

**MINUTES**  
**GIG HARBOR PARKS COMMISSION**  
Wednesday, March 3, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.  
Virtual Meeting

**CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL**

Present (via Zoom webinar):

Parks Commission Members: Present-Chair Ben Coronado, Vice Chair Mary Barber, Louise Tieman, Sara McDaniel, Roger Henderson, Nicole Hicks, Ben Lieurance

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of February 3, 2021 Parks Commission Meeting Minutes

**MOTION:** Move to approve the February 3, 2021 Parks Commission Minutes

Coronado / McDaniel – motion passed unanimously

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Conservation Futures Property and Grant Application** – Public Works Director Langhelm provided information to the Commission on the City's intention to apply for grant funding for an 11.5-acre parcel located directly north of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. City Council passed Resolution 1200, which authorized the submittal of a Conservation Futures Grant application to Pierce County.
2. **Inventory of Parks Facilities Discussion (Update for 2022 PROS Plan)** – Commissioner Tieman shared a survey program that she designed to collect park inventory data to be used for the upcoming PROS Plan update. Commission members selected parks where they are willing survey for data collection. Staff will compile the list for distribution and Commissioner Tieman will finalize the survey for use.
3. **Creating an Adopt-A-Park Program** – Draft program information was distributed for discussion purposes. Input is needed from the Public Works Operations/Parks staff on potential parks that could be adopted along with a list of on-going volunteer tasks and support for program management. To be discussed at the April Parks Commission meeting.
4. **Cushman Trail Etiquette Signage** – Since this program item did not get included in the 2021 Parks Operating budget, the Commission will continue to research cautionary signage needs for the trail, with help from Staff on cost estimates. Staff can help provide cost estimates for sign designs/locations provided by the Parks Commission

for submittal as consideration in the 2022 budget process.

**PARKS UPDATE REPORT** – Public Works Director Langhelm provided an update on the status of current park projects/proposals including the Austin Honoring Project and the Veterans Memorial Park playground opening.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS** – Commissioner Henderson gave an update on his participation with the Leafline Trails Coalition. Their visioning may have a need to provide GIS mapping support for trail mapping.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

The Commission and staff provided appreciation to outgoing member Sara McDaniel and thanked her for her many years of service to City parks.

Thomas Wick, Gig Harbor resident – provided comments on Conservation Futures Property Resolution 1200. He stated his concerns 1) that the resolution implies that State and Federal protection for salmon streams don't apply in City limits and 2) questioned the wording that the City will accept the property interest acquired and protect and steward the conservation features of the parcel in perpetuity and Section 3 of the resolution which would accept the parcel into the City's parks inventory with any development of the property will be authorized and budgeted by future Council action. He said that this might set a precedent for the purchase of future property and asked why don't State and Federal protections protect those properties regardless of any intent to develop them.

## **ADJOURN**

**MOTION:** Move to adjourn at 7:06 p.m.

McDaniel / Lieurance - Motion passed unanimously