

CITY OF BELLEVUE
SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

February 8, 2024
8:30 a.m.

Bellevue City Hall
Virtual Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Susan Freeburg – Parks
Chad Charbonneau - Parks
Maggie Whittemore - Fire
Mark Anderson – Fire
Landon Barnwell – Police
Christopher Rivera – Transportation
Casiano Atienza – Transportation
Neal Christiansen – Community Representative East
Mike Ogliore – Business Representative Downtown
Laurie Scott – Downtown Resident Representative

OTHERS PRESENT:

Emily Martella, Parks; Councilmember Stokes; Valeriy Goloborodko, NW Ukrainian Festival; Anand Sane, Holi Festival of Color, Ganesh Festival, Indian Independence Day; Brandon Treadway, Charles Grant, Scooped All You Can Eat Ice Cream; Heather Kring, Hanna Greenberg, Seattle St. Jude Walk/Run; Anthony Gill, Ariel Taylor, Sound Transit, Andy Heider, Parks, Maggie Whittemore, Fire, Lizzette Flores, Eric Stewart, Hazel Phillips, Laura Milstead, Russell Adelson, Mark Heilman, Neighborhood Outreach Manager

RECORDING SECRETARY: Gerry Lindsay

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:33 a.m. by Chair Freeburg who presided.

2. COMMUNICATIONS: Written and Oral

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Laurie Scott. The motion was seconded by Chad Charbonneau and the motion carried unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

A motion to approve the January 11, 2024, meeting minutes as submitted was made by Laurie Scott. The motion was seconded by Landon Barnwell and the motion carried unanimously.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

❖ Routing and Location Subcommittee Report

Casiano Atienza reported that a line of communication was opened with the All In for Autism group to get things rolling. The routing and location subcommittee will be meeting soon to discuss upcoming event, with approved events on the agenda first.

6. OLD BUSINESS

❖ Tabled Applications

A. All In for Autism

Chair Freeburg noted the event had been tabled awaiting an updated route. The event will only include a 5k run.

Chad Charbonneau said parks was satisfied with the fact that nothing would be changing that affects the park.

Landon Barnwell stated that police have no concerns. The number of officers needed to cover the event is reduced by about six by not including the 10k run.

Casiano Atienza said transportation had no issues. The kids dash will occur within the footprint of the race.

Maggie Whittemore said fire had no concerns.

A motion to approve date, time and location for the event was made by Chad Charbonneau. The motion was seconded by Neal Christiansen and the motion carried unanimously.

B. Bellevue Children's Business Fair

Chair Freeburg said the event is slated for August 4 in Downtown Park. The application was previously tabled awaiting an updated site plan.

No concerns were voiced with the event.

A motion to approve date, time and location for the event was made by Chad Charbonneau. The motion was seconded by Laurie Scott and the motion carried unanimously.

C. Bellevue Schools Foundation Block Party

Chair Freeburg said the recurring event includes vendors and music, and previously saw about 900 attendees.

Laurie Scott asked if there were any issues with the event in the past. Chair Freeburg said there were none.

Landon Barnwell shared that officers were assigned to the event last year and there were no issues at all.

Answering a question asked by Chad Charbonneau, Emily Martella confirmed that the event is scheduled for September 28.

A motion to approve date, time and location for the event was made by Neal Christiansen. The motion was seconded by Laurie Scott and the motion carried unanimously.

D. Crossroads Movies in the Park

Chair Freeburg noted that the event organizer intends to add a couple of vendors, otherwise the footprint is the same as it has been in past years. The mall sponsors the event that other than popcorn food has not been made available. A couple of the mall restaurants are interested in being vendors during the event.

Chad Charbonneau asked if the vendors will be using food trucks. Chair Freeburg said that is still under discussion and has not been decided. It will either be food trucks or tents. If it is trucks, they will not be located in the park itself.

A motion to approve the date, time and location for the four August dates listed in the application was made by Landon Barnwell. The motion was seconded by Chad Charbonneau and the motion carried unanimously.

