VASHON PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

Ober Park, Evergreen Room, 7:00 pm **DATE: Tuesday, March 13, 2018**

Commissioners attending: Bob McMahon, Doug Ostrom, Scott Harvey, Karen Gardner, Abby Antonelis Staff attending: Elaine Ott-Rocheford, Jason Acosta.

| ISSUE | DISCUSSION AND OUTCOME | FOLLOW UP |
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| Call to order & agenda review | The meeting was called to order by Doug. Doug reviewed the agenda. | |
| Public Comment | Captain Joe: For my broadcast this morning, Elaine and I coordinated for me to discuss Family Fun Night at the pool. Hopefully, the pool is now flooded with people wanting to use it. Are we still on for the March 20 Open House? I will talk about that a week from today. And that it will be at Ober. Elaine: That is correct. Captain Joe: I am compelled to express my sadness that Kelly is leaving us. She was such a great asset during the time she was here. This guide is evidence of that. I hope you find a good replacement, as we are on the verge of being where we need to be. Kelly was a part of that. | |
| Lodging Fees | Eric Wyatt: At the last meeting I requested an increase in the cleaning fees for Fern Cove and Quarters A. I have struggled for a couple years to maintain housekeepers. The primary reason is wage based. The average on the island is \$30 - \$40 an hour now. We top out at \$25. When I started in this position in 2014, we didn't charge a housekeeping fee. I instituted that with the hope that we recapture much of the cleaning cost. We raised rental rates last year, lowered them in the winter. One of my best housekeepers quit, because she won't work for \$25 an hour. This has put a huge burden on me. Bob: You are concerned that if we boost the rates too much, it is more than the market will bear? Eric: I understand from the last meeting, that there was talk of recouping the full housekeeping fee. Bob: How many hours go into cleaning? Eric: Quarters B is 3 hours; QA is 5. All three are currently at \$75. There wasn't a fee when I started. We have increased fees all round quite a bit since then. Bob: Is the fee separate on the bill? Eric: Yes. People are aware of it. Our rates are high right now. I don't want to push them over the limit. Most properties list the cleaning fee separately. Scott: Everything is going up. Eric: How much is everyone else raising rates? | |

| | Scott: Therefore, the minutes are incorrect and should be corrected to reflect that change. So along that line, I move we accept the minutes and vouchers as amended. | |
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| | Elaine: Actually, I only sent it to you. | |
| | hours is not required. Elaine corrected herself by sending us an email saying otherwise. | |
| | Scott: That is true. To call an Executive Session, it can be called at the time of the meeting. 24 | |
| Vouchers | Elaine: That is true. | |
| Preliminary | us and notified us that that wasn't necessary. | |
| 1.21.18 – 2.8.18 | indicated that we need 24 hours notice for Executive Session, and she subsequently contacted | |
| 1.23.18 Minutes; | Scott: The minutes require an amendment. I want them to say that Elaine mistakenly | |
| | Motion: passed 5 – 0. | Rules. Passed 5 – 0. |
| | Passed 5 – 0. | Motion to Suspend the |
| | Karen: Second. | |
| | Bob: I move to suspend the rules. | Passed 5 – 0 |
| | Eric: I need to salvage my housekeeper who just quit. | \$100 on QA and FC. |
| | Bob: And you need this right away? | cleaning fee raised to |
| | Abby: Second. | at \$40 per hour and the |
| | to \$100 on QA and FC. | wage limit leeway be set |
| | Karen: I move that the wage limit leeway be set at \$40 per hour and the cleaning fee raised | Motion: I move that the |
| | certainly will say something to me. | |
| | to my numbers. If I get out of control, you will say something to my boss, and she most | |
| | Eric: Understand, I will manage this within my budget. At the end of the day, I am accountable | |
| | Abby: Currently he has to ask to increase fees. Bob: So what if we set it at \$40? | |
| | his costs. Set the ceiling high enough for him to be able to manage it. | |
| | into cleaning, which is not a management function. A manager should be allowed to manage | |
| | Captain Joe: I suggest you trust Eric for setting the fee on this. I know how much time he puts | |
| | Abby: That is totally reasonable. I get \$30 for cleaning. | |
| | Bob: So, you want \$100 on QA and FC. | |
| | my housekeeper who left. | |
| | Eric: I would like a \$30 ceiling. That is still on the low end for the island. It should bring back | |
| | Bob: So you also want to raise wages? | |
| | Eric: We already have – 5% per the Board's mandate for this budget. | |
| | Scott: How much are you suggesting we raise the rental rates this year? | |
| | the housekeepers. | |
| | cleaning fee. If we increase the cleaning fee, that should be able to address raising wages for | |
| | Karen: It seems to me there are 2 different things – the cost of the lodging and the cost of the | |
| | Eric: I have not tracked what others are doing. | |

