

COUNCIL MINUTES

Special Meeting

June 12, 2012

Mayor Tom Odell called the regular meeting of the Sammamish City Council to order at 6:40 pm.

Councilmembers present: Mayor Tom Odell, Deputy Mayor John James, Councilmembers John Curley, Don Gerend, Ramiro Valderrama, and Nancy Whitten.

Councilmember Absent: Councilmember Tom Vance.

MOTION: Councilmember Whitten moved to excuse Councilmember Vance. Councilmember Valderrama seconded. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Staff present: City Manager Ben Yazici, Public Works Director Laura Philpot, Assistant City Manager/Community Development Director Kamuron Gurol, Parks & Recreation Director Jessi Richardson, Administrative Services Director Mike Sauerwein, City Attorney Bruce Disend, and City Clerk Melonie Anderson.

Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance

Roll was called. City Clerk Melonie Anderson led the pledge.

Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Councilmember Valderrama moved to amend the agenda to add a discussion regarding Eastlake Sammamish Parkway reclassification. Councilmember Whitten seconded. Motion failed 2 to 3 with Mayor Odell, Deputy Mayor James and Councilmember Gerend dissenting.

Mayor Odell suggested moving the SAGE presentation to come before Public Comment.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor James moved to approve the agenda as amended by the Mayor. Councilmember Valderrama seconded. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Topics

- **Presentation: Special Approach to Gifted Education (SAGE) Program** – Senior Planner Emily Arteché introduced the students from Creekside and Grandridge elementary schools. This is a year-long project, overseen by SAGE Teacher Ron Ciraulo. The students, 4th graders, meet weekly to complete this project. They learn collaboration, critical thinking, strategic planning and other skills in the creation of their town, Polyhedrville. The city will be on display in city hall for the next week.

Public Comment

Helen Baxter, PO Box 702 Fall City, She spoke regarding the SE 8th Street Park. She feels it will be a community asset and all parties should work together. She is a founding member of the Heritage Society and is very happy the Freed House found a home there.

Janet Wilson, 1653 219 Place SE, She was part of a group of people who spoke regarding the SE 8th Street Park Site B. They showed a PowerPoint presentation. Her group lives near the park and feel their concerns are not being heard. They have tried to participate in the public process as much as possible. She also feels the Parks Commission is in agreement with their position.

Deb Grasso, 1700 220th Place SE, She continued the PowerPoint presentation. She feels the neighbors should have been brought into the process before money was spent to develop the Master Plan. They want more open, honest and collaborative opportunities for developing this park. She feels all of the options are overdeveloping the park. They advocate that site B be kept in its natural state and that Site C is a part of the Master Plan.

Elizabeth Holt, 21926 SE 16th Place, She feels that the one entrance planned for the park, will alter the feel of the quiet neighborhood that exists today. They feel that the park should not be developed until Site C is available for development as that will most likely be the primary access route.

Sean Smith, 1605 218th Court SE, He continued the PowerPoint. He also spoke against the proposed access routes to the park. He said that adjacent property owners have indicated a desire to sell their property. This could provide a unique link between the city hall property all the way to Site B. It would also provide a wonderful trail system as these properties are beautiful wooded lots.

Jackie Johnson 21925 SE 16th Place, She wrapped up the PowerPoint presentation by expressing three wishes, leave site B natural, slow the development down and evaluate usage before developing access points and save money by not overdeveloping the park.

Penny Short 2030 205th Avenue SE, She understands that people don't like it when things change. But change is necessary. Access to the park needs to be open to all and should access the middle of the park so everyone can enjoy it.

Heather Frazier, 611 208th Avenue SE, She spoke to the stormwater issues that have developed around her home. Because of these issues, they have suffered two landslides. She relates this directly to the developments of Chestnut Lane and Greenbriar. Council should consider this issue carefully.

Ella Moore, 2731 204th Avenue SE, She spoke regarding the SE 8th Street Park. Sammamish is a great place to live, in part due to the wonderful parks in the city. She said that the Reard Freed

house has been moved to Site B and any improvements of the house will require direct access to it.

Dee Carroll 20814 NE 28 Pl, She noted that Sammamish has the largest population of children under 18 in the state. Children need places to play and get in touch with nature. SE 8th Street Park will be the perfect place for this. The Freed House will provide an opportunity for students to learn about the history of Sammamish.

Eivlys Vanderhoof 3500 Eastlake Sammamish Parkway SE, She encouraged the city to move forward with the Master Plan sooner rather than later. She thinks the plans are a good compromise between protection of surrounding homes and providing a great park.

John Callahan, 1633 217th Place SE, He supported the previous speakers who advocated slowing development of the park. He believes the reason the city incorporated was to stop the unabated growth allowed by King County.

Steve Thies, 21313 SE 13th Place, He lives adjacent to the SE 8th Street Park. He feels having a park within walking distance is a great amenity, and will enhance the current property values. He reminded the audience that this land could have been sold to a developer rather than donated as park property.