❖ Event Organizers Presentations

A. Northwest Ukrainian International Festival

Valeriy Goloborodko said the event has been a highlight of activities in Bellevue for some time, and not just for the Ukrainian community. It brings joy, hope, friendship and understanding to Bellevue residents. For 2024, the event is being planned for September 7, which is the first Saturday after Labor Day weekend. Prior to Putin's invasion, that was a time Ukrainians were going back to school and the date works well for a variety of reasons.

The event has proven to be successful but as it has grown it has met with some challenges. One challenge in 2023 was the program hard stop time was delayed by about a quarter of an hour, and there were some vendors who were still packing. For 2024, one request is to be allowed to end the program at 9:00 p.m., though the end time for the event will be advertised to be 8:00 p.m., allowing extra time for folks to get packed and to allow for any program delays. Additionally, during setup the day prior to the event will need to conduct some sound checks.

With regard to parking, there were six or seven shuttles operating in 2023, bringing people from remote parking lots to and from the event location. For 2024 the same parking lot partners will be utilized. The setup process from the previous year is also to be replicated, except that the food vendors have been notified about the need to have in advance any required fire extinguishers.

Valeriy Goloborodko announced that the Ukrainian ambassador plans to attend the festival in person. Other international and local officials will attend as well, and a famous Ukrainian singer will be invited to participate.

With regard to a sound permit for two days, Chair Freeburg stated that a sound check permit would require a much shorter timeframe. Chair Freeburg also pointed out that the 2023 sound check went very late and disrupted many neighbors. A small sound check window needs to be

identified for the day before the event.

Chair Freeburg said one issue brought to the attention of the Committee after the 2023 event was that the lot on 100th Avenue NE was supposed to have ADA parking, but the signage was not good and people were not able to get in. In addition, not all of the shuttles used were ADA accessible. A solution to that will need to be found for those issues. Valeriy Goloborodko agreed to follow up on those issues, adding that at least one or two of the shuttles were supposed to be ADA accessible.

Chair Freeburg asked if all takedown can be completed by 11:00 p.m. if the event is allowed to end at 9:00 p.m. Valeriy Goloborodko said the intent is to end the program by 8:00 p.m. The additional hour requested is intended to serve as a buffer. It will not be able to complete taking down the stage by 11:00 p.m.; typically that work is finished the next morning. Chair Freeburg stressed the fact that 11:00 p.m. is a definite hard stop in consideration of the neighbors. Work that needs to be done the following morning can be worked out with parks.

Maggie Whittemore said the fire department had some concerns with the charcoal barbeques used in 2023, along with the number of propane burners and barbeques in use. There was only one Class K extinguisher present. Fire will not allow any charcoal barbeques at the next event. Any cooking done that involves grease or solid fuel will require having Class K extinguishers.

Landon Barnwell said the number of officers needed for the event will be discussed offline with Valeriy Goloborodko. Last year there were about 15, but it all depends on the anticipated attendance. The timeframe for the event can also be addressed offline, but it was noted by officers in 2023 that the stage was not the big issue, it was the food vendors that were keeping people there past the ending time as they were just giving away food. Valeriy Goloborodko agreed to address the issue with the vendors and would impose a hard stop prior to 8:00 p.m. Additional booths will also be added to reduce long lines.

Chair Freeburg stated that if the reoccurring issues are not properly addressed, the city may consider not approving the event going forward.

Chad Charbonneau allowed having had conversations offline about the concerns parks has had. A solution needs to be found to make sure the issues encountered in 2023 are resolved for the 2024 event. There were issues with vendors leaving sandbags behind or dumping them into the canals along with dead fish, there were big metal spikes left in the turf, there were trucks driving where they were not supposed to drive, and there was food waste dumped into the drains as the barbeques were rinsed off. Parks would like to have a single point of contact for the event, both for planning purposes and on the day of the event.

