

Tuesday, October 11, 2022

5:00pm – 7:00pm

1120 SW 5th Ave, Room 216 and Zoom Virtual Meeting

Board Members Present

Bonnie Gee Yosick, David Staczek, Erin Zollenkopf, Dr. C.N.E Corbin, Mike Elliott, Adrienne Feldstein, Ali Berman, Adam Lewis, Nova Newcomer, Elana Pirtle-Guiney, Crys O’Grady, Paul Agrimis, Alejandro Orizola

Board Members Absent

Casey Mills, Sabrina Wilson, Randy Gragg (Portland Parks Foundation, Executive Director, Ex-Officio Parks Board Member)

City Staff Present

Adena Long (Bureau Director), Todd Lofgren (Deputy Director), Sarah Huggins (Sustainable Future Program Manager), Serin Bussell (Chief Coordinator), Tonya Booker (Land Stewardship Division Manager), Claudio Campuzano (Finance, Property, and Technology Manager), Nicola Sysyn (Strategic Program Coordinator), Maximo Behrens (Recreation Division Manager), Margaret Evans (Workforce Development Manager), Lauren McGuire (Assets and Development Division Manager), Angie DiSalvo (Science, Outreach, and Planting Manager), Jenn Cairo (Urban Forestry Division Manager), Kathy Sharp (Human Resources Business Partner)

Others Present

Paula Gangopadhyay (Chief Executive Officer, Pittock Mansion Society)
Gabe Tong

Public Comment

No public comment at this time.

Call to Order/Social Time

Bonnie Gee Yosick (Board Chair) called the meeting to order at 5:01pm.

Announcements

Bonnie Gee Yosick (Board Chair) gave everyone a reminder on how to use the name tents to request speaking time. She also noted three changes to the agenda 1) adding the Director’s Report with Q&A time, 2) noting Randy’s absence so no Portland Parks Foundation report, and 3) questions for the Financial Sustainability Working Group will be fielded by Elana Pirtle-Guiney (Board Member).

Pittock Mansion Intro/Overview

Bonnie Gee Yosick (Board Chair) provided a brief introduction and welcome to Paula Gangopadhyay, Chief Executive Officer of the Pittock Mansion Society, before turning it over to Paula Gangopadhyay (Chief Executive Officer, Pittock Mansion Society) to introduce herself and give an overview of the Mansion and the Society.

Paula Gangopadhyay (Chief Executive Officer, Pittock Mansion Society) introduced herself – she is the new Chief Executive Officer of the Pittock Mansion Society. The Pittock Mansion Society is the nonprofit in charge of operation for the Pittock Mansion, as a museum and education institution. In her past



career, she worked very closely with schools and colleges, and in Washington D.C., heading the Office of Congressional Funding for 30,000 museums, many of which are historical museums. She brings 27+ years of experience with museums, nonprofits, and cultural associations, working closely with local city government. Over the last 5 years, she has been advocating for funding from the Federal government on behalf of institutions that make a local impact. She brings that perspective to the Pittock Mansion Society and is looking at the entire city and thinking about how to bring more resources to the city, not just the Pittock Mansion Society.

She joined as CEO of the Pittock Mansion Society in May of 2022 and is excited about rolling out “Pittock 2.0”, a new vision for the Pittock Mansion Society, transforming the museum into the future – defining the next chapter of what the museum can be and do. It is rooted in concepts like “Relevance” and bringing DEAI (Diversity, Equity, Access, Inclusion) into action. For example, they will be telling the story of the Pittock family, but also focusing and showcasing stories of other communities that have not been represented at the Mansion before, such as through the Vanport exhibit and the “Black in Oregon” exhibit. The Mansion will also be able to balance cultural connections, while showcasing art and architecture. Another action she is leading will be to bring “Museums for All” to the Mansion. This program will help families with EBT (Electronic Benefits Transfer – state benefits program) gain access to the museum. The Mansion will also be working on digital programs. COVID required many organizations to pivot to a digital platform, but she does not want digital access to be optional, so will be laying out a strategic plan for that digital rollout. She is also building up and building back the staff team and working on infrastructure improvements. Lastly, the Mansion’s partnership with PP&R is critical. PP&R owns the buildings and the buildings have big preservation needs, but PP&R can’t do it alone and neither can the Pittock Mansion Society, so we will need to work together, and she is very much looking forward to our partnership.

