

Columbia Children's Arboretum PAC #1 Wednesday, May 30, 2018

# **Meeting Notes**

PP&R Staff: Jaime English, Project Manager

Elizabeth Kennedy-Wong, Community Engagement Manager

Yoko, Stewardship Coordinator

PAC Karen H., FACT

Stacey, Neighbor, Mom, invited by FACT, represents kids with disabilities

Renee, Mom, invited by FACT, represents kids with disabilities

Emmanuel Williams, Camp ELSO Board Member, Father, former Park Ranger,

Sprina Brown, Camp ELSO Director, Mom,

Ben, Camp ELSO counselor represents younger voices

Jackson, insightful youth

NNA Ben Ngan, landscape architecture consultant

David Goodyke, landscape architecture consultant

#### **Meeting Goals:**

• Introduce Advisory Committee to project team

- Share information on the project and opportunities to influence outcomes
- Discuss management plan goals

#### Welcome & Introductions

Note: This is the first time the PAC has met. Four people that were invited were not in attendance.

Icebreaker Activity: list potential uses for a mysterious object. It turned out to be a juicer mounted to a fence post

#### II. Roles and Responsibilities

"The Advisory Committee agreed by consensus to hold themselves accountable to the following ground rules"

## **Ground Rules**

- Show up
- Respect each other
- Represent a range of experiences and backgrounds
- Appreciate the process
- Let all voices be heard
- Provide good follow-up for meetings (minutes/summary)
- Encourage the PAC to ask clarifying questions

# PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION



Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland

- When making a statement, share the story that brought you to the "why" of your statement
- Be kind
- Resolution: work to find a solution we can all live with: Use the green (OK), yellow (mostly OK, some reservations, but may not need much/any discussion) and red (can't live with this, needs to be discussed) to express position

Advisory Committee members brainstormed and discussed what each of us was responsible for to work effectively together and to come to consensus on a recommendation for the project improvements. The following are the Roles and Responsibilities agreed to by the PAC, staff and consultants.

#### Committee

- Actively participate
- Represent various communities
- Consider future generations
- Think about making better communities
- Consider all Portlanders, including those not present
- Remember and respect that this park was started and maintained with a lot of community involvement over many years
- Participate in problem solving
- Be ambassadors for the project and park

#### PP&R staff

- Provide meeting notes
- Promote a safe environment so nobody gets hurt
- Keep a focus on the goals
- Facilitate the meetings
- Bring good information
- Listen to everybody
- Participate in problem solving

#### **Consultants**

- Participate in problem solving
- Listen
- Be honest
- Provide good information
- Provide technical expertise

PP&R Staff shared with the committee their working definition of consensus – the goal is to develop recommendations that can be supported by the entire committee. We are committed to working together to problem solve serious issues and respect disagreements and differences.

"The Advisory Committee agreed by consensus to use consensus as their primary tool for decision making"

## III. Project Overview

Project Manager share information on the project purpose and funding, discussed opportunities to PAC to influence outcomes. (Jaime – do you want to add anything in?)

IV. Discussion of Management Plan Goals - are they still relevant?

#### **Recreation needs**

- Meet recreation needs of existing and future area residents.

  Provide a variety of spaces and facilities that are appropriate to the site and its designation as a hybrid park
  - Students& families with disabilities can access site trail
  - Side by side
  - Think creatively about design
  - respects wildlife
  - Flexible space = think about where we put things (access)
  - Water
  - Restroom
  - Access from path to shelter
  - Disabled adults changed

#### **Environmental restoration**

- Improve habitat values through an ongoing program of replanting, invasive species removal, and restoration.
- Improve water quality in the waterways by improving water flow and other bank improvements.
- Control human access into restoration sites and natural resource areas.
  - Controlling access
  - Involve Indigenous peoples
  - Compatible with current efforts

# **Interpretive Programs**

- Provide a variety of opportunities for students and citizens to learn about the site, its natural resources, its history, the Columbia Slough, and the neighborhood.
- Provide restoration involvement opportunities for school groups and citizens.
  - Look at types of planting
  - Collections
  - Learning gardens
  - o Bring plants to trail
  - Edible nature plants

# PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION

Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland

Translations

# Beauty and character of the site

- Enhance and improve the park's visual character through a vegetation management program that improves views, defines open spaces, and maintains a unified palette of plant materials.
  - Work with what you have
  - Highlight arboretum

# A legacy of neighborhood involvement

- Develop partnership with the neighborhood or a Friends group for programs and maintenance
  - Community ownership
  - Respecting parks history

Committee requested that children be more clearly represented in values. Values will be edited to include all feedback and returned to the Advisory Committee for final approval.

# V. Meeting Feedback

The following feedback was provided on the meeting:

# Plus (this worked well)

- Good ideas
- Good intro to the topic
- Food
- Location
- Facilitation
- Group Ground rules
- Include Jackson
  - o Children
- Talking about roles

# Delta (how we can make the next meeting better)

- Hard to sit for two hours
- Activities planned for the meeting
  - Notes
  - Movement
- Meeting on-site
- Print materials provided to committee earlier
- Move meetings to someplace more central in the city
- Incorporate a diversity of learning styles

# PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland

Kinesthetic

• Longer meeting