



OPEN SPACE CONSERVANCY TRUST BOARD MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 19, 2020

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Bender called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM

Chair Marie Bender, Vice Chair Thomas Hildebrandt, Secretary Craig Olson, Trustee Carol Lynn Berseth, Trustee Ethe, Trustee Geraldine Poor, and Councilmember Lisa Anderl participated remotely using a video teleconferencing platform by Zoom.

Staff participating remotely included: City Clerk Deborah Estrada, Parks Operations Manager Alaine Sommargren, and Natural Resources Specialist Kim Frappier.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES: There were no public appearances

REGULAR BUSINESS:

(II) Review and Consider Approving Minutes of the October 15, 2020 OSCT Regular Meeting

Regarding the Term Length referenced in the minutes, Trustees requested to replace striking the "limit to two terms" with the "length of the term."

It was moved by Berseth; seconded by Olson to:

Approve the minutes as amended.

Agreed by unanimous consent. Motion passed: 7-0.

(III) 2021 Work Plan

Park Operations Manager Alaine Sommargren presented the process for creating the 2021 Work Plan. She provided a draft and the Trustees discussed specific items they wanted to add. She noted that due to the COVID-19 related staffing cuts to the Recreation team, Letter Boxing and Leap for Green are not scheduled for 2021. Topics requested to be added to the 2021 work plan include:

- The status of Engstrom Open Space as a Trust Property.
- Reaching out to letterboxing volunteers about the feasibility of launching the Letterboxing program considering City staff changes.

Park Operations Manager Sommargren will present an updated draft to the Trust at the January 2021 meeting. The final version will be included in the annual report to City Council.

(IV) By-Laws Revisions, 2nd Reading and Adoption

Trustees discussed final edits to the by-laws. Vice Chair Hildebrandt requested that the section header labeled "Term Limits" be changed to "Terms of Office." City Clerk Estrada will do a final review to standardize labels and clean up the final version.

It was moved by Olson; seconded by Berseth to:

Approve the by-laws as amended.

Agreed by unanimous consent. Motion passed: 7-0

Forest Stewardship Volunteer Program Update

Natural Resources Specialist Kim Frappier reported on the changes to the volunteer forest stewardship program in 2020. She reported that many events were cancelled to adhere to Washington State and King County Public Health guidelines. She reported that modified small events were developed and hosted by EarthCorps from August through October. This included the 2020 Arbor Day Celebration held at Pioneer Park. She noted that regular volunteer events will likely resume in the Spring or Summer of 2021. Trustees are interested in learning more about the City's plan for community outreach and education efforts during the time that volunteer events are on hold.

(V) 2020 Restoration Report

Natural Resources Specialist Kim Frappier provided a report on the 2020 restoration work in Pioneer Park and Engstrom Open Space. She provided a status update of the Natural Resources staff due to COVID-19 related budget cuts and the impacts to the Natural Resources Program. She noted that restoration was conducted on over 80 acres by professional restoration contractors focusing primarily on invasive tree treatment and ivy ring creation as well as two small plantings.

It was moved by Ethe and seconded by Berseth to:

Ratify the 2020 Restoration Work Plan.

Agreed by unanimous consent. Motion passed: 7-0

(VI) Regional Sword Fern Decline Update

Natural Resources Specialist Kim Frappier provided an update on regional sword fern decline and the work conducted by the Sword Fern Decline Working Group hosted by Seattle Parks and Recreation. She noted that although the City does not have documented incidents of decline within Trust properties, there are two small sites of concern at North Mercerdale Hillside and Upper Luther Burbank Park. She gave an overview of monitoring and research efforts being led by the working group and resources for additional information.

(VII) Merilyn Hatheway Bench Restoration Update

Trustee Hildebrandt reported on the project to refurbish the Merilyn Hatheway Bench in the NW Quadrant. Trustee Hildebrandt supported Eagle Scout Joe Lamaster, who conducted the balance of the work.

(VIII) Quadrant Reports

NW Quadrant: Trustee Poor and Secretary Olson

Trustee Poor reported a lot of windfall on the perimeter trail after a recent storm.

NE Quadrant: Vice Chair Hildebrandt and Trustee Berseth

Trustees reported that conditions in the NE quadrant look good. They reported that there is a large amount of leaf litter on trails that needs to be blown off and repairs are needed on some metal grating. The Trails Specialist has both of these issues on his work plan.

SE Quadrant: Chair Bender and Trustee Ethe

No report.

(IX) Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for January 21, 2020 at 5:00 PM.

Adjournment: 6:41 PM

Hildebrandt moved; Anderl seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Agreed by unanimous consent. Motion passed: 7-0.

Marie Bender, Chair

Attest:

Kim Frappier, Scribe