

City of Olympia

*City Hall
601 4th Avenue E
Olympia, WA 98501*



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Thursday, April 20, 2017

6:00 PM

Room 207

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 6:07 p.m.

Present: 6 - Chair Jim Nieland, Committee member Kimberly Bauer, Committee member Barbara Benson, Committee member Joshua Clark, Committee member Rhonda Olnick and Committee member Maria Ruth

Excused: 2 - Committee member Candace Jacobs and Committee member Brock Milliern

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda was approved.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Meeting minutes were approved.

Approval of February 16, 2017 Parks and Recreation Advisory
Committee Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

James Reddick, PARC Foundation, updated the committee on a \$1,500 grant received from Olympia Federal Savings for the Artesian Commons summer music program. The Foundation is also partnering with the Lions Club, Cities of Tumwater, Lacey and Olympia for Earth Day on April 22, 10am-1pm.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAC welcomed two new committee members: Rhonda Olnick and Josh Clark. One vacancy remains on the committee.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

6.A Recreation Program Review

Associate Director Scott River gave an overview of the Recreation Program, including a briefing on the primary program areas and key partners. Participation continues to grow and last summer nearly 2,500 youth and teens participated in camps and outdoor activities. Recreation fee revenues have increased for the fifth consecutive year. The Department has recently hired a marketing specialist and added an additional half-time position in the Arts program. In the coming year, Recreation will

focus on community engagement and service expansion.

Information only. No action requested.

6.B 2016 Parks, Arts and Recreation Performance Report

Attachments: [2016 OPARD Performance Report](#)

Director Paul Simmons presented the 2016 Parks, Arts and Recreation Performance Report. This annual report highlights significant accomplishments achieved by the department throughout the year, and reports 44 data-based performance measurements.

Receive update.

6.C Interim Improvements on City-owned Isthmus Parcels

Attachments: [City-owned Isthmus Property Photo](#)

Planning and Design Manager Laura Keehan presented the concept designs for the Interim Isthmus Improvements project. The public meeting was held on April 19 and the public comment period is open until May 1. Ms. Keehan explained this project is to remove the existing building foundation and construct interim improvements only. The larger master planning process will be held in 2018.

The Committee unanimously passed a motion to recommend the following:

- Concept D for the larger, rectangular site (former County Health Building)
- Concept B for the smaller, square site (former County Housing Authority Building)
- Rather than trees, which would likely be small, afford little in terms of shade or screening of street and adjacent parking lots, and possibly need to be removed when final Isthmus improvements are constructed, PRAC recommends landscaping similar to that at the Plum/Henderson landscaping island.

PRAC felt that the recommendation stated above would allow for the most flexibility of the space, allowing for somewhat experimental use of the larger space for special events (music performances, live theater, etc) while still offering the smaller space as a more traditional grassy park area for picnicking. During the interim-use time period, the community's evolving use of these dual spaces will help inform the future long-term planning for the properties.

A letter will be drafted and submitted to City Council.

Forward to Council comments and recommendations for interim improvements on the City-owned Isthmus parcels.

6.D 2017 Chair and Vice Chair Elections

Committee member Maria Ruth was nominated and accepted the position of Chair.

Committee member Josh Clark was nominated and accepted the position of Vice-Chair.

Move to elect a committee Chair and Vice Chair

6.E 2017 Work Plan, Committee Assignments, and Meeting Dates

Attachments: [2017 PRAC Work Plan](#)

The Committee postponed the discussion of committee assignments until the May 18 meeting.

7. REPORTS

A. North Capitol Campus Heritage Park Development Assoc. (Candace Jacobs) - None.

B. PARC Foundation of Thurston County (Barbara Benson) - None.

C. Artesian Leadership Committee (Barbara Benson). The committee is working on developing a mission statement. The permanent restroom (Portland Loo) will be installed this summer.

D. Olympia Metropolitan Park District Advisory Committee (Candace Jacobs and Barbara Benson) - None.

E. Technical Work Group for Downtown Design Guidelines (Maria Ruth) - The group has had three meetings and great public input regarding the protection of view sheds. From a parks perspective, Ms. Ruth stated her concern about the definition for parks in the downtown, as they to appear to be mainly parklets.

8. QUESTIONS OF STAFF AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Upcoming

Next meeting is scheduled for May 18, 2017.

Accommodations