Bob: Second. Passed 5 - 0. Scott: Now, along that line, going forward, at the beginning of each meeting when we review the agenda, each Board member has the right to add to the agenda as he or she wishes, including Executive Session. In that regard, and in keeping with the minutes from the last meeting, an Executive Session should be happening tonight. It will not happen, because I am withdrawing my request for an Executive Session. January, 2018 Elaine: We are only one month into the year, so there isn't much to say. Should be a short report. **Financial Report** 1) Levy dollars - \$5k under projected for January. 2) Admin – under budget \$2700. At this point, all just odds and ends. 3) Maintenance – under budget \$19k, mostly due to Jan and Feb wages charged to the pool + PERS budgeted but not starting until March. I budgeted not knowing when it would start. 4) Commons – over budget \$2500. All odds and ends. 5) Programs – under by \$5k by looking at it as a stand-alone for 2018. We carried over \$10k in revenue for Ski School from last Fall; expenses hit Feb/Mar of 2018. a. Netted \$2300 from Ski School. b. Budgeted \$5k for the rec guide, came in at \$3500. Subsidized again by Susan Lofland. 6) Pool Summer – tracking to budget, but this is just allocated pool management wages and some supplies. I have asked Ann to start projecting wages based on what she knows about who is staying on from the Dome season. We purchased a scheduling software to help with labor projections. B2A – Wages over \$4200 for January, because had to pay Scott's vacation time. Offset by no wages in February. 7) Pool Winter – over by \$6600, but still \$7k away from the \$68k limit. a. Revenue tracking over projected, but I fear that is due to passes and early sales. The neg \$4100 on B2A was the budgeted Seals rental received in February – so off a month.

- b. Wages on B2A, January was under \$2200 due to late start and despite Kelly in LG chair. February is over \$3k due to Jason and maint being there so much. Our projections look good going forward.
- c. Supplies over \$2300 in January, but we believe this will taper down. Lots of start-up expenses.
- d. Utilities January was under \$600, but February was over \$700 we'll see how it plays out.

Elaine: Remember, we can look at this one of two ways – October 2017 – April 2018, or calendar year January to December. This is calendar year here.

Scott: I would like to see both ways for this year. When it was originally approved, the intent was to look at it from October through the end of the season. That way we would end it early if it goes over. Doug: The expenses back to October are not reflected here, correct?

Elaine: Correct. The October through April picture is significantly less to budget.

8) Point Robinson – over by \$4k to start. Mostly wages budgeted to Fern Cove where he spent more time at PR.