Chair Freeburg said there are pictures taken by parks staff that appear to show food being put into the drains. The same happened in previous years in Crossroads. Valeriy Goloborodko agreed to address those concerns.

Casiano Atienza said there will be a routing and location subcommittee meeting with the event coordinator both before and after the 2024 event.

B. Holi Festival of Color; Washington Ganesh Festival; Indian Independence Day Celebration

Anand Sane with Beats Redmond said the Holi Festival of Color event is planned for March 30;

the alternate date is April 6. The application has a start time of 11:00 a.m. and an end time of 5:00 p.m., but it should indicated an end time of 6:00 p.m. instead. The event includes colors and cultural programming, much of which is led by the youth. There will be music, performances, vendors selling food and arts and crafts. The event will be open to everyone. The festival celebrates spring and is a time for people to come together.

Chair Freeburg stressed that all cleanup will have to conclude prior to dusk, which on March 30 is 7:37 p.m. A stop time of 6:00 p.m. should allow time for clean up and move out.

Anand Sane said the Independence Day Celebration occurs in the month of August, and the requested dates are the 17th or the 18th. The event includes the flag hoisting, a small kids parade within the park, some cultural events, and decorations around the park. The event allows the Indian community to share their cultural richness. The event will start at 2:00 p.m. and end at 9:00 p.m.

Chair Freeburg said the park closes at dusk, which at that time of year is around 10:00 p.m. The issue is that so far a date has not been found for the event; the 17th and 18th dates do not work. Other dates can be considered in months other than August.

Anand Sane said the Ganesh festival was celebrated in 2023 in Redmond's Downtown Park. The event is a celebration of traditions. A Ganesh idol is install on a stage and people perform ritual activities. The event brings people together to celebrate a sense of community. The Redmond event received a lot of appreciation, and Bellevue Councilmembers joined in. The event was highlighted across the country and internationally by the media. The event occurs over a ten-day period in India, but the plan is to set it for three days only. One day before the event will be needed for preparation and another day after for cleanup.

Chair Freeburg commented that in discussing the event, the Committee concluded that only two days could be offered for the event, with setup and cleanup days before and after. Crossroads Park is the location that is available on September 14 and 15. The city of Redmond voiced a few concerns with event in their city in 2023.

Anand Sane said the concerns raised by Redmond were in part about the use of fireworks. Chair Freeburg said Bellevue does not allow fireworks to be used in parks. Anand Sane said the fireworks used in Redmond were toned down after receiving communication from the city. There were also concerns about a vendor who flew a drone in the park during the event. While the user was properly licensed, the necessary permit had not been obtained. After the police made contact with the drone pilot, the drone was grounded. If a drone permit is needed in Bellevue, it will be applied for. While the fireworks box on the application was checked, it is not a mandatory portion of the celebration.

Chair Freeburg reiterated that Bellevue does not allow the use of pyrotechnics in the parks.

Chad Charbonneau sought clarification that the color event was separate from the color event already approved for Downtown Park. Chair Freeburg confirmed that and said the two events are sponsored by different organizations. Beats of Redmond has not held the event in Bellevue before, so the event is new to the city.

Andy Heider asked why the event was being moved from Redmond to Bellevue. Anand Sane said the intent is to reach out to the larger community. The park in Redmond used in 2023 worked, but Bellevue has a larger population. Bellevue Councilmembers expressed their

appreciation for the event in Redmond and said they would like to see the event occur in Bellevue's Downtown Park. The Indian consulate intends to open an office in Bellevue.

Chair Freeburg asked if the city of Redmond would welcome the event back this year. Anand Sane said an application was not filed with Redmond for the current year. The park there was small and a bigger stage cannot be set up there because of the layout of the park. Crossroads Park is larger and has plenty of carpooling options. There are many from the Indian community in that area as well.

