

CITY OF SHORELINE
SHORELINE CITY COUNCIL
SUMMARY MINUTES OF WORKSHOP DINNER MEETING

Monday, June 24, 2019
5:45 p.m.

Conference Room 303 - Shoreline City Hall
17500 Midvale Avenue North

PRESENT: Mayor Hall, Councilmembers Chang, McGlashan, Roberts, Robertson, and Scully

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor McConnell

STAFF: Debbie Tarry, City Manager; John Norris, Assistant City Manager; Eric Friedli, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Director; Mary Reidy, Recreation Superintendent; Susana Villamarin, Senior Management Analyst; and Allison Taylor, Deputy City Clerk

GUESTS: Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Tree Board Members Bruce Amundson, Ivan Brown, Erik Ertsgaard, Bill Franklin, John Hoey, and Sara Raab McInerny

At 5:45 p.m., the meeting was called to order by Mayor Hall. He welcomed the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services/Tree Board members and thanked them for their work over the past year.

Eric Friedli, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Director, described the evolution of the Board and gave an overview of the work they have focused on over the past several years. He stated that in preparation for an upcoming retreat the Board is looking for input from Council on priorities.

The Board members were asked their opinions on whether the proposed Community and Aquatics Center ballot measure would be more successful if it included funding for Parks projects, or if it would make it too much of a financial reach for voters to be comfortable approving. The opinion was expressed that some members are not clear of the tolerance for the ballot measure. Combining the funding for both initiatives was described as a way of offering “something for everyone,” making the measure more palatable to a broader constituency.

There was concern expressed about the reaction of residents if the Parks Improvements are not included as part of the ballot measure. It was suggested that as our population grows, our parks need to grow too, and that we should not sacrifice the future of our parks because a lack of community response. The importance of continued community education about the estimated lifespan of the current pool was mentioned, since some observed that the public may not be fully aware of the imminent need.

The Council asked the Board what feedback they were hearing from their communities on the Parks improvements funding component of the proposed ballot measure. It was offered that many people are not up-to-date on the ballot measure. There was conversation around the currently allocated funding for four parks, and how it is a small slice of what is needed to make all recommended improvements. Mr. Friedli shared data on the revenue from the Park Impact Fees and the importance of taking advantage of available grants and other funding sources.

The Board-recommended trail improvements were discussed, as was the Board and staff process of identifying and prioritizing projects. It was remarked that since there has been significant time dedicated to the concept design and improvement recommendation process, the public will want to know what happened to all that work if projects are not implemented.

It was stated that Councilmembers are actively looking for leadership and philanthropic support to create a Parks Foundation. Councilmembers described the vision for a private Parks Foundation with the Board members and ideas for signature pieces that would be appealing to private contributors were brainstormed. Some Board members observed that it would be counterintuitive to fund a new, distinct, project when so many projects have already been identified in the PROS Plan.

The Council asked the Tree Board to identify where new parks would be valuable as the population density grows.

The meeting concluded with expressions of gratitude from the Council for the work of the Tree Board members.

At 6:48 p.m. the meeting adjourned.

Allison Taylor, Deputy City Clerk