



# PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

### July 6, 2023

#### CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Struck called the meeting to order at 5:00pm via Zoom Online meeting.

#### ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Peter Struck, and Commissioners Rory Westberg, Don Cohen, Paul Burstein, Sarah Marxen and Ashley Hay were present for the Parks & Recreation Commission. Absent: Chair Jodi McCarthy

Staff present were Recreation Manager Ryan Daly, CIP Project Manager Sarah Bluvas, and Recreation Specialist Raven Gillis.

#### APPEARANCES

*No public appearances*

#### DEPARTMENT REPORT

##### 1. Recreation Manager Ryan Daly reported on the following items:

- Boards & Commissions Recruitment
- City Hall Closure
- July- Parks and Recreation Month
- USA Pickleball Ambassador of the Month – Jessica Prince
- Mercer Island Farmers Market
- Summer Camps
- MIVAL Jr. Art Show
- Mostly Music in the Park
- Library – Extended Hours
- Summer Celebration July 15
- *Mercer Island Medallions* Engagement Opportunities

#### REGULAR BUSINESS

##### 2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the June 1, 2023 Regular Meeting were presented.

It was moved by Hay; seconded by Cohen to:

**Approve the minutes from the June 1, 2023 meeting**

Passed: 6 – 0

##### 3. Commission Officer Elections

Westberg nominated Struck for Chair  
There were no further nominations.

**Vote:**

Passed: 6 – 0

Vice Chair Struck was elected Chair.

Hay nominated Burstein for Vice-Chair

There were no further nominations.

**Vote:**

Passed: 6 – 0

Commissioner Burstein was elected Vice-Chair.

**4. Luther Burbank Park Sport Courts Renovation: Court Configuration**

Sarah Bluvus, CIP Project Manager, presented. Commissioners reviewed the presentation, asked questions, engaged in discussion, and provided feedback.

It was moved by Burstein; seconded by Westberg to:

**Recommend the preferred configuration for the pickleball courts as reflected in Exhibit 1 as part of the Luther Burbank Sports Courts Renovation capital project**

Passed: 6 – 0

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**5. 2023 Planning Schedule Update**

Recreation Manager Ryan Daly provided an update.

**6. Commissioner Reports / Work Plan Update**

Commissioner Cohen reported having a couple of great wildlife experiences in 2 different parks since the last PRC meeting. One was, while he was walking around Luther Burbank Park and the Community Center, and he turned around to discover a deer right in front of him. The experience was pretty amazing for him! And then a couple of weeks later, while he was fishing with his grandsons down at Clarke Beach, they saw an osprey, a great blue heron, and an eagle came down and flew right over them on the fishing pier. It made their day!

Commissioner Hay reported that earlier in the day she and her 3 kids attended a volunteer park clean up event happening at the Island Crest Park, and she was really surprised at how much her kids enjoyed it! There are 6 more of these events happening this summer and she plans on attending more! She invited others to attend!

Vice Chair Burstein reported that he went to the Riley Cove Dedication last month and learned a lot about Huston (Hu) Riley – what an amazing person with an amazing life, and a beautiful spot worth visiting! He encouraged others to visit!

Chair Struck shared that he ran into Jessica Prince last week and the first thing she said to him was that he needs to get down to those pickleball courts! Chair Struck concurred that Jessica is a great ambassador for the sport of Pickleball and for Mercer Island, and her recent national award and recognition as noted in the Recreation Department Report is well deserved.

**ADJOURNMENT at 5:51pm**