Chad Charbonneau noted that parking issues will need to be discussed. The organizer held a small event there a couple of weeks ago and there were some attendees that parked in the parking lot of the parks offices across the street. It is likely attendees were parking in other areas where they were not supposed to as well. Attendees will need to be informed about where they can and cannot park. Anand Sane said work on a parking map has been done and it will be posted. People will be encouraged to walk or carpool to the event.

Chad Charbonneau pointed out that Bellevue has had to deal with a number of challenges in the past tied to color festivals. There is a lot of small litter cleanup required post event. Anand Sane recycling stations will be set up and volunteers will be on hand to assist in cleanup.

Laurie Scott asked about the color powders used and how hard it is to remove them from park facilities. Chad Charbonneau said there have been issues associated with attendees using restrooms to wash off color, making it necessary for park staff to come in later and pressure wash everything, including sidewalks. If the event is allowed, conditions will need to be set regarding final cleanup.

Anand Sane said the cleanup will be done properly, and portable toilets will also be brought to the site. Chair Freeburg said the routing and location subcommittee will identify all necessary conditions and restrictions.

Christopher Rivera stressed the need to have a parking plan accepted. Event organizers in the past have reached out to nearby churches and schools about using their parking facilities.

Anand Sane asked about drone flights during the event. Chair Freeburg said the city typically does not allow drones in the parks, but agreed to check with park staff to confirm that.

C. Scooped All You Can Eat Ice Cream

Chair Freeburg said the event is seeking the use of Downtown Park on July 20 and 21. Those dates are available.

Brandon Treadway with Treadway Events explained that Scooped Ice Cream Festival is a two-day event involving an all-you-can-eat experience. The event runs from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, and 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday. The event has been held the past two years at Seattle Center but Downtown Park's setting will work better. The event features 75 flavors of ice cream of local and national brands, live music, food vendors and more. The community event celebrates the love for ice cream. Treadway Events, is based in Portland and does festivals and event services in Oregon and Washington.

Downtown Park is a venue that can support the projected 4000 people per day. A total of 120,000 scoops of ice cream are served during the event. Pricing for the event starts at \$20 per

person for the early birds and rises to \$30 closer to the event. There are VIP passes as well which allows for skipping the lines at the various scoop stations. Children five years old and younger are free with an adult admission ticket.

The event has in the past received great media attention. There are ten different scoop stations spread out throughout the park. Tents will be erected to provide shade. The performance stage has in the past hosted everything from a drag show to DJ, local bands, and disco dancers, which is a fan favorite. The event includes a milkshake throwdown competition. The food vendors and general business vendors will all be mostly local. The business vendors generally offer some form of ice cream-related products. The four to five food vendors include those in tents and food trucks.

One feature of the event is live mural painting. Kids and families are allowed to add their touches to the murals as they are produced. A variety of different games are also offered, including inflatable axe throwing, cornhole, soda booth, giant Jenga and others.

Chad Charbonneau noted from the application that two full days would be needed for setup and two full days for take down. Brandon Treadway said the time for setup is needed to erect the tents, the stage, the signage, bringing in the freezer trailers, and then time is needed post-event to take it all down. Chad Charbonneau pointed out that that means six days of having half of Downtown Park taken up for a single event.

Chair Freeburg asked if the work could be done in less time. Brandon Treadway allowed that there is room for some flexibility. Load-out has in the past been accomplished in about a day, especially given that once the event is over some tear down work can commence. Most vendors load out on Monday morning. Things should not be pushed, however, on the front end. Setting up the fencing takes time, and during setup gaps can be left in the fence to allow the public to access some areas. Chair Freeburg said the city does not typically close entire parks for events.

Charles Grant, also with Treadway Events, stressed that the event is only looking to use a portion of the park, not the entire park.

Mike Ogliore asked if there is a non-profit tie for the event, or if it is just Treadway doing it. Brandon Treadway said it has been just Treadway doing it, though steps are being taken to bring in a non-profit. A perfect fit has not yet been found.

Landon Barnwell explained that conditions and the like are generally determined by the routing and location subcommittee. Every event is different when it comes to determining how many officers should be on site, based on crowd size and other specifics. If the event is approved, there will be additional conversations regarding the details.