| | 9) Fern Cove – over budget \$1400 after subtracting the \$48,000 carry-over from last year. We budgeted regular expenses for January but no revenue. Karen: The septic project is done? Eric: Yes, I even just had my first renters. Elaine: I wanted to add that I received a call from our attorney about Enduris. They will not represent this. Their Wenatchee office does a lot of work for Enduris, so they have decided this represents a conflict of interest. Take to another attorney? Karen: Do we need an opinion, or are we far enough along to feel we have a case? Elaine: Our attorney's opinion is that we have a case. Karen: We can use Grant again, but I am reluctant to have legal fees eat everything up. Scott: We need to engage someone to get an opinion about the opinion. We need to know if it is an economical case. We need to find that out. 10) RFA/Other – This has become the catch basin for the pool carry-overs from last year to include the following: a. \$75,000 grant monies; b. Libra deck cutting \$7160, Libra acid wash \$6993, Itasca ADA \$10,915, DOH permit \$304, Pool Lighting \$12,600, MM Retainer - \$5400, Enduris - \$14600, Pool vacuum - \$2900 These were carry-over dollars from the 2017 budget so simply eating cash, not budget items, except the vacuum – charge to capital budget? We'll discuss that in the pool report. | Agenda Item |
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| Board Votes | 1) Bob: I move that the "Dome Season" rate for kids aged 4 – 12 be at \$3.50. Karen: Second. Scott: As the pool manager, Ann, do you have an opinion on this? Ann: The kids who come in to swim are there for short periods of time this time of year. An hour, maybe. That is different from the summer. Scott: So you think this is a good idea? Ann: I think it's a great idea. Passed 5 – 0. | Motion: I move that the "Dome Season" rate for kids aged 4 – 12 be at \$3.50. Passed 5 – 0. |
| | Elaine: I wanted to bring a second issue to your attention. Scott made a motion to approve Resolution 18-02 as presented for PERS with a 2/24 start date. Bob seconded that motion. That start date was relative to how the pay period went. When we met with the PERS rep for training, the reporting for hours in an actual month was problematic. To solve this, we moved payroll to twice a month rather than every two weeks. PERS requires Board approval for moving the start date to 3/1. I would frame this as a friendly amendment to resolution 18-02 to change the start date to March 1. Scott: So moved to make a friendly amendment to Resolution 18-02 to change the start date for PERS from 2/24/18 to 3/1/18. Bob seconded. | Scott: So moved to make a friendly amendment to Resolution 18-02 to change the start date for PERS from 2/24/18 to 3/1/18. Bob seconded. |

| Vashon Wilderness Fire Pit at Village Green | Elaine: As you know, it is against park rules to have fires in parks unapproved. You did approve a fire pit for the Farmer's Market about a year ago. The Vashon Wilderness group is putting on a spring feast bizarre in April and want to use a metal fire pit. They have a permit from VIFR and will follow all the rules. Bob: It's a portable unit? Elaine: Yes, a metal pit and portable. The conditions for permission on the fire permit are spelled out. I would add that it can't be under the shelter. It must be out in the open. Jason: And off the grass. It needs to be on the gravel area. Scott: I move to approve the Vashon Wilderness metal fire pit at Village Green. Bob: Second. | Scott: I move to approve the Vashon Wilderness metal fire pit at Village Green. Bob: Second. |
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| Fee schedule – "Outside Normal Operating Hours" | Elaine: Men's Community Basketball has been playing at VISD gyms for years at 7:30 a.m. Sunday mornings and paying the private rental rate. Prior to 9:00 am, they should have been paying the extra \$20/hour fee, but they were grandfathered in at the \$10/hour rate. When Robin took over billing, she did not question it until now. My rule is there are no exceptions. I didn't know there was this exception until Robin brought it to my attention. She addressed this, and some of them were upset about now having to pay, effectively \$30+ dollars an hour for the 7:30 – 9 slot. To avoid the fee, they moved the time to 9 a.m., but some are having to drop out, because of church conflicts. The only solution, so all are treated equally, is to change the policy. Solution: Move the normal operating hours on Sundays to 7:30 am. I suggest Sunday only, as people would book Saturdays, and this would increase our labor costs that we have not budgeted. Scott: They pay \$10 each? Or the whole group pays \$10 an hour? Elaine: \$10 per hour. Scott: So this would increase it to \$30 per hour, or \$45 total for the hour and a half. If there are 10 people paying basketball, that's an extra \$3 per person. It doesn't seem like a lot to have to pay. When was the last time there was a fee increase? Elaine: At the start of the year, all rates went up 5%. Scott: So the start of the year, this went up \$.50 for them. This seems like a pretty nominal fee. And hey, they got a good run for the past 5 years. They got an exception even though they didn't know they had an exception. And we're not doing it retroactively and saying they owe this money going back. Abby: I'm unclear. Was there a rate change for them, as well? Elaine: No, it's always been the private rate. Karen: I agree with Scott. Abby: I do, too. It really isn't that much money. Scott: Really. You can't even get a latte for 3 bucks. Abby: And they have gotten this deal for years. Karen: Life is hard! Scott: If it was kids, I might think differently, but I think adults can ante up 3 | |