Greg Poremba, 21915 SE 16th Place, He is concerned about access. He also wanted to know what the SEPA requirements will be for developing this park. He requested an expanded SEPA checklist be performed before moving forward on the park. He also requested that the city look at any SEPA alternatives.

John Galvin, 432 228th Avenue SE, He spoke regarding the EDSAT. He does not feel that the city is very interested in economic development. This assessment tool was designed for east coast cities not west coast suburban cities.

Denny Sheppard, 2620 228th Avenue SE, She was supportive of the first speakers. She is not happy with the relocation of the Freed House.

➤ **Update: Community Center**

Parks & Recreation Director Jessi Richardson gave the staff report and showed a PowerPoint presentation outlining the process the city has gone through to date including partnering with the YMCA to operate the center. (Available on the city's website at www.ci.sammamish.wa.us). City Manager Ben Yazici then gave an overview of the financial and maintenance costs of the community center. He explained that the city has a very healthy ending fund balance. The construction costs have been revised down to \$29 million dollars. This includes the center itself (\$21.5 million), parking garage (\$6 million), and circulation loop road (\$1.5 million). These costs could be covered by funds already in the city budget that have not been obligated to other projects. The YMCA has agreed to fundraise at least \$5 million toward the cost. There are many options available for the property currently owned by the YMCA.

Public Comment

Marsha Eisenberger, 3422 161 Ct SE, Bellevue, Representing the YMCA. She spoke regarding the partnership between the YMCA and the City of Sammamish. We are stronger working together than working separately.

Ann Marie Swenson, 25704 SE 31st Place, She represented the Issaquah Swim Team. The city currently has no publicly owned competitive pools. The shortage of facilities limits the number of kids that can participate with the Issaquah Swim Team. This group would also like to partner with the city and the YMCA. They can bring some capital funds as well as additional fund raising opportunities. The proposed pool for the city facility will be too small to accommodate the swim team. The swim team would like to see an 8-lane pool, at minimum.

Jay Stone, 21327 SE 35 Way, She is afraid there are not enough willing residents to support a community center. She advocated caution in the development of this facility. She feels this issue should go to a vote of the people.

Arthur Goldman, 4410 231st Place SE, He feels that the proposed changes for the community center are good. He is glad they are considering partnering with the YMCA. He is still concerned that the city could move ahead without a vote of the people and he challenged the city to show how this money might be used to attract business to the city.

Clint Scott, 4380 242nd Street SE, He supports the proposed concept of a community center. The city needs an aquatic facility. It will also provide opportunities for other age groups as well. This facility will add value to the community and in this way, all residents will benefit, even if they don't use the facility. He thinks partnering with the YMCA is a great idea.

John Galvin, 432 228th Avenue SE, He feels that building the community center will put all the other infrastructure projects on hold. He feels this should go to the vote of the people.

Cynthia Callahan, 1633 217th, She thinks this new facility is just what the city needs.

Council affirmed that they would like the YMCA to raise at least \$5 million plus the land that they own in the city.

Council recessed from 9:34 pm to 9:41 pm.

➤ **SE 8th Street Park Master Plan**

Ms. Richardson gave the staff report and a PowerPoint presentation (*available on the city website at www.ci.sammamish.wa.us*). The master plan only includes site A and B. This is the second check in with the council. Parking and access are a very big issue with this master plan. Staff is working on traffic counts so they can understand what the current traffic is and they will also collect traffic data from the other parks.

Mary Pigott, 22104 SE 20th Street, She is very excited about the prospects for this park. She trusts the staff and Council to make wise decisions about the development. She encouraged the city to continue with the plan.

Councilmember Whitten expressed a desire to have most of the development on Site A and no pea patches located at the park. Any picnic facilities should be small. She feels this park should be minimally developed. She also feels there should be multiple entrances to the park and provide for connectivity. Councilmember Valderrama indicated support for a minimalist approach to development.

MOTION: Councilmember Gerend moved to extend the meeting to 11:00 pm. Councilmember Valderrama seconded. Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

- Discussion: Surface Water Fees, Capital Improvement Project and Rates

Public Works Director Laura Philpot gave the staff report and showed a PowerPoint presentation (available on the city's website at www.ci.sammamish.wa.us). Councilmembers were encouraged to submit their questions to Ms. Philpot before the next discussion of this item.

MOTION: Councilmember Gerend moved to extend the meeting to 11:30 pm and cancel the property acquisition of the Executive Session. Councilmember Valderrama seconded. Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

MOTION: Councilmember Valderrama moved to defer the Economic Development Self-Assessment Tool discussion to the July 18, 2012 meeting. Councilmember Curley seconded. Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

MOTION: Councilmember Curley moved to defer the Animal Control Interlocal to the Consent Agenda of the July 18, 2012 meeting. Councilmember Gerend seconded. Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

- Appointment: Human Services Committee

MOTION: Councilmember Whitten moved to appoint Tom Vance, John Curley and Don Gerend to the Human Services Committee. Councilmember Curley seconded. Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

Executive Session – Personnel Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g)

Council adjourned at 11:00 pm and returned at 11:25 pm. No action was taken.

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 pm

Melonie Anderson, City Clerk

Thomas T. Odell, Mayor