

Tuesday, February 9, 2021

9:00 - 11:00 am

Zoom Virtual Meeting

Members Present

Alejandra Cortes, Alejandro Orizola, Bonnie Gee Yosick, Casey Mills, David Staczek, Erin Zollenkopf, Ian Jaquiss, Katy Holland, Lorena Nascimento, Mike Elliott, Paddy Tillett, Paul Agrimis, Randy Gragg, Tamara Layden

Members Absent

Jenny Glass, Juan Piantino, Punneh Abdolhosseini

City Staff Present

Brooke Gardner, Adena Long, Todd Lofgren, Lauren McGuire, Jenn Cairo, Tonya Booker, Maximo Behrens, Margaret Evans, Claudio Campuzano, Vicente Harrison, Tim Collier, Sarah Huggins

Call to Order and Public Comment

Board Chair Paul Agrimis called the meeting to order at 9:01am and introduced Tom Puttman who provided comments regarding Healy Park merry-go-round replacement. Lauren McGuire shared information about that asset and will connect with Tom to answer their questions via email.

Social Activities

The board shared what their recent quarantine distractions have been.

Approve January Minutes

Paul asked for a motion to approve the January meeting minutes. Paddy made the motion, Casey seconded, and they were unanimously approved.

Director's Report

Director Long highlighted some of the topics from the Monthly Report shared last week. Including review of recent Employee Gatherings, a Shelter to Housing Continuum (S2HC) update, and the new Graffiti Abatement Pilot Project. She also noted that the Capital Growth Projects have been identified and approved by Commissioner Rubio and will be announced soon. Todd shared that after a competitive recruitment process, Sarah Huggins has been identified as the new Sustainable Future Manager to lead the Sustainable Future work moving forward. She will be supervising the Levy Coordinator and that recruitment is underway. There will be a recruitment to fill the SDC Manager position.



Working Group Reports

Community Development

Tamara shared the working group's draft proposal with Kenya and Tim for review and hope to have something for the Board to review at the next meeting.

Financial Sustainability

At last meeting of the working group Chris Silkie reviewed the asset management framework and provided background on the assessment process. There is a major maintenance backlog of \$500 million. There is not enough funding to maintain the system as it is now. To address all maintenance needs, the system needs a \$1.2 billion bond over a 20-year period. The Requested Budget was submitted on January 29 which included a letter from the Budget Advisory Committee. New levy revenues to be invested as outlined in the cover memo from Director Long and Commissioner Rubio. There will be a Supplemental Budget Ordinance at Council in March as well as the interfund loan to allow the bureau access to funds before levy resources come in in November 2021.

Land Use/Infrastructure

The working group met that morning with standing agenda items. Paddy highlighted the South Park Blocks Master Plan and the concern about the downtown neighborhood association's nomination of the space for historic landmark designation. There is concern about the green loop construction conflicting with the design of the park blocks themselves. But it is resolvable. There is also concern about the number of trees and how long they last. Succession planting is necessary. Katy shared that several NACAC members and Alaskan Association members have concerns about this historic landmark nomination as it feels like it's centering the white settler colonial narrative. Through the historic landmark nomination process there has been erasure in representation and a lack of community engagement with communities of color. The concern is that the nomination process is moving too quickly and not considering the feedback from the community. Katy offered to meet with Paddy and the working group.

Process Improvement Ad Hoc

Bonnie shared that there are no new updates from last month. The process improvement is moving through the areas of collaboration with the Bureau of Environmental Services (BES) and PP&R. Bonnie is awaiting notification about the convening of those efforts. Adena shared that BES is undergoing a full reorganization, so this work is moving slower. Bonnie will be looped in when it picks up again.

Affirmation of Equity Statement

Alejandra is awaiting feedback from Kenya on the draft statements and will present when that feedback has been incorporated.

Portland Parks Foundation Report

The Foundation's small grant program provides \$2,000-2,500 to small organizations to support projects and programs and application deadline is March 30 for the spring cycle. The Foundation is considering expanding the program. The Foundation is gearing up for a May

Friends and Allies Summit and Day of Service. They are developing ideas for the Foundation's 20th anniversary festival. They would like to focus on downtown with a night market theme along the park blocks. The Foundation has hired an event manager for this August event.

Nominating Committees Schedule

Paul reviewed the appointment schedule. Bonnie encouraged members to do outreach through their networks. There are four reappointments and one appointment, so the lift is not as heavy as last year.

Public Comment Procedures

The board reviewed the public comment procedures that were adopted in May but have not been followed as written. The procedures were developed so the board had better follow through with public comments. Members went into break out rooms to discuss if they are on target, if they want to make changes, and what topics they would like to focus on.

Breakout Session Reports

Paul shared that his group found the calendar approach useful. The group noted the limitations for the community to access these meetings. The group wants to be coordinated in outreach to better represent the community. They want to better understand our community and help them access parks and programs and PP&R employment opportunities. They do not want to duplicate what PP&R staff are already doing.

Bonnie's group focused on approaches. They suggested potentially having one meeting a year dedicated to public comment. Then they can revisit the notes from that meeting to see how they are addressing areas of concern raised by community members. Or there could be a quarterly focus on gathering comment relating to each working group focus area. Working groups could develop the topics. The biggest challenge is that people do not know the board exists. There should be intentional outreach to the community to include people that have not been included.

After some discussion Paul asked Erin, Katy and Casey who volunteered to work to clarify priorities and steps going forward. Adena will identify a manager to support this work.

March Agenda Conversation

Paul reminded members that they can contact him, Bonnie, Brooke or Adena if they have any topics for future agenda items. Next month there will be a report for the Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland planning framework.

The meeting adjourned at 10:51 am.