

AGENDA
GIG HARBOR PARKS COMMISSION MEETING
Wednesday, June 5, 2024 – 5:30 p.m.
Community Rooms

Optional Virtual Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/92140715051>
Call-in: (253) 215-8782 Meeting ID: 921 4071 5051

- I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL**
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** May 1, 2024
- III. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS**
 - A. Jerisich Dock Fee Discussion
 - B. Austin Honoring Art Lighting
 - C. Kayak Launch Dock Attachment Request
 - D. Volleyball at Crescent Creek Park
- V. STAFF REPORTS**
 - A. Parks Division Update – Parks Manager Jennifer Haro
- VI. COMMISSIONER REPORTS & COMMENTS**
- VII. ADJOURN**

MINUTES
GIG HARBOR PARKS COMMISSION MEETING
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CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL: Chair Louise Tieman called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Commissioners Stephanie Lile, Stephen McDuffie, Kim Anderson, Hanley Bonyng and Stace Gordon were present. Commissioner Guy Magnus was excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the April 3, 2024, parks commission meeting were unanimously approved with typographical revisions.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Gary Williamson commented on vandalism to the honoring artwork at Austin Park.

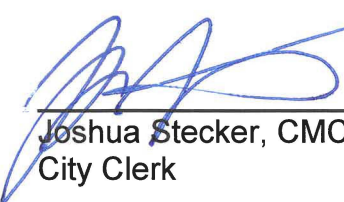
DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- A. Memorial Art Donation at Eddon Boat Park:** Alyse Yeaman proposed a memorial sculpture to honor a Gig Harbor High School student who passed away unexpectedly. The commission unanimously recommend the city study the feasibility of installation of the proposed sculpture at Eddon Boat Park. Unanimously approved.
- B. Downtown Placemaking Project:** Carrienne Ekberg and Shannon Runion proposed a placemaking project for Jerisich Dock. The commission unanimously recommended that the city council partner with the Downtown Waterfront Alliance to pursue the placemaking project.
- C. Masonic Lodge Update:** Stephanie Lile provided an update of the Masonic Lodge concept planning project.
- D. Special Event Code Updates:** Jennifer Haro presented updates to the city's special events code. The commission unanimously recommended that the city council make the recommended code changes.

STAFF REPORTS:

- 1. Parks Division Update** – Jennifer Haro provided an update on Parks Appreciation Day planning.
- 2. City Administration Update** – City Clerk Josh Stecker reported on budget preparation activity.

ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.



Joshua Stecker, CMC
City Clerk



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Parks Commission

FROM: Jennifer Haro, Parks Manager

DATE: May 31, 2024

SUBJECT: June 5, 2024 Parks Commission Discussion items

There are four discussion items at the May 1, 2024 meeting.

1. Jerisich Dock Fee Discussion – separate memo provided by Associate Engineer Chloe Wiser.
2. Austin Honoring Art Lighting – At the May Parks Commission meeting, Gary Williamson gave public comment about the need for lighting at Austin Estuary Park on the honoring art. There was vandalism during the winter that broke off a part of the art.

While we understand the reasons for the request and that lights can be a deterrent to bad behavior, the City recommends against installing lights for several reasons:

- a) Due to artifacts found onsite, digging is prohibited in Austin Estuary Park. The foundation that the honoring art is on took a long time to design and permit due to the prohibition on excavation. Electricity lines would not be permitted, and digging to install the lights is not allowed.
 - b) Expense – this is not a budgeted item, and the general fund does not have much room for extra expenses.
 - c) Austin Estuary is considered a natural area, and lights would create an unnatural environment at night.
 - d) The park is technically closed at dusk, and views of the art are limited from the road and sidewalk.
3. Kayak Launch Dock Attachment Request – Staff is looking into permitting requirements. Administration would prefer the launch to be located at Ancich, rather than the Maritime Pier. The reasons that Maritime Pier is not the preferred location are:
 - a) This location is primarily intended for use by commercial fishing vessels and larger vessels. So to mix human powered craft with larger vessels would be a conflict.

