

**CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON**  
**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Date – June 10, 2009**  
**Time - 6:00 PM**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Ed Dacy                      Ted Fosberg                      Jean Spohn  
  
Chris Ndifon                      Larry Moormeier                      Sheryl Knowles

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

None

**STAFF PRESENT**

Steve Roemer, Parks Development and Operations Manager

**GUESTS PRESENT**

None

Chris Ndifon called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 PM.

**CITIZEN COMMENT**

Several members of Sustainable Burien spoke in support of a community garden program in Burien. They express interest in developing gardens at the Urban Partners BIAS site downtown, as well as developing garden space in parks and other city or privately owned spaces. They also offered assistance to city and Board towards the development of a community garden plan.

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA & AGENDA REVIEW**

No changes.

**MEETING MINUTES**

The minutes from the May 13, 2009 meeting were approved 4/0/0 with completed minor corrections.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**DISCUSSION**

- Steve Roemer and the Board hosted a discussion, including members of the public, regarding the potential future development of community gardens in Burien. The comments generated from the discussion are listed below:
  - The concept of a community garden is generally supported by the Board.
  - Attempt to locate where utilities, such as water and electricity are already available and try to avoid needing to remove existing trees.
  - Continue to look at the Kennedy School site as potential garden and/or park site.

- May want to focus on areas with high density housing where open space is not currently readily available.
- Priority for targeted users may be Burien residents and apartment or condo dwellers.
- Need to further discuss seasonal vs. year around operations.
- Related to design and use; a preference may be towards raised beds, promote composting, organic by some definition; size of plots needs discussion, include programming of related garden classes, guidelines for what is grown, requirements to work personal plot and communal space.
- Target summer of 2010 for start up of garden program.
- Develop a partnership or multiple partnerships with City and community resources.
- Possibly form a Board sub-committee to focus on the community garden concept.

The next step is for staff to begin bringing to the board an outline of initial milestones and decisions that will need to be addressed, as we begin to formulate a plan to present to Council. This plan will need to address the perceived need, operational processes, funding and development requirements, and partnerships which will make the implementation as cost effective as feasible.

#### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND/OR QUESTIONS**

- Presentation: Environmental Science Center
- Community Garden program development
- Agenda calendar schedule
- Parks vandalism update after summer

#### **FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

- Chris reported that the City Council received the Board Report provided on June 1, 2009, and commended the Board for the good work that they are doing.
- Ed reported that Jacob Ambaum Park is getting very much use by the community.
- The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM

Respectfully submitted by Steve Roemer, Parks Manager , Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services