



OPEN SPACE CONSERVANCY TRUST BOARD MEETING MINUTES September 23, 2021

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Bender called the meeting to order at 5:04 PM

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

Staff participating remotely included: Deputy Public Works Director Alaine Sommargren, Natural Resources Specialist Lizzy Stone, City Manager Jessi Bon, and City Clerk Deborah Estrada.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES: There were no public appearances.

Rita Moore, Mercer Island – outlined her concerns regarding the Snake Hill bike park and its impacts on Upper Luther Burbank Park.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. Approve Minutes of the March 18 and July 15, 2021, Meetings

Motion by Poor; seconded by Bender to:

Approve the Minutes of the March 18 meeting, as amended.

PASSED: 7-0

FOR: (Anderl, Bender, Berseth, Ethe, Hildebrandt, Olson, and Poor)

Motion by Berseth; seconded by Ethe to:

Approve the Minutes of the July 15, 2021, Meeting, as amended.

PASSED: 7-0

FOR: (Anderl, Bender, Berseth, Ethe, Hildebrandt, Olson, and Poor)

2. PROS Plan: Review Chapters 4 and 9; Assign OSCT Liaison

Jessi Bon, City Manager, provided a brief overview of the PROS Planning process, shared community input to date, and sought feedback from the Open Space Conservancy Trust regarding Chapters 4 (Goals & Objectives) and 9 (Open Space, Land Stewardship). Bon further reported that the City Council is scheduled to review and adopt the PROS Plan in early 2022.

Merrill Thomas-Schadt, Recreation & Operations Coordinator, reported that the next open house to discuss the PROS Plan was scheduled for September 28 at 5:30 PM.

CONSENSUS - There was unanimous consensus by the Trustees to assign Marie Bender to serve as the liaison to the Parks and Recreation Commission and Tom Hildebrandt as alternate liaison.

3. Annual Herbicide Application Report

Lizzy Stone, Natural Resource Specialist, discussed herbicide use on the Island, explaining that there are some weeds the City is required to manage as outlined by the King County Noxious Weed Board. To that end, the protocol for herbicide use on regulated weeds will need to be amended at a future OSCT meeting date.

(The report was subsequently published on the Mercer Island website, under the September 23, 2021 Open Space Conservancy Trust meeting agenda.)

4. 84th Ave SE Parking Pilot Project Discussion

Alaine Sommargren, Deputy Public Works Director, outlined the 84th Avenue SE Parking Pilot Project and efforts to evaluate the possible removal of the graveled off-street parking area and encourage Pioneer Park visitors to park cars on the road, along the paved curb.

CONSENSUS – There was unanimous consensus by the Trustees to install flexible boundary markers to see if they are effective prior to investing additional resources and to use the various mediums available to the City to communicate to the public regarding this parking.

Staff noted that installation would likely occur mid-winter and that the subject would be addressed in November. Staff also indicated that the subject would likely be added to the 2022 Work Plan.

(The staff presentation was subsequently published on the Mercer Island website, under the September 23, 2021, Open Space Conservancy Trust meeting agenda.)

OTHER BUSINESS

Quadrant Reports

No major problems reported. Some areas were impacted by recent rains, but on the most part, the trails were in good shape.

Next Meeting

Chair Hildebrandt asked the trustees to contact him or Alaine Sommargren if there were ideas for topics that might need additional discussion.

The next meeting was scheduled for November 18, 2021, at 5:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Open Space Conservancy Trust, the meeting was adjourned at 7:29 PM

Thomas Hildebrandt, OSCT Chair

Attest:

Deborah Estrada, City Clerk