



**City of Covington
Parks & Recreation Commission
Minutes**

February 16, 2012

City Council Chambers

6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

ROLL CALL Present: Dave Aldous, Kollin Higgins, Conni Elliott, Steve Pand and William Pand
Excused Absent: Bryan Higgins

CITY STAFF PRESENT Scott Thomas

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

The November minutes were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

No citizens were present.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

There was no continued business

**NEW
BUSINESS**

1. **Officer Elections**—the elections resulted in a slate of Steve Pand, Chair; Liz Fast, Vice Chair; and Conni Elliott, Secretary being unanimously approved.
2. **Department and Commission 2012 Budget & Work Plans**—Scott distributed the work plan and 2011 accomplishments for the 4 Parks & Recreation divisions-Parks, Park Maintenance, Aquatics and Recreation & Special Events. Kollin discussed the makeup of the King Conservation District and the likelihood of obtaining a KCD grant. He volunteered to attend the presentation of the grant application. Scott explained the city is developing contracts for Contracted Recreation programming. Pat also needs to be able to hire a short-term, hourly temporary employee for recreation events and is pursuing something with HR. Ethan Newton is working with Dan Wesley to develop a resource management plan at the Aquatic Center. Once the plan is developed, Scott will work with Pat to develop an Aquatic Center CIP.
3. **2012 “Tree Board” Work Plan**—the CM are also the Tree Board and will discuss forestry planning for the City during the year. The City received a Washington Department of Natural Resource Urban Forestry Grant to use for furthering our work on the forestry plan in the City. Our focus will be street trees and park and open space trees. Kollin made some great suggestions about

working on the project and how to document the City's trees and canopy cover. Kollin reported that Covington was 2nd in the loss of trees in the urban area, down 7% in roughly 10 years (ending in 2006). No current data was available.

4. **Plan for Arbor Day (March 27)**—CM Elliott will help try to get contact person at Kentwood to get in touch with us to schedule event. CM's Pand, K. Higgins and Aldous will try to be at event at Friendship Park where we have invited the Japanese foreign exchange students to plant 2 Japanese cherry trees. After that, the students will attend City Council Meeting for formal recognition. Scott will send a "Save the Date". Kollin continues to nurture the Oregon Ash tree that was entrusted to him.
5. **Plan for Earth Day (April 22)**—planning an event at Covington Community Park to clean up that area and do some tree maintenance in the Decennial Grove. Kollin will scout the area and mark the trees in the Decennial Grove. Conni will coordinate administrative details and permission forms. Dave, Steve, Kollin, and Liz will notify groups to participate, including the Order of the Arrow for the BSA of Foothills and Green River District, BSA Troops 470, 517, and 945; the Girl Scouts of the Covington Service Unit; and Knights of Columbus that meet at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church. The group confirmed a start time of 9am.
6. **Aquatic Center 35th Anniversary Update**—Scott asked that the CM attend the event on Saturday, March 3 at 12:45pm, ceremony at 1pm. There is a free swim after the ceremony from 1pm to 3pm.
7. **Park Acquisition Update**—The Council elevated the importance of moving up the TIP and CIP for the Downtown Park.
8. **Utility Tax Report**—Scott distributed the Utility Tax Report. With the Council's recent decision, we will see dedicated capital and operating funding for CCP. In 2012 it will be dedicated to capital funds. In 2013 and beyond it will be for operating expenses. Scott cautioned that we should not be expecting great increases in parks and recreation over the next few years because the increase in city revenues is not keeping pace with inflation.
9. **King County Parks Levy Update**—Levy money is still coming in and is being allocated to Covington Community Park, the BPA trail, and the woodland trails in the CCP. King County is in the process of considering another Parks levy, and Scott is optimistic about it happening. The currently levy runs out in 2013.

**GOOD OF
THE ORDER**

- Scott distributed message from Councilmember Snoey
- CM Aldous reported that he has been clearing the trails of limbs and branches in the upper portion of Jenkins Creek Park. We need additional work in there.

COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION OF COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF

There were no comments.

With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:10PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Conni Elliott

Secretary
Parks & Recreation Commission