David Staczek (Board Member) asked if there is anything the Parks Board can do to help improve the technology at the Pittock Mansion?

Paula Gangopadhyay (Chief Executive Officer, Pittock Mansion Society) noted that she and her team are working on the technology at the Mansion, and she will keep working to improve the technology so it can be offered as an optional meeting space.

Approve September Minutes

Bonnie Gee Yosick (Board Chair) noted that Erin Zollenkopf (Board Member) had previously proposed some corrections to the September minutes, which Michelle Tran (Executive Assistant to the Director) incorporated. Dr. C.N.E. Corbin (Board Member) noted a change to Page 5, line 1, discussing the “Parks to center the Parks Board”. Erin Zollenkopf (Board Member) noted that this was also one of her comments that Michelle Tran (Executive Assistant to the Director) has since incorporated.

Dr. C.N.E. Corbin (Board Member) requested that we stay away from jargon, spell out acronyms, use last names in meeting documents, adding “Board” to the above list of “Members Present/Absent”, and add City staff titles to the meeting minutes. Bonnie Gee Yosick (Board Chair) acknowledged appreciation for the comments and agreement.

Bonnie Gee Yosick (Board Chair) called for a motion to be made to approve the September minutes, as amended.

David Staczek (Board Member) made a motion to approve the minutes.

Adrienne Feldstein (Board Member) seconded the motion.

Nova Newcomer (Board Member) abstained.

Motion passed.

HRAR 2.02 Training

Director Long introduced Kathy Sharp (Human Resources Business Partner) to the Parks Board, prior to her beginning the HRAR 2.02 training presentation. The reason for this training is because HRAR 2.02, which prohibits workplace harassment, retaliation, and discrimination, applies to all elected officials, employees, interns, volunteers, contractors, and vendors. As volunteers, HRAR 2.02 applies to Parks Board Members. We have been remiss in providing the training in a consistent manner, so we are appreciative of Kathy Sharp's (Human Resources Business Partner) time to share this information with Parks Board Members.

Kathy Sharp (Human Resources Business Partner) proceeded to give an overview of the City's Core Values, the HR 2.02 Policy, who is covered as a Protected Class, who the policy applies to, what are prohibited activities, which settings the policy applies, what to do if you see or hear a prohibited behavior, who to contact, and extent of the limit to confidentiality in reporting.

Questions

- Dr. C.N.E. Corbin (Board Member) asked if Kathy has a presentation focused on volunteers, board members, committees, or commission members, for those that are not necessarily employed by the city? Kathy Sharp (Human Resources Business Partner) noted that there is not a separate presentation or process. The policy applies equally to employees and volunteers.
- Dr. C.N.E. Corbin (Board Member) asked what happens if there are inter-volunteer issues and not at a workplace setting – what if someone makes a social media post or says something to you on the street, how is that handled? Kathy Sharp (Human Resources Business Partner) noted that there are times when folks are on their own time and not representing the City of Portland. The City does not monitor personal social media accounts or when folks are on their personal time and not representing the City of Portland. The City does not monitor behavior unless there is a nexus back to the City of Portland. For example, if someone say, "I'm a volunteer for the City and <harassment>", then the City will investigate.
- Dr. C.N.E. Corbin (Board Member) requested that at each Board Retreat we review the HRAR 2.02 policy and have the training each year. Director Long noted that this will be part of onboarding moving forward. And if the Board wishes to have the HRAR 2.02 training on the Retreat agenda, then we will accommodate.
- Alejandro Orizola (Board Member) asked about the reporting steps and if there is room for 3rd party reporting? Kathy Sharp (Human Resources Business Partner) noted that there is room for 3rd party reporting. If someone hears or sees a violation of HRAR 2.02, then the City will look into that report as well.
- Mike Elliott (Board Member) asked about risk to the City – if a volunteer is harassing another volunteer in the course of volunteer activities, is the City liable for anything in that realm? Kathy Sharp (Human Resources Business Partner) noted that she is not an attorney, but that is why these trainings are required, so we can educate and avoid violations of HRAR 2.02 in the workplace. And then the City will take action to prevent and stop harassment.

