

AGENDA
GIG HARBOR PARKS COMMISSION
Wednesday, November 3, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81450315374>
Call-in: (253) 215-8782 Meeting ID: 814 5031 5374

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: October 6, 2021

OLD BUSINESS

1. PROS Plan Update

NEW BUSINESS

1. Clean Dog Park Proposal for Shaw Park – Rotary Club of Gig Harbor-Pam Peterson

PARKS UPDATE REPORT – Public Works Director Jeff Langhelm

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURN

Next Regular Meeting: December 1, 2021

MINUTES
GIG HARBOR PARKS COMMISSION
Wednesday, October 6, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.
Virtual Meeting (via Zoom webinar)

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Parks Commission Members: Present – Chair Ben Coronado, Vice Chair Mary Barber, Roger Henderson, Louise Tieman, Will Appleton. Absent – Anastasia Wright (excused), Doug Terrien (unexcused)

City Council Liaison: Spencer Abersold (excused)

Staff: Public Works Director Jeff Langhelm, Public Works Assistant Terri Garrison

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of September 1, 2021 Parks Commission Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Move to approve the September 1, 2021 Parks Commission Minutes

Barber / Tieman - Motion passed unanimously

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sarah Lindhartsen, 3506 107th St Ct, GH, 98332 - I am here to propose the idea that some of the open space at Shaw Park be developed into a community garden. Every day I pass by the park, and I have noticed the small improvements, but much of it remains empty. I keep thinking to myself that it would make a great place for a community garden and here's why:

- It is already cleared and it receives full sun from the south
- It is a central location in Gig Harbor, and easy to walk or bus to
- It is close to a retirement community, Swift Water Elementary, the YMCA and many neighborhoods. A garden could provide intergenerational community building and education
- It would provide additional community gardening area to the growing city, which would increase community interaction and food resiliency
- It could potentially provide ecosystem services in slowing down and cleaning water that runs down into the water catchment pond behind the retirement community, especially if we don't use pesticides or herbicides

Since community gardens need people to get them going and keep them growing, I inquired in my Gig Harbor FB gardening groups about the idea and got some feedback. Some sounded like they would be interested in participating in some way if a community garden was started. Many others commented that they also thought it would be a good community garden site.

I know there are other groups suggesting different use and development ideas for this park, like maybe a playground or a dog park, but I don't think a community garden is incompatible with those things. It is a fairly small park, but if the back half of it was made into a community garden, it would be about the same size as the community garden at the Wilkinson Farm Park (about 11,000 sq ft). This could support both individual plots and community growing areas. If a smaller area of the park is available for a community garden, we can design a communal vegetable garden that can be harvested by those who tend it or a food forest that is open harvest to the community. There are many potential options.

So there are many things to consider when developing a community garden, foremost of which is asking what the community wants. Water access and fencing would need to be figured out and would likely be the most costly initial financial input. However, there is the potential of donations for these costs from individuals, fundraisers or organizations like the Master Gardener program. If the parks commission decides to further explore the community garden idea, I would be happy to be part of a committee or group to determine the best course of action in engaging the community and putting together a design for the site.

PARKS UPDATE REPORT – Public Works Director Langhelm provided general park update information and answered questions, noting a few recent developments not included in the published update.

- Parks Manager position – Interviews for this position are being scheduled.
- Eddon Boat Carriages – The inside rail carriage is nearing completion.
- Eddon Boat Brick House – The roundabout project landscape plan was viewed.
- Ancich Boat Storage Building - Gig Harbor Canoe and Kayak Race Team will have their storage racks in place soon.

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Pros Plan Update** – Commission Vice-Chair Barber provided the PROS Plan Subcommittee reports.

Summary of the public input received from the online and mail-in survey:

- People are generally satisfied and support the parks.
- They visit the larger, waterfront parks more than others.
- There continues to be confusion about what is a GH vs PenMet vs KeyPen park.
- Respondents cite things like safety more than any other general improvement.
- More than half those who responded have not visited the parks that cater to a specific activity, except for the sports fields.
- People in north GH visit parks differently than those in south/central, especially as it relates to sports fields.
- Generally, people feel there are enough amenities but when you look at younger residents that is not as true.
- Younger people, including those with families are more likely to want improvements in the parks than older people.
 - They cite overcrowding as a reason they don't visit more
 - They also use the specific use parks more and want more of those types of parks
- Interest in new amenities is standard across the board-

- There has been talk of adding things like an off-leash dog area and community garden. Those are in the middle of the list for interest and support with a dog leash area being higher.
- People don't want us to acquire new parks or open space; they do want us to maintain what we have; preserve and protect the feel and image of the city.
- The other three items in the "investments list" flip between mail/online surveys — develop owned property, install new amenities, expand trails.
- There is higher interest in preserving greenspace;
 - maintaining/expanding Cushman;
 - expanding/maintaining waterfront parks;
 - Connecting waterfront and other parks to other neighborhoods
- Some folks are willing to pay \$10/month more for parks, but the majority want to pay less than that.

