



# OPEN SPACE CONSERVANCY TRUST BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES JULY 20, 2017

## Call To Order:

Vice Chair Westberg called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 9611 SE 36th Street, Mercer Island, WA 98040.

## Roll Call:

Vice Chair Rory Westberg, Secretary Robin Christy, Trustee Marie Bender, Trustee Thomas Hildebrandt, and Trustee Craig Olson were present. Chair Geraldine Poor, and Trustee David Wisenteiner were absent.

Staff present were Paul West, Park Operations Superintendent, Alaine Sommargren, Natural Resources Manager, and Kim Frappier, Natural Resources Specialist.

## Minutes:

Trustee Olson moved and Secretary Christy seconded to:  
**Adopt the minutes of the May 18, 2017 meeting as written.**  
Motion passed 5-0.

## Public Appearances:

There were no public appearances.

## Regular Business:

### (I) Annual Election of Officers

Chair Poor is interested in retiring this year as Chair, but will remain on the Trust Board. Vice Chair Westberg opened the floor to nominations. The following nominations were made:

Chair: Rory Westberg

Vice Chair: Robin Christy

Secretary: Thomas Hildebrandt

Trustees voted unanimously in favor of the new officers. New officers assume their roles effective immediately.

### (II) Off-Leash Dog Education Update

Superintendent West spoke about the one voice control workshop that has been held. He noted that the next workshop will be August 1st at Island Crest Park and that this workshop will be held on an annual basis going forward. He noted that the instructors are paid for their time to run the class, but not for class preparation or transportation.

### (III) Bike Trail Resurfacing Update

The contractor, AA Asphalt, is scheduled to resurface the bike trail on 8/28 and 8/29. Staff will put up signs to alert park users.

(IV) Bench Request Follow-Up

Trustees discussed the request to install a bench in the NW Quadrant that does not adhere to the current bench location plan. Trustees discussed the public benefits to installing the bench at this location, which is adjacent to a heavily travelled trail. Trustees also discussed the aesthetics of the location and requested that the bench be orientated to mirror the existing bench and to provide a view of the public art at the location. Superintendent West provided pictures of where the new bench would be located.

Trustee Bender moved and Trustee Hildebrandt seconded to:

**Approve the installation of a bench at the site requested and offer the opportunity for the family to put a plaque on the bench.**

Motion passed 4-1.

(V) Forest Health Plan Progress Report

Natural Resources Specialist Frappier presented the progress report on the Pioneer Park Forest Health Plan. The report provided background about the Forest health, outlined 2015-2016 forest restoration accomplishments, and the 2017 work plan.

(VI) Evaluation of Trust Properties

Superintendent West explained that according to the Trust Charter, the Trust shall provide an annual report to Council on the condition of Trust properties. The type of assessment has never been officially established. The reports to Council focus on activities versus conditions. He outlined previous objective evaluations that have been conducted to date. The Trust should determine a methodology so that future Trust Boards can track changes and progress over time. This will require additional research and planning on the part of Trustees. Trustees and staff discussed various tools available for further assessment including 1/10th acre plots, photo-points, and LIDAR.

The Trustees discussed what kind of data would be most valuable and further discussion of systematic photo monitoring. Trustees and Staff discussed the difference between annual reports and long-term reports that synthesize change over time. Trustees would like to pursue an assessment method that is objective and replicable. Trustees requested that staff provide additional background information on photo monitoring and continue the discussion in the future. The Trust has no expectation that a new system for assessing conditions will be in place for the next annual report.

(VII) Quadrant Reports

SE Quadrant - Trustee Olson and Trustee Hildebrandt

No report.

NW Quadrant - Vice Chair Westberg and Secretary Christy

No report.

NE Quadrant - Trustee Bender

Discussed work the seasonal trails crew has been doing to keep trails clear and clean.

(VIII) Trails Day

Secretary Christy reported on National Trails Day. She reported that it was a very small event this year and only two or three families attended.

(IX) Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2017.

**Adjournment:** 7:25 pm

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Rory Westberg, Vice-Chair

Attest:

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Kim Frappier, Scribe