LAKEWOOD PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, February 24, 2015 – 5:30 PM
Lakewood City Hall
Room 1-E

CALL TO ORDER
Vito Iacobazzi, vice chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm

ATTENDANCE
PRAB Members Present: Vito Iacobazzi; Alan Billingsley; Annessa McClendon, Sylvia Allen and Heinz Haskins.

PRAB member Excused: Jason Gerwen and Tanya Scott

Staff Present: Mary Dodsworth, Director

Council Liaison: Don Anderson, Excused

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Sylvia Allen moved and Alan Billingsley seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2015 meeting as presented. The motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Several citizens were present to comment about the park code update regarding airplanes in parks. The chair asked that their comments be recorded during the agenda item discussion. Bob Saul thanked staff for posting the meeting agenda / minutes on the city's website.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
Park Code Update: City Council directed the PRAB to review Lakewood Municipal Code 8.76.500 referring to model aircraft and rockets to see if accommodation could be made for hobbyists. Director Dodsworth reviewed a memo and back up materials prepared by staff and the city attorney and summarized how the current aircraft use at the park conflicts with our current code and introduced several options to consider. The memo recommended amending the code to allow aircraft in the park with regulation. This would ensure protection of the park and safety of park users.

At the January PRAB meeting the Board developed a list of issues and questions to review when considering alternatives to the code. A PRAB subcommittee will study the issues and questions to determine what regulation or changes should occur. They also agreed that adding representatives from the hobbyist group and parks maintence would be helpful.

Public comment regarding this issue included: Jerry Dunlap referred to a proposal he presented at a previous meeting and thought the recommendations presented tonight were fantastic. He noted that this type of use was provided at Marymoor Park in King County and provided a website for additional information regarding safety, rules, training, etc. Pete Thomas agreed with the recommendation provide by staff. Ken Shepard liked the memo and recommendations.

PRAB comments included: Sylvia asked that we consider recreational vs commercial use and how we could enforce any new rules. Alan was surprised that the FAA didn't provide better definitions of recreational aircraft. Vito asked if there were any other parks in the system that could support this type of use and appreciated that four options were presented. He asked if

the Board had any other options to consider. Sylvia made a motion to approve recommendation 4A in the memo and ask the subcommittee to review this item and bring code and rule change recommendations back to the Board for consideration. Seconded by Alan. The motion passed.

Acre for the Arts – Set Meeting Date: The Rotary Club of Lakewood sent a letter to Council stating their commitment to investing in a community project at Fort Steilacoom Park. The Council likes the idea of creating a space where citizens can come together as a community to celebrate or enjoy an event. They directed the PRAB to host a community meeting to discuss the topic. The Board suggested using our regular planning process which includes a series of meetings to gather information and review options. The first meeting will be on Tuesday, March 24 at 5:30 p.m. at Fort Steilacoom Park.

NEW BUSINESS: None

DIRECTORS REPORT: The Directors report included information on the capital project updates, Nisqually Tribe grants, a rehabilitated Owl that was released at FSP, Vandalism that occurred at the park, Gateway project bids and options to consider, WSDOT partnership at our gateway, problems with Harry Todd Park docks and congratulations to Sylvia Allen who was selected as a technical advisory board member to the Conservations Futures grant program.

BOARD COMMENTS: Annessa asked what happens to the agenda items that were on our work program to be discussed in February since we will now use the February meeting for a community discussion? Mary said the agenda items will be moved to March.

Sylvia provided an update on the 400+ fir trees that are planned to be removed at the Oakbrook Golf Course with no plan to replace. She is still concerned regarding impact to the tree canopy.

She also noted her homeowners association won in court against the developer who was planning to build 60+ apartments near the golf course on Ruby Drive.

NEXT MEETING: The next PRAB business meeting is scheduled Tuesday, March 24, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. at Fort Steilacoom Park.

ADJOURNMENT: Vito Iacobazzi moved to adjourn the meeting and Sylvia Allen seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Jason H. Gerwen
Jason Gerwen, Chairman

M Dodsworth
Mary Dodsworth, Director