

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT WORKSESSION
LACEY CITY COUNCIL AND BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS**

MARCH 25, 2021
4:01 P.M. – 5:51 P.M.
REMOTE ONLY

COUNCIL PRESENT: MAYOR RYDER, DEPUTY MAYOR PRATT, COUNCILMEMBERS
GREENSTEIN, STEADMAN, COX, KUNKEL, MILLER

PARK BOARD

PRESENT: SARAH DANIELS (CHAIR), ERWIN VIDALLON (VICE CHAIR),
KEN BALSLEY, ARAM WHEELER

PARK BOARD

EXCUSED: TROY KIRBY

STAFF PRESENT: S. SPENCE, J. BURBIDGE, S. KELLEY-FONG, D. SCHNEIDER,
R. WALK, E. FONTAINE

The agenda was amended to add *Board of County Commissioners Joint Worksession Draft Agenda*

ACTION: APPROVE AMENDED WORKSESSION AGENDA

MOTION: MOTION MADE, SECONDED AND CARRIED BY DEPUTY MAYOR PRATT AND
COUNCILMEMBER COX

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS ANNUAL JOINT WORKSESSION

STAFF: JEN BURBIDGE, PARKS, CULTURE & RECREATION DIRECTOR
SARAH DANIELS, PARK BOARD CHAIR
ARAM WHEELER, PARK BOARD COMMISSIONER

ACTION: ACKNOWLEDGE THE PARK BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS 2020 KEY
ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACCEPT THE 2021 WORK PLAN

MOTION: MOTION MADE, SECONDED AND CARRIED BY COUNCILMEMBER COX AND
DEPUTY MAYOR PRATT

Jen Burbidge, Parks, Culture & Recreation Director, presented on the following:

- New Department name, logo, slogan, website and newsletter.
- Highlights from Parks & Recreation events during the health crisis of COVID-19.

- Reviewed challenges faced, including COVID-19 and toxic air quality, during September 2020.
- Long Lake Park lifeguard history and status. Advised that Long Lake Park will remain without a lifeguard for the 2021 season.

Aram Wheeler provided highlights from the Board of Park Commissioners 2020 Key Accomplishments, to include RAC synthetic field replacements, Rainier Vista Skate Park repairs, and Parks & Recreation Annual Report, and the drafted RAC Future Financial Plan for upcoming Council approval.

Sarah Daniels, Board Chair, highlighted the following items from the 2021 Work Plan:

- Community Engagement & Outreach
- New Scholarship Policy Review
- WCCP Disc Golf Course Expansion
- Greg Cuoio Park & Surrounding Area Master Plan

The 2021 Work Plan also includes:

- Parks & Recreation, Community Buildings, and RAC Annual Department Budget
- Annual Capital Facilities Plan Update
- Grant Opportunities
- RAC Parking Lot Video Cameras
- Design RAC Gravel Parking Lot
- New Museum & Cultural Center Site A/E
- Parks Volunteer Program
- Memorial or Honorarium Bench Program
- Wildlife Information
- Chinqually Equipment Agreement
- Community Garden Pilot Project
- RAC Future Financial Plan
- Thurston Regional Planning Council – Updated Regional Trails Plan

The following work plan items were postponed due to COVID-19:

- Long Lake Park Beach Area and Dock
- RAC Outfield Fencing Completion
- RAC Increased WiFi Connections
- Wonderwood Park Trail & Court Upgrades (Sunset)
- Bush Park Playground Equipment Replacement
- Lake Lois Habitat Reserve – Update interpretive Signage & Brochure
- Nisqually Fields
- Pickleball Long Term Requests
- Outdoor Ping Pong Tables

THURSTON STRONG UPDATE

STAFF: RICK WALK, COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
JASON ROBERTSON, PRESIDENT, J. ROBERTSON AND COMPANY
MICHAEL CADE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THURSTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

ACTION: INFORMATION ONLY

Rick Walk, Community & Economic Development Director, introduced Michael Cade, Executive Director with EDC and Jason Robertson, President of J. Robertson and Company.

Staff shared that tonight marks one year since businesses were notified about shutdowns and COVID-19 restrictions. The presentation is an opportunity to highlight the collective work during disaster response and identify needs for recovery.