| | Elaine: 7:30 – 9. They would like to keep those hours, but they don't want to pay the higher rate. Scott: The main message is that we are not going back retroactively. We are simply applying the policy as it stands. See how generous we are? | |
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| Pool | Elaine: Revenue Report – first two months about \$19,000. Shows usage. Winter revenue budget = \$61,240. Ann: We had 22 people today. That's a good number. Elaine: Capital and equipment costs are mounting. I feel we should charge these items against the capital budget, since they are not M&O. Charged new vacuum to "other" to come out of capital. \$2900 Scott: When was the last time the vacuum was replaced? Jason: The two we have had are hold-overs from King County. Scott: That was my intent for having a capital budget – to cover things that wear out. Elaine: I would suggest we set a dollar amount of \$1,000 or more goes to capital. Scott: That makes sense. Elaine: Need a flange made for the main drain, so the two valves don't interfere with each other. Scott: Why wasn't this brought up with the other pool fixes? Jason: Because I didn't even know we had a modulating valve. A lot of these systems are so old. I thought it odd that this system worked before we had the recent work done. The reality is, it wasn't. The main drain pipes were 75% clogged with calcium, which restricted the flow to the pit. Once we cleaned the pipes, now the surge pit is higher than our pool water. It is designed to be the opposite. A modulating valve controls the main valve. When we took the pool from King County, there was no modulating valve. Scott: I would argue this should come out of the summer operating budget. Bob: But it's a one time fix! Scott: It's a cost of having the pool available to us. Jason: When the pool was built, I guarantee that valve was there. It decayed, and KC never fixed it. Now we have to manage this manually every day. Scott: We just went through a major expense. As a precedent, we should consider whether or not these types of items are simply the cost of operating a pool. I'm okay putting it to capital for just this one time. Elaine: Speaking of continued problems, we need to replace the fan in the acid room. No cost estimate yet. Jason: Wear trying to get it covered under warranty. Scott: How lo | |

Elaine: I don't know what the fan cost as a stand-alone item. The acid room fix cost was \$7k.

Scott: What happened with that room prior to the past couple years?

Jason: From 2011 until last, we passed every Health Inspection. Last year they made an issue of it and said it had to be fixed. That fan has never worked since we took over the pool from KC. Bob: It seems odd that we would be pulling a corrosive atmosphere through a fan. It stands to reason that it would get ruined again. I'll take a look at it tomorrow.

Jason: Last, we have 2 water heaters dating to 2006. Last week, I was told we have no hot water in the restrooms. Vashon Heating and Cooling came in to evaluate. We never ran these 2 simultaneously in the past. For some reason, in the summer, we only ran one at a time.

Scott: That's because we're running year round.

Jason: Replacement is about \$8k a piece for the whole unit. They are looking for smaller, more efficient units at less cost. We owe them \$3500. They got one working for now. We could spend \$6k to fix two failing water heaters for now.

Elaine: Why throw good money after bad to spend \$6k now when we may need to spend \$20k a year from now? Why not replace them both now?

Scott: What about the instant-on technology?

Jason: We will research.

Karen: Is there a grant that would pay for this?

Elaine: Nothing I am aware of. Jason should keep that in mind in his research.

Ann: Why do we need two water heaters? Why not just one?

Jason: We are looking into that.

Scott: Sounds like we have a workable temporary fix for now. Come back in two weeks with more information.

Karen: It is my opinion that we lean toward replacing now, since they are rusting at the bottom. Jason: Once they leak, we're done. Since this fix is over \$3500, we need your approval for an emergency fix that necessitated not going out for bid.

