



MEDINA, WASHINGTON

AGENDA BILL

Monday, June 10, 2024

Subject: Confirmation of Appointment to the Medina Parks and Recreation Board and Planning Commission

Category: Consent

Staff Contact: Aimee Kellerman, City Clerk on behalf of the Personnel Committee

Summary

Park Board Position No. 2, with a term of July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2027, is currently vacant.

Additionally, on June 30, 2024, the following terms will expire:

- Park Board, Position 6
- Planning Commission, Position 6

Council has confirmed two previous appointments: the first in September 2023, and the second in December 2023. Neither worked out. After having a vacant position for nearly a year, the City has now received strong interest from excellent and enthusiastic candidates.

On Thursday, April 25th, the Personnel Committee and Park Board Chair met online with candidates for Position No. 2. Three candidates were interviewed: Dana Brekke, Rip Johnston, and Mary Nelson. Each had valuable experience and insights to offer. All are longtime Medina residents who raised families in the city, and all displayed tremendous energy for contributing to Park Board's mission and dedication to re-building the Medina community in this time after the pandemic. All would make excellent and productive additions to the Medina Park Board.

The Council Personnel Committee (Joseph Brazen, Mac Johnston and Jessica Rossman), together with Park Board Chair Barb Moe, recommend Council appoint Dana Brekke to Park Board Position No. 2.

Ms. Brekke brings directly applicable experience from helping to run her family's farm business, from hands-on planting and gardening to event planning, publicity, and management. It would be difficult to imagine a candidate with more on-point experience for the variety of tasks included in Park Board's work. Ms. Brekke's commitment to Medina's parks also came through during her interview. The Brekkes have lived in Medina Heights – a neighborhood under-represented on Medina's Boards and Commissions – for more than twenty years, and Ms. Brekke has enjoyed the bounty of the parks and open spaces in Medina in different ways over her time here, including fond memories of her children playing in parks and participating in events. The Park Board is looking for active participants, and Ms. Brekke came forward with a commitment to "rolling up [her] sleeves" and doing whatever needs to be done for Medina's parks. When asked about her superpower, she explained that she is a "camp counselor by nature," and loves to make

interactions with nature more fun for everyone; over the years she has succeeded in introducing many urban indoorsy people to the joys of the outdoors.

The Personnel Committee and Park Board Chair therefore request that Council confirm Ms. Brekke to Position No. 2, effective immediately.

Please note that Position No. 6 will be vacated on June 30th. The two applicants interviewed on April 25th are candidates for that position, and a third application for Position No. 6 was also received. The third candidate has yet to be interviewed, so the Personnel Committee and Park Board representative(s) will return to Council with additional recommendations after that interview has been completed.

Lastly, Planning Commission Position No. 6 was vacated early with the departure of David Langworthy in November 2023.

Council appointed Ms. Julie Barrett on March 25, 2024, following the Personnel Committee's recommendation. Mayor Rossman recommends the reappointment of Ms. Barrett for a full four-year term, beginning July 1, 2024.

This meets and supports Council's priority number 3.

Council Priorities:

1. Financial Stability and Accountability
2. Quality Infrastructure
3. **Efficient and Effective Government**
4. Public Safety and Health
5. Neighborhood Character

Attachment

1. Application – Dana Brekke
2. Agenda Bill Appointment of Julie Barrett

Budget/Fiscal Impact: N/A

Recommendation: Confirm the following appointments:

Parks and Recreation Board

- Dana Brekke, Partial Term Position No. 2

Planning Commission

- Julie Barrett, Position No. 6 (reappointment)

City Manager Approval:



Proposed Council Motion: "I move to approve the Personnel Committee's and Mayor's appointment recommendations as presented."