➤ Phase I Direct Response:

- Business Hotline and Technical Support Appointments
 - o 10,000 points of contact through EDC and partners
 - o Facilitated \$100,000,000 in small business PPP loans
- Thurstonstrong.org
 - o Grant portal and worker info
 - o 15,000 unique visitors since March 24, 2020
 - o 50,000 page views

➤ Indirect Impacts Included:

- Facilitated Access to PPP Grants
- Targeted Grant Funding

➤ Targeted Grant Funding Allocations Included:

- Childcare \$3,000,000
- Microbusiness \$2,045,000
- Restaurant-Retail \$1,750,000
- Nonprofits \$1,000,000
- Agriculture \$700,000
- ScaleUp \$400,000
- PPE \$80,000

➤ Recovery and Reset Plan Summary (24-Month Plan):

- Goal is to accelerate recovery and rest
- Reflects what we can and should do now
- Precursor to Economic Alliance Strategy update

➤ Plan Focus Areas and Next Steps:

- Inclusive Economy: creating economic opportunity for all, inclusive of all socioeconomic tapestries, genders, races and geographies
- Economic Resiliency: ensuring existing and future businesses and employers are better prepared for future crises, and have access to resources that help
- Economic Expansion: leveraging information and partners to grow economic opportunity the community supports and also provides living-wage employment

EQUITY COMMISSION APPOINTMENT PROCESS

STAFF: SHANNON KELLEY-FONG, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER

ACTION: SELECT OPTION 1, AS PRESENTED BY STAFF, FOR SELECTING EQUITY COMMISSION MEMBERS.

MOTION: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR PRATT AND COUNCILMEMBER GREENSTEIN. MAYOR RYDER, DEPUTY MAYOR PRATT, COUNCILMEMBERS GREENSTEIN, COX, MILLER AND KUNKEL VOTED IN FAVOR. COUNCILMEMBER STEADMAN ABSENT. MOTION CARRIED.

Shannon Kelley-Fong, Assistant City Manager, presented two options for the Commission on Equity selection process and provided an update on next steps.

The purpose of the Commission on equity is to identify and advance opportunities that will create a more welcoming community, continue critical conversation on race and equity, seek greater participation from underrepresented community members, and identify existing gaps and barriers which could prevent full participation in government and public policy. The Commission on Equity may create policy recommendations for the Lacey City Council, including providing data analysis and recommendations on addressing issues related to inclusivity, education, and equity in Lacey.

The Commission on Equity will consist of seven general members and may include one youth member. All members must reside in Lacey or in Lacey's Urban Growth Area (UGA). Commission on Equity member terms are three years and members may serve two full consecutive terms.

Soliciting for members was conducted from February 1, 2021 – March 1, 2021 and used the following sources:

- Press Releases
- Media Contacts
- Website
- Social Media

- Youth Council
- Equity Workgroups
- DEI Coordinators

A total of 23 applications were received. Of the total received, 16 were within city limits, and 7 within the UGA. No youth applications were received.

Staff recommends the following two options for selecting Commission on Equity members:

Option 1: The Equity Team reviews and makes recommendation of seven candidates to the Lacey City Council for approval and appointment.

Option 2: The Lacey City Council reviews and approves. Council would review, select for interview and appoint seven individuals to the Commission on Equity.

Council and staff recommended contacting the Youth Council requesting they nominate a youth member applicant.

Council also proposed allowing Council to speak to the recommended applicants, prior to approval and appointment.

Councilmember Steadman stepped away from the meeting during a portion of this agenda item, including the motion and vote.

COUNCIL RETREAT UPDATE

STAFF: SCOTT SPENCE, CITY MANAGER

ACTION: INFORMATION ONLY

Scott Spence, City Manager, presented a draft agenda for the Council Retreat, scheduled for April 23, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The following topics were recommended:

- Public/Private Partnership (7th and College Street) access improvements
- Lacey Police Station – Facility Assessment
- American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – Community Investment Strategy

Council expressed agreement with the recommended topics and proposed meeting length.

Council directed staff to add a discussion regarding the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to the April 1, 2021, Worksession, following the Council meeting.

Council also directed staff to add a discussion regarding resuming in-person or hybrid meetings for the April 1, 2021, Council meeting.

NISQUALLY RIVER COUNCIL – ELECTED OFFICIAL REPRESENTATION

PRESENTER: MAYOR ANDY RYDER

ACTION: INFORMATION ONLY

Mayor Ryder led the discussion regarding electing a Lacey representative for the Nisqually River Council.

Deputy Mayor Pratt, Councilmember Cox, and Councilmember Steadman all expressed interest in being the official representative. Deputy Mayor Pratt also advised that she may not be a long-term representative, but would be willing to serve as an alternate.

In order to confirm who would be able to attend, it was recommended to determine the NRC's meeting schedule and subsequently elect the official representative at a future meeting.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS JOINT WORKSESSION DRAFT AGENDA

STAFF: SCOTT SPENCE, CITY MANAGER

ACTION: INFORMATION ONLY

Scott Spence, City Manager, presented the draft agenda for the April 8, 2021 Board of County Commissioners Joint Worksession.

The proposed agenda topics included:

- Public Health Update – COVID-19 and Vaccinations
- Annexation Updates
- HB 1590 – Homefund
- American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)
- Information Sharing
- Wrap Up/Next Steps

Council expressed agreement with the proposed agenda items.