Director's Report Q&A

- Dr. C.N.E. Corbin (Board Member) asked about a reference to the Mission, Vision, Values, Racial Equity Statement and a comment in the report saying, "the statement was finalized in January"

– what year are we referencing – 2022? Todd Lofgren (Deputy Director) indicated that it was referencing the end of January 2023, forward looking timeline.

- Dr. C.N.E. Corbin (Board Member) also asked about where the community input was in the development of the statement and whether the Board had an opportunity to provide feedback. Director Long indicated that the Listening & Learning for this work has already occurred both with the community and the Board.
- Adrienne asked about the planned contracting of cleaning and maintenance of community centers – what is the status for this type of maintenance? Director Long noted that the contractor has not provided adequate service levels in the past, but we are staying in communication with them to keep the service levels up. It is an ongoing conversation, and staffing shortages have impacted the contractor’s ability to hire and fully staff their teams.

Working Group Reports Q&A

Board Affairs – There were no questions.

Land Use & Infrastructure – Mike Elliott (Board Member) noted that on the “watch list”, is the Alpenrose Dairy. What is the tie-in with PP&R on the Alpenrose Dairy? Director Long indicated that the users of the Velodrome have expressed interest in relocating that service to PIR (Portland International Raceway), but there is no funding for that project and PIR is an Enterprise Fund, without capital funding of their own for that project, and quite a bit of deferred maintenance to address already. Lauren McGuire (Assets and Development Division Manager) also noted that the Red Electric trail is in that general location. However, the new developer will be responsible for constructing part of the Red Electric trail in that area.

Financial Sustainability – No questions at this time.

Community Engagement – No questions at this time. Bonnie Gee Yosick (Board Chair) asked if both Erin Zollenkopf (Board Member) and Dr. C.N.E. Corbin (Board Member) should be listed on the Board agendas from now on. Erin Zollenkopf (Board Member) and Dr. C.N.E. Corbin (Board Member) both agreed.

Portland Parks Foundation Report

No Portland Parks Foundation report, as Randy Gragg (Portland Parks Foundation, Executive Director) was absent.

Tree Planting MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) between PP&R (Portland Parks & Recreation)/BES (Bureau of Environmental Services)

Director Long noted the need for this work around tree planting and managing the urban forest. Many folks on the Parks Board are interested in this work, and we all have a role in preserving and growing our tree canopy. PP&R recognizes a heightened urgency in this work, as Portland has seen the widespread and even fatal impacts of our changing climate – the most severe impacts experienced by those living in low canopy areas of the city and by community members who are disproportionately from communities of color and experience lower incomes. We want to ensure that we deliver services in a manner that is responsive to community needs.

Jenn Cairo provided some background context for the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding).

Beginning in 2019, at the direction of, then, Parks and BES Commissioner Nick Fish, Parks and BES staff initiated and inter-bureau process to improve the City’s tree planting services. That process involved

Directors, senior leadership, and front-line staff, and consultants and community stakeholders to evaluate current program offerings, identify inefficiencies, and produce recommended improvements. One of the key priorities that emerged was the need to clearly identify roles and responsibility to for managing tree planting to increase efficiency and reduces confusion and conflict. Following that process, the Bureaus then convened a community stakeholder group, chaired by Dr. Vivek Shandas, Urban Forestry Commission Chair, and Dr. Jennifer Allen of Portland State University. As a result of that group's work, Parks and BES made the following commitments – 1) improve outcomes for BIPOC Portlanders and low income / low canopy neighborhoods of Portland; 2) align City tree planting programs to integrate outreach, engagement, policy, planting, stewardship efforts, and tree lifecycle management; 3) invest new resources in engagement to ensure tree planting activities match needs and values of the community; 4) make it seamless for community partners to work for the City by clarifying bureau roles and responsibilities, business processes, and funding; 5) set goals with community involvement, measuring and reporting progress. This MOU marks meaningful progress towards following through on those commitments.

