

CITY OF LAKE STEVENS
CITY COUNCIL – ARTS COMMISSION – PARKS BOARD JOINT MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, December 10, 2019
Lake Stevens School District Educational Service Center (Admin. Bldg.)
12309 22nd Street N.E. Lake Stevens

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 p.m. by Mayor John Spencer

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT: Councilmembers Gary Petershagen, Kim Daughtry, Kurt Hilt, Todd Welch, Rauchel McDaniel and Marcus Tageant

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT: Councilmember Brett Gailey

ARTS COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Jim Haugen, Kate MacKenzie, Daniel Johnson, Linda Ehmen, Laura Katz

ART COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Bridget Scott

PARKS BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chris Jones, Terry Van Wyck, Tina Decker, Carl Johnson, Roger Schollenberg, Marlene Sweet, Susan Green

PARKS BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: City Administrator Gene Brazel, Community Development Director Russ Wright, City Clerk Kathy Pugh, Deputy City Clerk Adri Crim, Parks Planning & Development Coordinator Jill Meis

OTHERS:

Mayor Spencer called the meeting to order and introductions were made.

Parks Coordinator Jill Meis introduced herself.

Arts Commission 2019 Accomplishments: Coordinator Meis said the summer programming was very successful this year with Yoga in the Park, Music in the Park, Movies in the Park, and Theater in the Park. She said the Arts Commission reviewed all the entries for the Gisella Hinchcliffe Art Award to present to a local student and volunteered at Winterfest. Coordinator Meis commented there are new members on the Commission and Linda Ehmen is the current Chair.

Parks Board 2019 Accomplishments: Coordinator Meis said the Parks Board had a busy year. The Board had several meetings where they discussed the parks chapter of the Comprehensive Plan update and park design throughout the community. Eagle Scouts presented their project proposals to the Board and they offered input and approval of projects. Coordinator Meis said the Board's current chair is Tina Decker.

Coordinator Meis said both the Parks Board and Arts Commission put in countless hours of volunteer work for events in the community all year.

2020 Arts Commission Work Program: Chair Linda Ehmen introduced new members of the Commission and said they are all professional people who are helping to hone the language and programs to be presented next year. Chair Ehmen said the Commission plans on keeping the same programs running in the next year as they did in 2019. She mentioned they are working with the City to develop a display for the new Pavilion to include historical photographs and sourced history about Lake Stevens. Chair Ehmen said the Arts and Parks Foundation has a new art award this year and she reviewed the criteria for the award. She then presented the Council with the 2019 winning poster.

The new Arts Commissioners introduced themselves: Jim Haugen, Daniel Johnson, Laura Katz, and Kate MacKenzie.

Councilmember McDaniel thanked all the Commissioners and Board members for volunteering their time as it has been a great contribution to the community.

Councilmember Tageant said the concert series is a great program.

Councilmember Daughtry said Music in the Park was fun and is looking forward to it next year.

Mayor Spencer asked if the Arts Commission is working with the Historical Society for the display at the Pavilion. Chair Ehmen said they are partnering with the Historical Society as well as the Everett Library and other historical associations, to acquire historical images of resorts and buildings that used to be in Lake Stevens. She said the Historical Society is helping to provide connections and proofing the copies and providing the history behind the photos for better context.

Councilmember Welch asked the new Commissioners what they think of being on the commission and if there is more they would like to do.

Commissioners Katz said she likes being on the commission. She said she volunteered at Winterfest, which was a great event.

Commissioner Johnson said he is enjoying being on the Commission. He said this is a learning experience for him and he is happy with all the activities, the camaraderie, and the community involvement.

2020 Parks Board Work Program: Chair Tina Decker, noted the whole board is in attendance. She said there is over 50 years of combined service on the Parks Board which is a lot of knowledge. She said the 2020 work program has ongoing projects which is typical when trying to make the program more robust. She then reviewed some of the items on the work program for 2020. Chair Decker said they are working on partnering with different organizations such as the County and Rotary to ensure everyone is on same page as we grow our park system.

Chair Decker said an Art & Park coordination team has been created with 2 members from the Arts Commission and 2 members from the Parks Board to collaborate for events throughout the year. She said the coordination team is a great way to figure out how the two boards impact each other and what they can each bring back to their respective boards for additional input.

Chair Decker added there are numerous things happening in the Parks and Recreation program such as North Cove Park, the Pavilion, and the Skate Park. She then reviewed items the Parks Board would like to accomplish in the next year. She also said the Arts & Parks Foundation, which has two members from Arts Commission and three members from Parks Board, have been working together to identify different ways to fund parks needs throughout the community.

Councilmember Tageant asked the Board how things have been with the addition of the Parks Coordinator position. Chair Decker said it has been fantastic to have Coordinator Meis. She said another thing to be considered is creating a Parks and Recreation Department so the City can have a working parks system, as well as a working recreation program.

Councilmember Daughtry said the Council has been discussing creating a Parks and Recreation department.

Councilmember Welch asked if board and commission members feel Council is coordinating and communicating better. Responding to Councilmember Welch, Board Member Schollenberg said communication has improved, but things are moving very fast and the Board wants to continue to be kept in the loop.

Board Member Jones said having Jim Haugen and Coordinator Meis has made a huge difference. He said something he recently noticed is that there has been a councilmember at almost every meeting which is important as it shows their voice is being heard.


Board Member Johnson said there have been big changes in last four years. He added it was nice to have Winterfest off street.

Councilmember Tageant said there has been great emphasis on parks in the last two years and Director Durpos has been a great advocate for parks. He also said it has been nice to see the parks department start to evolve.

Chair Decker said they are grateful for the push from Council and the Mayor for the parks program to include not only physical parks but also trails, the boat launch, etc. as a whole system.

Mayor Spencer said the Council appreciates the work from all the commission and board members. He added it has been nice to have board and commission members who are hands on when it comes to creating and doing activities for the community. Mayor Spencer said Wyatt Park is coming into the City sometime after the first of the year.

Adjourn: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.


Brett Gailey, Mayor


Kathy Pugh, City Clerk


Parks Board

Arts Commission