- b) The currents in this area of the bay are usually fairly swift compared to currents at Ancich Park and Eddon Park. Beginning users of human powered craft should be in slower moving waters.
- c) This area of the dock is where Public Works moors it's boat overnight, as necessary.



1Example of kayak launch dock attachment

Staff is asking for a recommendation from the Parks Commission on whether to pursue this option and where.

- 4. Volleyball at Crescent Creek Park – There have been discussions for many years about adding more beach volleyball courts in the city. They were part of the first Sports Complex master planning process, but were later removed from the plan, as plans to add more courts at Crescent Creek Park moved forward. Those plans were scrapped however, due to language on the sourcing of the sand for the courts. As the master plan for Crescent Creek Park was proceeding, input from volleyball had been considered. When the master plan was put on hold, the future of volleyball expansion is uncertain. Volleyball players would like to have more volleyball courts at Crescent Creek Park, whether or not the master planning process moves forward.

Staff is asking for a recommendation on this request.



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor & City Council

FROM: Associate Engineer Chloe Wiser

DATE: June 5th, 2024

SUBJECT: Jerisich Dock Fee Discussion

An ordinance to collect fees for electricity usage at EV charging stations was adopted on April 8th. To stay consistent with public electricity services, staff is interested in charging fees at Jerisich Dock, at which no electricity fees are currently charged.

City staff has collected data for electricity usage at Jerisich Dock and compiled the total cost to the city. The cost of electricity at this dock is generally covered by the moorage revenue generated each month. Boats are required to pay for moorage when they stay overnight or connect to water or power outlets at the dock. More information on Jerisich Dock policies and moorage is in GHMC 8.28.

Electricity for vessels mooring at Jerisich could be either a separate charge at the kiosk or an increase in the overall moorage fee.

At the June 5th parks commission meeting, staff will present electricity usage information and seek the commission's preference and direction on a new fee for electricity at Jerisich Dock.

PARKS COMMISSION

JUNE 2024

Parks Division Updates

Projects

Gig Harbor Sports Complex

Phase 1B – The official groundbreaking ceremony was held on May 24, and work has begun to build the city's newest park. It is anticipated that it will be complete by February 2025.



Skansie Netshed Rehabilitation

The contractor has begun work to construct a scaffolding, paint and reroof the exterior of the historic Netshed. The construction fencing had to be moved back a bit for the Maritime Gig festivities. The contractor will also need to work around the Farmer's Markets and Summer Sounds, but anticipates finishing work in September. As a result of the work, the Netshed will be closed for the season.

Other Park Updates

tx'aałqəł Conservation Area – The Phase 4 acquisition is moving along. The Pierce County Conservation Futures to increase the award amount, and the mayor has signed the stewardship agreement/restrictive covenants agreement that will allow Pierce County to release the money. The city has hired Landau Associates to conduct an environmental site assessment, as part of due diligence. That should take about 4 weeks to complete. The site assessment is the only cost, beyond staff time, that the city will end up paying for this 11.4 acre property, thanks to our partnerships with Pierce County, the Gig Harbor Land Conservation Fund and Great Peninsula Conservancy.

A [property management plan](#) was adopted on May 28 for Phases 1 & 2 of the Conservation Area, in accordance with the requirements from the Pierce County Conservation Futures program.

Parks Appreciation Day May 4 – We had about 50 people show up to help clean up the parks on a cloudy day. Thank you to all, and to the Parks Commissioners who helped out: Louise Tieman, Kim Anderson, Stephen McDuffie, Hanley Bonyng and former parks commissioner Doug Smith!







Upcoming Special Events

- Maritime Gig – 6/1-6/2
- Gig Harbor Pride – 6/22
- Harbor Hounds – 9/7