The next step in the PROS process is the stakeholder meetings being held in the next few weeks. Also, next week the consultant and the subcommittee will be meeting with the Public Works Committee to update them on the survey and our progress on the plan.

After those meetings happen, we'll move to the drafting of the plan and testing ideas/plans with the general public using virtual open houses. The consultant has been using some interesting techniques with virtual open houses for his clients. We believe these methods will help us get a better result since we can't meet in person. Once we determine when the open houses are, we'll be asking Commissioners to help spread the word to park users in the area.

NEW BUSINESS

2022 Parks Commission Work Plan - The draft work plan for 2022 was discussed. The process is to prioritize items and then have a work session with Council. Items discussed that were not included in the draft Work Plan emailed in the packet include:

- Adopt-A-Park Program – Implement the Adopt-A-Road Program.
- Amend List of Master Plans for Parks – Prioritize the master plan list and determine a way to create a shorter "plan" for all parks so their purpose and use are documented.
- Identify Open Space for the City to acquire.

The Parks Commission suggested having a work study session with Council before the budget is finalized and having a special Parks Commission meeting to prioritize work items.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

ADJOURN

MOTION: Move to adjourn at 7:14 p.m.

Coronado / Barber - Motion passed unanimously

PARKS COMMISSION

NOVEMBER 2021

Parks Division Updates

Proposed Donations

Benches at Austin Estuary Park – Two private bench memorial donations have been approved at Austin Estuary Park and are expected to be installed after the public art has been placed on site. The placement of the benches has been included in the land use permitting for the art.

Benches at Gig Harbor Sports Complex – Kiwanis Club of Gig Harbor has made a financial commitment for sponsorship of eight benches to be located throughout the Sports Complex in Phase 1B. The Parks Commission provided a recommendation on the style of the proposed benches to be forwarded to City Council.

Lease Updates

Gig Harbor Canoe and Kayak Race Team at Ancich Park – The City and GHCKRT executed lease amendment #2 on 06/17/21 that establishes a minimum donation of \$150,000 from GHCKRT to the City in two payments. The first payment in the amount of \$100,000 was made to the City on June 29. The second payment will occur no later than April 15, 2022.

Gig Harbor Sports Complex – City Council and the YMCA approved the Lease Agreement on May 10.

Projects

Ancich Community Paddler's Dock – Conduct visioning and develop a master plan for Crescent Creek Park pending Council direction on the City's proposed Masonic Lodge building improvements.

- The City has received word from the Port of Tacoma regarding the LEDIF Grant application submitted 02/26/21 that the City will be receiving \$25,000 of the \$85,000 requested.
- The City and GHCKRT executed lease amendment #2 on 06/17/21 that establishes a minimum donation of \$150,000 from GHCKRT to the City in two payments, no later than April 2022. The City received the first payment of \$100,000 on 06/29/21.
- The Jerkovich lease was approved by Council on 07/26/21.
- Council authorized the award of the Public Works Contract to American Construction Co., Inc. on 07/26/21. *Limited Notice to Proceed was issued on 08/10/21. Formal Notice to Proceed will be issued in mid to late September.*

- *Anticipated on-site construction start date: late 2021.*
- *The Contractor has begun providing the necessary building permit submittals for review by Public Works, DCG, and, where necessary, the City's Building Division for review.*
- *Physical completion is 180 days following the formal Notice to Proceed issued on 09/20/21.*

Ancich Human Powered Waterfront Storage Design - Design and install custom storage racks with locking mechanisms for the public's canoes, kayaks, and stand-up paddleboards at the Ancich Waterfront Park Boat Storage Facility. This includes a fence to separate the area leased to the Gig Harbor Canoe/Kayak Race Team.

- *Staff is working with vendors on storage rack layout options. Anticipated purchase award in December 2021.*
- *Staff and Administration are also developing the terms and conditions for the public rental of a storage racks.*
- *Public storage fees to be presented to PW Committee: 11/09/21.*

Ancich Park Advanced Mitigation - Design, permit, and demolish the existing, dilapidated Jerkovich Pier located at Ancich Park using the federal process for advanced mitigation for the future Commercial Fishing Homeport float system.

- Administration held a meeting in October 2020 with US Army Corps to discuss mitigation banking for the removal of the deteriorating concrete pier.
- A professional services contract with DCG was signed by the Mayor on 01/25/21.
- DCG submitted a permit application package to the City of Gig Harbor Planning Division on 02/23/21, which included local, state, and federal permit applications.
- *We have now received tentative approval from the US Army Corps, US Dept of Fish and Wildlife, and National Marine Fisheries.*
- *DCG has submitted final draft bid documents for the City to review. The anticipated bid date will be established.*
- *The City is working with WDFW on the preparation of a memorandum of understanding.*
- *The City's Planning Division issued SEPA on October 14 and has scheduling the Hearing Examiner meeting on November 18.*
- *DCG has submitted final draft bid documents for the City to review. The anticipated bid date will be established after the HEX meeting.*

Austin Park Honoring Project – In conjunction with the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, the Gig Harbor Kiwanis Foundation, and the City's Arts Commission, the City Council awarded a contract in 2019 for the placement of an "honor symbol" in Austin Park to acknowledge the importance of the Tribe as the original residents of Gig Harbor. Staff is working with the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, a citizen group, and directed by City Council.