Bob: I move we approve an emergency fix for the pool water heaters that necessitated not going out for bid.

Karen: Second.

Scott: I move we suspend the rules.

Bob: Second. Passed: 5 - 0

Motion: Passed 5 - 0

Jason: DOH requires that we replace the flow meter with a rotary meter. \$400. And the tile needs to be done.

Ann: We are having issues finding the pool tile. Derek is willing to do the labor. Those two things are necessary to open Memorial Day.

Jason: DOH said no to using other material. Have to use tile. A guard stand needs to be repaired. And the diving board. Do I have the go ahead on the valve and the flange work? Scott: Yes.

Agenda item

Motion to approve an emergency fix for the pool water heaters that necessitated not going out for bid.

Passed 5-0

Motion to suspend the rules. Passed 5 - 0

Strategic Plan

Elaine: At last meeting:

- 1) Asked when next school levy is. Just had one; small capital projects/technology levy will be February, 2020.
- 2) We have all been curious to learn of the Junior Taxing District effect of the Fire District lid lift .17553 cents to spare. We are diluted to .456 due to the increase in property values.

Bob: You're saying we could go for a higher percentage?

Scott: But the Fire District can increase 5% every year. Before we put in for our levy next year, we will know what the Fire District is doing by then. It will determine how much if anything we can do. I would like us to not go back to .50. If we got a straight .45 with increased property values, we would have a huge increase and be the first taxing agency on the island that actually gave people a break. That would serve us well for our bond issue.

Doug: Not to be too cynical, but the School District increased their levy, and nobody even noticed. I don't think we would get credit for reducing ours.

Scott: I'm glad we're not asking for anything this year. It will be good to have a year of everyone cooling off.

Doug: Is there any change any of these other numbers in the Junior Taxing District will change?

Elaine: There is always that chance. There is always that risk. That is why it is so difficult, being the bottom of the pile, to project for the future.

- 3) Wanted to know costs of projects. See State of Assets list.
- 4) Doug wanted financial projections. These were done last Fall for 2018 2024. We actually got \$66k more in 2018 than I projected new construction, etc. This provides a sense for the buckets of money we're working with. Provides a foundational sense.

Doug: But we know there will be changes, like salary increases. How do we lay those things in?

Elaine: Well, you can make assumptions based on past changes.

Scott: As far as our reserves go, going forward, we might be using more.

Karen: Aren't we supposed to be talking about the Strategic Plan?

Elaine: I was merely responding to the needs expressed at the last meeting for Board members to make more educated decisions about the Plan.

Scott: This is good stuff.

Bob: Last week we passed the list of priorities and goals. Now we need to move to the schedule. There were questions about when they need to take place and what might need to be removed. We need to go through it line item by line item.

Karen: We already agreed the priority items belong here. Now we need to decide when they start.

Bob: Let's start with deferred maintenance, #19. Most don't start until 2021, which puts them after the tentative date of the bond -4^{th} quarter of 2021.

Scott: Getting back to Elaine's projected budgets, something that would help us with planning

is what would be a reasonable program for reserves? We can use some of these monies that might address deferred maintenance sooner. We need to decide a level for the permanent reserve in the future. We should continue with the list, but deciding on the reserve might affect a project's timing and not be included in the bond.

List:

<u>Pool Outdoor Lighting</u> – removed; not needed with dome.

<u>Pool deck tile replacement/Pool Deck Repair</u> – combine, and call it "Pool Renovation Project;" will be done in larger context of addressing pool deck; will address gutter system and all decking.

Wingehaven Road

Doug: Doesn't this raise the question of what we're doing with Wingehaven altogether? If we aren't going to maintain it, we don't need a road. Alternatively, if we want it to be real park, we should bring in an arborist, etc.

Karen: But there is no place to park. My assumption is that it is ideal for kayakers. That's where the access should be.

Scott: But you have to have access to have a restroom.

Elaine: The Water Trail System people are talking about addressing ivy remediation.

Bob: So we're talking about repairing a road for maintenance access. This isn't so the public can drive down there.