Angie DiSalvo (Science, Outreach, and Planting Manager) gave some additional highlight of the MOU. The MOU recognizes the roles for each program in Parks and BES, decreases the bureau overlap and increases clarity in the community about who does what. BES will prioritize planting trees on commercial, industrial, and multi-family properties; Parks will plant trees in parks, along streets, at schools, and at residential properties. We have set some shared planting standards – prioritizing tree planting that maximizes tree canopy growth. We are trying to promote resiliency to climate change, pests and pathogens, and other threats to the urban forest. Another thing the MOU does is sets an expectation that we are both going to report out on the number of trees planted and how are programs are doing, so we will share data and report publicly. We will also conduct joint communications, with one city voice, to let residents know what our planting programs are across the city. We will pursue a shared RFP for contracts so that we can have a larger base for the number of contractors and diverse contractors doing tree planting work, and prioritize expanding offering to contractors that have not benefited from City funding. The MOU itself is good for 2 years and Parks and BES will meet monthly. The first post-MOU signing meeting was today, and we are already working towards progress on these goals. At the end of the 2-year period, we will review the MOU and update as needed.

Director Long noted that there is still a lot of work to be done, but we are pleased to have remained focused and finished the MOU. Together, Parks and BES planted 4,200 trees, and we estimate another 5,000 in the coming fall season. This agreement will ensure trees are planted with industry best-practices in mind, meeting established City goals around tree canopy, and meeting community need. Very excited about this partnership.

Questions

- David Staczek (Board Member) asked about the percentage split in the BES/Parks relationship – what is the balance between the BES and Parks scope of work? Director Long indicated that it might not be possible to assign a percentage as there are many factors at play, such as opportunistic planting, sometimes based on development, or voluntary planting on private property. Angie DiSalvo (Science, Outreach, and Planting Manager) noted that in the coming year, Parks is going to be focusing on Street Trees and BES is developing their approach to tree planting, but in the coming year, Parks is planning on planting 3,500-4,000 trees and BES is planning on planting 500-1,000, if they can find those areas. In addition, we are focusing on quality over quantity, in addition to planting, and preserving the current tree canopy. Jenn Cairo

(Urban Forestry Division Manager) added that we did not focus on a percentage breakdown, as opposed to “who is working where” so we could be efficient with public resources.

- Ali Berman (Board Member) asked if Parks has considered looking at the disability community as an impacted community? Disability Rights Oregon found that no one was looking at data for underlying health conditions of those who died as a result of heat events. Encouraged Parks to consider the disability community as another front-line community when thinking about trees. Angie DiSalvo (Science, Outreach, and Planting Manager) indicated that the closest proxy for the disability community has been low-income communities and communities of color, which will also include other communities, but this has been helpful, and appreciated Ali Berman (Board Member) bringing it this important point. Director Long noted appreciation for Ali Berman’s (Board Member) comments and expressed that sometimes we rely on intersectionality, but would be interested in learning more about what Disability Rights Oregon has discovered.
- Erin Zollenkopf (Board Member) asked about whether BES has a similar process to Parks for having to help with establishment of trees that BES plants? Angie DiSalvo (Science, Outreach, and Planting Manager) indicated that, yes, she believes BES has built in 3-years of establishment care into their current work. We are trying to encourage and motivate everyone who is involved in tree planting to water, prune, etc. to ensure successful establishment. Director Long also noted that by partnering with BES on the RFP, we can ensure that standards, such as 3-year establishment timeline for contractors, is also more likely to be incorporated.
- Adrienne Feldstein (Board Member) provided congratulations for getting this far with the MOU. Then had a question about the RFP. How do you plan to select the contractors? Angie DiSalvo (Science, Outreach, and Planting Manager) indicated that we have not gotten that far in the process yet, but will work within the City’s procurement guidelines. We don’t select by lowest bid, but on qualifications and other factors. Some of our general goals include a wider diversity among contractors, a wider capacity of services, and we will be doing more outreach prior to the RFP, so we can have conversations with contractors ahead of the RFP being posted. Adrienne Feldstein (Board Member) asked if community members can sit on the selection panel? Angie DiSalvo (Science, Outreach, and Planting Manager) indicated that there are selection committee guidelines established by City procurement.
- Dr. C.N.E. Corbin (Board Member) asked how Parks is thinking about diversifying green space and tree planting? It will take more than a decade before we see the outcome of trees planted today, so in the meantime, what are the strategies for getting greenspaces into Black, Indigenous, and People of Color communities that lack greenspace now? How are we thinking about creating those greenspaces now and in preparation for future tree planting, not just thinking about the next generation of trees planted? Jenn Cairo (Urban Forestry Division Manager) noted that tree planting gets a lot of attention, and while it is important, so is keeping the trees we have so we don’t lose our current canopy. Director Long indicated that acquisitions are a part of our portfolio, both in property management and planning teams. Parks has and will continue to invest funds into acquisitions. Parks has many undeveloped parks that haven’t been developed yet, so there is untapped opportunity that Parks just does not have funding for yet. In terms of pursuing space, there really is not much real estate available, but certainly development of acquired property is an opportunity for increasing green space. Lauren McGuire (Assets and Development Division Manager) added that Parks has many Level of Service maps that show where there are parks and where there are gaps. Parks does target the areas with gaps and looks for opportunities in those areas in particular. Parks will continue to use System Development Charge (SDC) funds for Capital Growth for new parks. There are also parks in east Portland which have Master Plans, but they have not been developed and remain on the list for new projects, so there continues to be an opportunity. Dr. C.N.E. Corbin (Board Member) asked

