

**CITY OF MUKILTEO, WASHINGTON**  
**JAPANESE GULCH SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**  
**November 12, 2014**  
**City Council Chambers – 11930 Cyrus Way**

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**ATTENDANCE**

**Committee Members:**

Council President Randy Lord  
Councilmember Linda Grafer  
Councilmember Christine Cook (Absent)  
Carolyn (Dode) Carlson  
Richard Emery  
Tyler Thompson  
John Costello

Susan Gearheard  
Ely Klem (Absent)  
Kristin Kohorst  
Chris Mueller  
Dustin Weller (Absent)  
Demaree Clay

**Consultant Facilitators**

John Barker, Barker Landscape Architects  
Peter Cromwell, Barker Landscape Architects  
Nelson Salisbury, EarthCorp (Absent)

Nicolas Morin, Barker Landscape Architects

**City Staff**

Jennifer Berner, Recreation & Cultural Svc. Dir.  
Christopher Phillips, Management Svc. Dir.  
Rick Hill, Public Works Superintendent

Jim Thomas, Fire Marshall  
Colt Davis, Crime Prevention Officer  
Karl Almgren, Assistant Planner

**MEETING NOTES**

Jennifer Berner welcomed the committee and described the “Design Game” that the Committee and the public in attendance would be participating in. She also introduced the Consultant Facilitators again.

Introductions around the committee table were made.

**Nicholas Morin**, Barker Architects outlined the details of the Design Game and re-stated the Pomegranate Center’s Ground Rules for Public Participation.

The slogan for Japanese Gulch Park is:

“A Natural Area for All; Connecting Neighborhoods to the Waterfront”.

The Master Plan Guiding Principles are as follows:

- Protect and preserve the natural integrity of Japanese Gulch
- Formalize access and uses within Japanese Gulch
- Provide a safe and enjoyable experience for the public
- Produce a sustainable development strategy
- Provide for a wide range of users
- Encourage stewardship and collaboration between all parties.

Mr. Morin reviewed the project schedule and project milestones as follows:

Completed items

- 1<sup>st</sup> Subcommittee Meeting Complete – August 27, 2014
- Subcommittee Completed Site Visits to Carkeek Park, Paradise Valley, and Woodland Park
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Subcommittee Meeting tonight – November 12, 2014

Upcoming items:

- Open House scheduled for December 10, 2014
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Subcommittee Meeting

Mr. Morin outlined the 5 areas of the Gulch:

- Tank Farm
- Lower Japanese Gulch Park
- Dog Park
- Upper Japanese Gulch Park (reserved for passive use)
- Precht Property/Community Garden

Mr. Morlin provided the Design Game instructions and game pieces. The Committee and residents worked in groups 4-6 people and discussed design ideas.

Each group presented their results of the Design Game. The groups came up with essentially the same division of features for the park; passive uses in the upper Gulch with the more active/high intensity uses near the Dog Park and the Precht property where the Community Garden is located. A suggestion was made for a bridge over the railroad tracks for access to the tank farm or a bridge over 5<sup>th</sup> Street for safe pedestrian access. Another suggestion was made for a transfer of the School District property and forming a partnership with the District for educational programs for students in that area of the Park.

High intensity activities suggested were; a BMX pump track, special event gathering places, environmental art and sculptures, exercise areas, trails for off leash dog walking, unstructured areas for fort building and/or exploring.

Passive activities in the restricted upper Gulch could include general trails, short ADA trails, and boardwalks.

Parking was discussed by most groups; if we build it, we will need to provide parking, emergency access and basic amenities.

Specific items the group was not interested in pursuing were, a Frisbee golf area or ball fields.

Discussion followed regarding the rolls of the Committee at the Open House and Mr. Morin asked the group if the Committee wished to facilitate the design game at the open house or provide two defined options for presentation. Discussion followed and the decision was made unanimously to conduct the design game at the open house.

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Jennifer Berner asked if there were any comments for the Committee or other attendees. There were none.

These notes are excerpts from the Sub-Committee for the Japanese Gulch Park Master Plan. An audio recording of the meeting was made.

Prepared by:

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Shawna Gossett, Permit Services Supervisor