Doug: Then we should have more expenses related to Wingehaven – removing ivy.

Karen: It should be done professionally.

Scott: Volunteer work will help in the meantime.

Karen: So why fix the Wingehaven road? So we can remove ivy, cut the lawn.

Bob: So do we add more to Wingehaven than just fixing the road?

Karen: We need to expand it toward the goal of making it a kayaker park.

Bob: So what we're talking about is a road that can service a restroom, mow the lawns, general maintenance at the bottom, but no public access from the top.

Karen: For kayaker use.

Doug: Then we need to take care of the ivy, too.

Elaine: I had a quote from a professional several years ago for ivy remediation that was around \$10k.

Bob: So let's add a line item called "Wingehaven Upgrade for Kayakers."

<u>Fern Cove Foundation</u> – might be done sooner than 2021 due to standing water.

Fern Cove Painting – exterior.

Ober Park Playground Equipment

Elaine: This is getting critical. It's a safety issue.

Abby: The slide is dangerous and out of code.

Elaine: The equipment is rotting. We can only do so many bandaids. There is no

recommendation being made right now that says we need to close the park, but you don't want

to wait until we make that recommendation. We need to get in front of this.

Scott: Are there grants for this?

Elaine: I look for grants all the time. We have grants for other things. You can only get what you can get. And, with larger grants which are only available every two years (which you need a Strategic Plan for), typically there are 50% or more match requirements.

Scott: We should take this back to the community.

Bob: Let's finish this list, then decide how we're going to do it and when later.

Ober Building Roof - yes

Ober Parking Lot – yes

Agren Road

Elaine: Hopefully that will be done as an add-on with this grant. Leave it for now.

Agren field renovation – remove; being done with a grant.

Inspiration Point Wall

Doug: What is it we want for Inspiration Point? This seems to only serve 100 people for a view. Elaine: The wall is a safety hazard. There are aesthetic issues. You don't have to spend a lot of

money on the wall. You can fix the sidewalk and put in a less expensive wall or fence.

Point Robinson Road – yes

Point Robinson Parking Lot – yes; repave.

Point Robinson Fence – remove; being done now.

VES Drains – infield drainage upgrade; about \$3k.

<u>VES North Parking Lot</u> – remove; parking on gravel area is fine.

<u>Lisabeula Parking Lot</u> – yes.

BARC Field – upper field regrade; lower field repurpose should be moved to "wish list."

BARC Scotch Broom - yes.

<u>Lighthouse Deck</u> - deteriorating rebar.

Captain Joe: It's not going to fall off.

Elaine: My understanding from that Gruelich Engineering report is that, in time, it will be a safety issue.

Captain Joe: Yes, in time. It is structurally sound now, but I agree with Elaine that we need to get in front of this.

Elaine: There are grants for this.

Refinish Keeper Floors: need to be done professionally.

Remodel Keeper Bathrooms

Captain Joe: The houses are over 100 years old, and these things need to be done.

Bob: Is there any other deferred maintenance project that needs to be on here?

Doug: I think we need to talk more about invasives. There is more than just Wingehaven. Burton Acres, for example. People yell at me about this. The volunteers are not keeping up. Same with Point Robinson.

Karen: So ivy remediation for all parks.

| | Elaine: And I see that Tramp Harbor Dock is not on here. Bob: Wouldn't that be considered a full replacement? | |
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| | Elaine: Well, it depends on how you want to look at it. Is it a luxury? Do we just want to chop it off? Do | |
| | we take it out? One way or another we have to deal with it. If we're going to replace it, it needs to be | |
| | in the context of the bond if we don't get outside funding for it. | |
| | Bob: You don't think it's a "New/Updated Facility?" | |
| | Elaine: No, it's an existing facility that needs to be dealt with. | |
| | Elaine: We also need to discuss truck and equipment replacement needs. 2 trucks, mowers, and | |
| | trailers. | |
| Adjourn | Bob: I move we adjourn. | |
| | Scott: Second. | |
| | Adjourned 9 p.m. | |
| Next Meeting | March 27, 2018, 7:00 PM | |