if those sites are opportunities to reforest? Lauren McGuire (Assets and Development Division Manager) - Yes.

- Dr. C.N.E. Corbin (Board Member) also noted that when street trees grow, they either don't get established or they do get established and grow and mangle the sidewalk, which is an ADA issue – how is Parks thinking about planting trees differently? Jenn Cairo (Urban Forestry Division Manager) noted that the trees Parks will plant will not have those issues because Parks is looking for quality spaces and species that will do well in the right places.
- Adrienne Feldstein (Board Member) noted that Portland City Council is considering changes to the Portland Clean Energy Fund (PCEF) this month and there is a special meeting of the Urban Forestry Commission tomorrow. Adrienne Feldstein (Board Member) indicated that she is concerned about the “infill-build” and the incentive to reduce greenspace – where are the incentives coming from PCEF to increase greenspace? Jenn Cairo (Urban Forestry Division Manager) indicated that there are incentives currently in various City Codes, such as the Residential Infill project that BPS led, which aimed to keep greenspace while increasing infill. However, it is new, so we have yet to see the results of that project. There are also incentives and disincentives in Title 11 (Tree Code).

Sustainable Future Ballot Initiative Update

Sarah Huggins (Sustainable Future Program Manager) noted that at the August Parks Board meeting she shared an update on the Sustainable Future work, as well as some updated information about our funding needs, Director Long's convening of a Ballot Initiative Task Force, and the funding options that we would review with the Task Force. In September, the Task Force wrapped up their final meeting and shared input with Director Long.

Sarah Huggins (Sustainable Future Program Manager) provided a update on the Sustainable Future work to date, including the Ballot Initiative Task Force, the 2023 prospective Legislative proposal to allow for a Parks District, and reviewed the current funding position for PP&R as it relates to operations, capital maintenance, capital growth, and street tree maintenance.

Bonnie Gee Yosick (Board Chair) asked what the current System Development Charge (SDC) fund balance is? Todd indicated that there is roughly \$16M allocated and we carry approximately \$10M in case of inflation or unanticipated need, but there generally isn't a large unallocated balance.

Sarah Huggins (Sustainable Future Program Manager) provided an overview of the timeline for funding category priorities and then paused to ask if these priorities align with the Board's expectations.

