?
2. What is working already?
3. Given the aforementioned context, what are the emerging needs?
4. What strategies SPR should employ to address the emerging needs and support what is already working?

To frame their discussions, the groups were asked to consider SPR’s resource limitations and the need to center equity. The groups were asked to identify programs, facilities, and current practices SPR may need to discontinue to prioritize emerging needs.

After small group discussions, there was a large group discussion where participants shared and deliberated the ideas generated during small group discussions.

Q&A, Comments- Seattle Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan: Update and Goal Development

Q1: How are we prioritizing the mitigation of the effects of climate change?

A1: The mandate to develop strategies that are responsive to climate change is built into our process through our mission, vision and values.

Q2: In this time of constraint due to so much growth and so little space, how are we balancing “dreaming big” with catching up with where we are as a city?

A2: We will explore that question together in the exercise planned for this evening.

[See the presentation and discussion](#) (Starts at 1:32:00, Ends at 2:07:00)

[See feedback from the exercise](#)

Recommendations/Decisions Made

None