

LYNNWOOD PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
April 6, 2016

10. Call to Order – 7:00pm.

20. Roll Call

Boardmember Gilbertson

Councilmember Ross

Boardmember Hanson

Director Sordel

Boardmember Hildebrandt

Economic Development Director Kleitsch

Boardmember Megill

City Center Program Manager Akers

Boardmember Thompson

Administrative Assistant Flesher

30. Approval of Minutes – March 2, 2016. Approved.

40. Written Communications – None.

50. Public Comments – None.

60. Comments from Boardmembers.

Boardmember Gilbertson thanked everyone who supported the PARC Plan resolution and the work done by staff, the Board and the consultants on the Plan.

Boardmember Thompson reported a great turnout for the March 19 Interurban Trail Community Design Charrette. Boardmember Hanson agreed that attendees were very engaged. Director Sordel thanked Boardmember Thompson and her colleague at HBB Landscape Architecture for their work on this project.

Boardmember Thompson reported on the Lynnwood Elementary concept meeting.

Boardmember Megill asked about the condition of the flags at Veterans Park; one is missing and one is frayed. Staff will investigate.

70. Resolutions and Other Business.

70.1 Special Meeting Notice. Notice of a Joint Board/Commission meeting on May 25, 2016 was provided.

80. Staff Reports.

80.1 City Center Projects. Director Sordel introduced Dustin Akers, City Center Manager and David Kleitsch, Economic Development Director. City Center Manager Akers reported that City Center is a Sub-Area of Lynnwood's Puget Sound regional Council designated growth center. It encompasses 250 acres; major arterials running through it are 196th Street Southwest and 44th Avenue West; its biggest destinations are the Lynnwood Transit Center and the Convention Center; it is connected to the Interurban and Scriber Creek trails. He discussed project prioritization and named the top two priorities for each category:

- Transportation: 42nd Avenue West and 196th Street Southwest improvements
- Pedestrian: Town Square Park and Promenade Street improvements
- Transit: Lynnwood Link Light Rail mitigation and City Center Light Rail Extension

- Partnerships: new centralized government civic center and transit-oriented development associated to Lynnwood Link Light Rail

He also discussed current and anticipated private projects in City Center:

- City Center Senior Living Apartments – 308 senior housing units, 20% or more affordable; construction began in July 2015.
- CityCenter Apartments – 347 units and 7 stories; construction began in September 2015.
- Hilton Garden Inn – 150-room hotel; construction to begin in 2016.
- Lynnwood Link Light Rail – extends light rail from Northgate to the Lynnwood Transit Center; construction to begin in 2018 with a planned opening in 2023.

He highlighted the interconnectedness and timeliness of multiple projects which will complement each other, and reported that Lynnwood had received a SHRP2 grant to plan for multimodal access at the Lynnwood Transit Center.

Boardmember Hildebrandt inquired about Lynnwood being selected to receive transit-oriented development technical assistance from the Federal Transit Administration. Program Manager Akers indicated that Lynnwood is the first community selected to be in the new one-year long pilot program. The City will be recognized nationally, which opens the door and improves competitiveness for federal funding; Private developers will also take notice of what we're doing here.

Boardmember Thompson appreciated the clear and concise presentation. She suggested an update to the Sub-Area plan would be beneficial at some point. A comprehensive overview of how all of the pieces interact would be important in guiding policies and decisions moving forward. Economic Development Director Kleitsch responded that, although the plan itself has not been updated, the plan has been transferrable into the Healthy Community Action Plan, the PARC Plan and the Economic Development Plan – all of these policy documents that City Council is buying into.

Boardmember Megill asked how the City would work with current land/business owners in the City Center. Program Manager Akers agreed that this is a challenging question with any type of redevelopment area. The private market will drive a majority of it, as landowners will become more motivated to redevelop or sell to other parties. As we're transitioning from a very suburban feel to an urban environment, design guidelines drive the look and feel of development. Policy will guide what redevelopment projects will look like. There is also a special City Center streetscape standard for more urban pedestrian environment. He strongly believes the private sector will recognize the importance of City Center and we'll naturally start to see things happen in redevelopment. Economic Development Director Kleitsch also noted that property owners are slowly unwinding their leases and working to have a clean slate.

Boardmember Gilbertson asked if this was also being presented to the Arts Commission. Director Sordel responded that the Arts Commission is very engaged with the project.

Boardmember Gilbertson asked if there would be business opportunities in the CityCenter Apartments and Senior Living Apartments. Program Manager Akers replied that these projects are strictly residential but other proposed projects include ground floor retail.

Boardmember Thompson asked about timing and priority for land purchasing, and whether development surrounding a potential Town Square Park is integrated and connected in more than just sidewalks and bike lanes. Getting funds to purchase the land for the park seems almost insurmountable. Director Sordel noted that staff is discussing how to factor that into the plan and look at funding sources, including potential grant opportunities, to purchase the space. To City Council's credit, the park has always been a priority. A gathering place is always ranked highly in citizen surveys.

Boardmember Gilbertson suggested that it would also help economic development. Economic Development Director Kleitsch noted that it comes back to priorities and how we can leverage multiple projects to accomplish multiple priorities.

Boardmember Hildebrandt thanked Program Manager Akers and Economic Development Director Kleitsch for their presentation.

Economic Development Director Kleitsch encouraged Boardmembers to attend the May 11 City Major Project Open House and the May 25 Joint Board and Commission Meeting. So many of these issues and projects are connected and having the boards and commission engaged will be important.

80.2 Arbor Day/Tree City Report. Information regarding the City's 2015 Tree City USA designation and the 2016 Arbor Day event were provided.

80.3 Staff Report. A staff report was provided and discussed.

Director Sordel highlighted a proposal from Meadowdale Middle School Girl Scout cadets to provide interpretive signs at Lynndale Park.

Director Sordel reported that 35 teens attended a spring clean-up at Heritage Park earlier in the day.

Director Sordel reported that the City would not be partnering with Edmonds School District for expansion of the gymnasium. Staff had reviewed two proposed Interlocal agreements from the district and determined that the project was not financially sustainable. The City will still have an opportunity to rent space in the gym. He thanked the City Council for the opportunity to engage and review the Interlocal agreements. After the decision was made not to partner with the district, the State Auditor's Office also confirmed that we wouldn't have been able to use REET dollars to fund capital improvements for a building not owned by the City.

90. Messages from the City Council. Councilmember Ross encouraged Boardmembers to attend the Volunteer Recognition Event and the May 25 Joint Board and Commission meeting. She also encouraged them to be advocates for the purchase of land for City Center Town Square Park.

Discussion continued regarding impact fees.

100. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.