Questions

- Adam Lewis (Board Member) asked how these priorities were established – was there community input or was it developed by staff? Sarah Huggins (Sustainable Future Program Manager) noted that we received input from the Ballot Initiative Task Force, but much of it was put together based on urgency of the need. We have received a great deal of input from a variety of groups about what priorities to put forward and when. The 2020 Levy did not solve all of our funding needs, unfortunately, so these are items that still need attention. In all of our community conversations, we continue to hear that maintaining our current system, addressing maintenance needs, and preventing that backlog from continuing to grow is a priority.
- Adam Lewis (Board Member) asked if, given the conversation earlier about the need for greenspaces in underserved areas, does it make sense to identify where the system has gaps and acquire or develop in those areas first? Sarah Huggins (Sustainable Future Program

Manager) indicated that we are evaluating what we want to preserve and also where there are gaps so we can fill those in. The planning team has also conducted an entire project on the level of service in the City to see where there are gaps in service provided by PP&R, beyond just access to a park, but also looking at where we have more than enough service. And yes, there are opportunities to expand tree planting at parks. There will need to be thought about what will ultimately go in a particular park and then have a planting strategy that will align with the overall park plan.

Public Comment

Bonnie Gee Yosick (Board Chair) called for any public comment at 6:45pm. There was no public comment during this time.

Sustainable Future Ballot Initiative Update Continued...

Questions

- Erin Zollenkopf (Board Member) asked about Street Tree maintenance and the pilot programs – has Parks thought about criteria (specifically for older individuals on fixed incomes who might not have income to maintain trees) to look at income, etc. for tree maintenance requirements? Sarah Huggins (Sustainable Future Program Manager) noted that Parks has not gotten to that level of detail yet in this process.
- Nova Newcomer (Board Member) commented that one area she feels does not get enough attention is around play, especially for youth. When play equity reports are reviewed on the national and pacific northwest level, it can be seen time and time again that access to youth sports has continued to plummet for youth, which follows similar trends for low-income youth and youth of color. Nova Newcomer (Board Member) urged the Parks Board and PP&R make youth access a priority and have a focused conversation around youth sports and access to play, as there are a number of barriers to access to fields and access to safe and welcoming fields. Bonnie Gee Yosick (Board Chair) echoed Nova Newcomer's (Board Member) comments as it relates to pools and aquatic facilities, and Nova Newcomer (Board Member) reiterated that they will also make a difference for community impacted by the changing climate. Sarah Huggins (Sustainable Future Program Manager) shared appreciation for Nova Newcomer's (Board Member) comments and noted that when we talk about maintaining our system, that includes maintaining sports fields, pools, and aquatic facilities. It also includes adding sports fields, pools, and community centers. In addition, reducing cost as a barrier to access community centers, but also to permit access. There will be opportunities to get specific about where that funding goes.
- Dr. C.N.E. Corbin (Board Member) noted that we are addressing equity gaps, but that can also create new gaps – green gentrification, housing pricing going up, etc. Who is PP&R talking to that works in housing? How does PP&R ensure new inequities don't drive out the people that need the services the most? Lauren McGuire (Assets and Development Division Manager) noted that these conversations have not gotten to the level of how a particular park does or does not cause displacement. Currently, the City is focusing on the 82nd corridor and anti-displacement projects in that area. However, Parks has not been involved in that process. Sarah Huggins (Sustainable Future Program Manager) noted that there is a project to develop an anti-displacement process currently underway at the city. And Lauren McGuire (Assets and Development Division Manager) confirmed that the process is indeed underway and the PP&R planning team is going to those meetings, but it is not impacting our Parks work yet. Dr. C.N.E. Corbin (Board Member) stressed the importance of figuring out the anti-displacement efforts soon and before new developments go in because people need those safety nets before developers move into those areas. Bonnie Gee Yosick (Board Chair) noted work that Lisa Bates

at (Bureau of Planning & Sustainability) BPS is doing to address anti-displacement approaches and it would be helpful for Parks to integrate that work in Parks projects. Sarah Huggins (Sustainable Future Program Manager) acknowledged that Parks has been meeting with BPS on that tool, and there is a desire to look holistically as a city about investments being made in certain areas, so anti-displacement is being considered in terms of how we support growth and how we prevent the negative impacts of growth.

Sarah Huggins (Sustainable Future Program Manager) was able to present roughly half of her presentation and indicated that she is available to finish the presentation at an upcoming Parks Board meeting.

Meeting Adjourned

Bonnie adjourned the meeting at 7:01pm.