- Public Works is currently working with the structural engineering consultant, the artist, and the Honoring Committee to finalize the design and connection details of the concrete base.

- *This project was presented to the Hearing Examiner on 08/19/21 and a decision was received on 09/21/21.*
- *Department of Ecology was notified of the Shoreline Substantial Development Permit Decision on 10/04/2021. There is a 21-day appeal period with the Shoreline Hearings Board, which is anticipated to be on or about October 26, 2021.*

City Park at Crescent Creek Visioning/Master Plan – Conduct visioning and develop a master plan for Crescent Creek Park pending Council direction on the City’s proposed Masonic Lodge building improvements.

- In determining the next steps of the Masonic Lodge, Council will review Bill Acker’s report and John McMillian’s renderings.
- City Council approved the Master Planning contract with HBB on 03/23/20.
- The City is preparing to engage with the public in summer 2021 regarding the vision for the Masonic Lodge property.
- The Crescent Creek Park Public Master Planning will begin after the Masonic Lodge property visioning has concluded.
- **Project to be delayed to 2022.**
- **Public outreach for Masonic Lodge will occur in 2022.**

Eddon Park Brick House – Remodel and rehabilitate the historic Eddon Residence.

- Construction completion anticipated in summer 2021.
- City Council approved change order for reconstruction of the brick chimney over the kitchen on 07/26/21.
- Contractor began restoration of the existing brick chimney 8/17/21 and anticipates completion of chimney by beginning of September.
- Chimney has been rebuilt and associated finish work has been completed.
- *City issued Substantial Completion date for the construction work as of 09/28/21.*
- *Building and Planning Divisions completed final inspections.*
- *The Building and Planning Divisions will issue a letter stating that the contractor completed all obligations in lieu of a final Building permit.*
- *“Final” Building permit is delayed because required parking stalls are not complete; they will be built as part of intersection project.*

Eddon Boat Railway Carriages – The two railways at the Eddon Boat Building still require the construction of the boat carriages that will carry boat along the marine rails. This work will support the final design and construction of the two railway carriages.

- Fabrication of the carriages is progressing.
- *The volunteers with the Gig Harbor BoatShop completed most of the assembly of the vessel carriages; final assembly is delayed due to back order of 14 casters.*
- *At the 10/25/21 Council meeting, the Gig Harbor BoatShop presented video of carriage assembly process.*

Gig Harbor Sports Complex Phase 1A – Partner with the YMCA to develop City-owned properties into a 17-acre Gig Harbor Sports Complex with lit and turf-ed multi-use fields and associated parking. Updates are posted on the city website: <http://www.cityofgigharbor.net/637/Gig-Harbor-Sports-Complex>

- Funding: work to come under contract with our state appropriation of \$206K and \$350K RCO Youth Activity Facility Grant.
- The City and YMCA have a Lease Agreement was effective on 05/20/21 and recorded on 06/01/21.
- Per the lease the YMCA must submit all necessary land use permits no later than 06/30/23 and complete construction no later than 12/31/24.
- **Project to be delayed to 2022.**

Gig Harbor Sports Complex Phase 1B – Phase 1B includes multiple playgrounds, trails, event lawn, pickle ball courts, bocce ball, picnic shelters, and additional parking. Council approved Res. 1178 + 1180. authorizing application for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) for \$500K, and the Local Parks (WWRP) for \$500K.

- Kiwanis is donating eight benches. City coordinating with Kiwanis for bench style, delivery and installation during construction.
- Working through grading with YMCA for ADA.
- The RCO Board approved Preliminary Ranked Project Lists for funding on 10/2/20 as follows:
 - LWCF – ranked 9/25 (recommended)
 - WWRP – ranked 25/80 (not recommended)
- The state legislature funded the RCO Boards projects as recommended above.
- The City did not secure capital funding from the state prior to the end of the 2021 session.
- Staff has gathered the information requested by RCO for the LWCF grant agreement.
- This project is currently scheduled to begin design/permitting in fall 2021.
- **Project to be delayed to 2022.**

Skansie Netshed – Repainting - Project is limited to maintenance work consisting of repairing roof leaks and repainting the exterior of the Netshed.

- WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife stated on 5/26/21 that a HPA is not required for this maintenance work.
- Katrina confirmed on 5/28/21 that this work is exempt from SEPA & Shoreline Substantial Development permitting.
- City Council passed a resolution on 08/09/21 to reject all bids.
- **Project to be delayed to 2022.**

Upcoming Special Events

- 11/25 – Turkey Trot
- 11/6 – Pier Into the Night – Harbor WildWatch (Maritime Pier)
- 12/4 – Pier Into the Night – Harbor WildWatch (Skansie Brothers Park)