

MINUTES
GIG HARBOR PARKS COMMISSION
Wednesday, April 6, 2022 – 5:30 p.m.
Virtual Meeting (via Zoom webinar)
Virtual Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81450315374>
Call-in: (253) 215-8782 Meeting ID: 814 5031 5374

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Parks Commission Members: Present – Chair Ben Coronado, Vice Chair Louise Tieman, Georgina Armstrong, Stephanie Lile, Will Appleton

Staff: Parks Manager Matthew Keough, Public Works Assistant Terri Garrison

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 2, 2022

MOTION: Move to approve the March 2, 2022 Parks Commission Minutes

Tieman / Appleton – unanimously approved

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Parks Appreciation Day Planning** – Planning details for the April 9 Parks Appreciation Day volunteer event were discussed. Details for coordinating tasks, donations, volunteers, and work tasks were reviewed. Site leader assignments were confirmed-Shaw Park-Commissioner Armstrong, Veterans Memorial Park-Vice Chair Tieman and Wilkinson Farm Park-Chair Coronado. Sign-in sheets will be provided containing the liability waiver language for volunteer work. Commissioner Lile volunteered to help in the morning with donation distribution. Thank you tote bags will be available as an acknowledgement for volunteers. Operations staff will be assigned to each site and provide trash pickers, gloves, vests, and any necessary tools.
2. **Discussion of the 2022 Work Program** – Work plan discussion continued leaning towards deferring finalizing the proposal until the new members have been appointed with the possibility of additional work study meetings. Commissioner Armstrong asked about the existence of City maintenance standards. Vice Chair Tieman mentioned that the park assessment survey conducted for the PROS Plan Update could be re-utilized if it would be helpful.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **RCO Grant Strategy** – Parks Manager Keough reviewed the RCO grant program overview with the Commission, showing programs and grant categories. Mr. Keough stated that the City will be applying for three grants: 1) WWRP-Habitat Conservation, 2) Land & Water Conservation Fund-Federal funding, and 3) Outdoor Recreation Trails grant.

MOTION: Move that the Commission support the approach of applying for three RCO grants towards the acquisition of the property as proposed by the Parks Manager.

Appleton / Coronado

After discussion, the motion was amended to read:

AMENDED MOTION: Move that the Commission support the approach of applying for three RCO grants towards the acquisition of the property, including one that is Land and Water Conservation Fund pass-through federal funds, as proposed by the Parks Manager.

Tieman / Coronado – unanimously approved

The recommended application strategy was approved by Council on April 25. However, through consultation with the RCO, the city will make just 2 applications – one for acquisition and one for development within the WWRP categories. The City will not pursue federal funds through the Land and Water Conservation Fund regarding the North Creek Salmon Heritage Conservation Area.

2. **Public Participation Program** – Parks Manager Keough asked the Commission for their thoughts on members taking an active role on various projects or on special interests. The City plans to conduct an enhanced public process for Phase 1B of the Gig Harbor Sports Complex. Commissioners Tieman and Armstrong offered to attend the April 30th advisory group as representatives of the Parks Commission. *The Informational Open House is now scheduled for Saturday, May 7, 11am-1pm.* The Commission did not indicate a desire to be the public participation lead on all park projects. They preferred to evaluate needs and opportunities as they present and relate them to their future work program. The Commission acknowledges that its monthly meetings function as an opportunity for the public to raise park related concerns for the public record.

PARKS UPDATE REPORT – Parks Manager Keough provided general park update information and answered questions, noting a few recent developments not included in the published update.

- Ancich Waterfront Park: Community Paddlers Dock – The ribbon-cutting was held on April 2nd. Boat Storage Building - The City is currently processing applications and fees for the initial kayak and SUP storage rentals.
- Ancich NetShed use – The Gig Harbor BoatShop will be holding a classroom training program for commercial fishermen utilizing the NetShed as the very first authorized use of the NetShed.
- Ancich Commercial Fishing Homeport – An April 21 meeting is scheduled with the commercial fishermen to review 30% design plans.
- Austin Honoring Project – Ecology blocks have been placed on the site compressing the soil where the pedestal will eventually be installed.

COUNCIL AND COMMISSION REPORTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURN

MOTION: Move to adjourn at 8:18 p.m.

Tieman / Coronado – unanimously approved