Maggie Whittemore said the site layout appears to show only one entry and exit. Brandon Treadway said in addition to the main entrance/exit there will be another at the west parking lot, and potentially another near the local business area. Maggie Whittemore said the subcommittee will discuss issues such as tent placement and the associated requirements.

Landon Barnwell asked what kind of fencing is used for the event. Brandon Treadway said six-foot fencing is used with a windscreen along the perimeter.

Mark Anderson pointed out that if an aid car is to be located at the event, there will be an additional fee for it.

Casiano Atienza said a parking plan will be required to avoid any overcrowding in the area. Brandon Treadway said the event involves timed ticketing, which means there are only a limited number of attendees per hour. That helps alleviate some of the parking issues.

Neal Christiansen asked if attendees must leave by a certain time based on their ticket, or if they can stay as long as they want once they are in. Brandon Treadway said attendees can stay as long as they want, but they must select their initial time. Charles Grant added that in the past most attendees end up staying for two or three hours.

Chad Charbonneau commented that it is concerning from a parks standpoint to have an event set up and established on the turf for that amount of time, especially only a couple of weeks after the 4th of July event.

6. NEW BUSINESS

❖ New Event Organizers Presentations

A. Seattle St. Jude 5k Walk/Run

Heather Kring, an advisor for the American Lebanese Syrian Associated Charities, the charitable organization that supports St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, explained that the proposed 5k walk/run event is an annual event that occurs in numerous cities across the nation, usually in the month of September, which is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. The association is working with Hanna Greenberg with Hood to Coast Race Series on the Bellevue event, which hopefully will be permitted for September 21, with a setup day on the 20th.

Hanna Greenberg said the proposed venue for the 5k run/walk is Lake Hills Community Park. The main festival area will be set up in the baseball outfield, and the run/walk will take off from there. For the last few years the event has been held in Seward Park and it has seen about 350 participants, but for the Bellevue event the anticipation is that here will be between 400 and 500 participants. The festival area will have tents and music. The run/walk route will head out south on the Lake to Lake trail, then head west paralleling SE 16th Street, crossing at 156th Avenue SE and then continue on the Lake to Lake trail around Larson Lake and back to the starting point. The only two crossings will be at 156th Avenue SE and Lake Hills Boulevard.

Continuing, Hanna Greenberg said the festival will include seven to ten tents, all with activations supporting the mission of St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. There will be a couple of small inflatables but no rides. None of the tents will exceed 20 feet by 20 feet and each will be spaced according to the city's requirements. There will be a small stage with an MC making announcements throughout the day and a DJ for the music. Sound amplification would begin on Saturday at 8:00 a.m., and the race will kick off at 10:00 a.m. The event will be open to the public at 8:00 a.m. but the bulk of the participants will arrive between 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. The event wraps up by noon after which tear-down begins, with the area completed cleared by early evening.

Hanna Greenberg said if the event is approved, contact will be made with Tillicum Middle School and Phantom Lake Elementary School about using their parking lots for overflow parking. Signage will be posted along the entire route and there will also be volunteers and staff stationed on the route. Setup would need to occur on Friday beginning at 8:00 a.m. or 9:00 a.m.

and continuing through about 6:00 p.m. Overnight security will be posted in the park overnight, and during the event as well.

Chair Freeburg commented that given the size of the event and the proposed location, a Special Event Permit is likely not required. The event can be handled through parks scheduling. Police support will be needed.

Landon Barnwell said crossing Lake Hills Boulevard and 156th Avenue SE may be the most problematic and asked if the participants would be bothered by having to wait for a car. Hanna Greenberg said the event is untimed and casual. Waiting for a car will not be an issue. Given that answer, Landon Barnwell suggested an office may not need to be posted at the crossings, so long as there is a volunteer to push the button and to serve as an extra set of eyes and ears.

Christopher Rivera suggested the number of participants might trigger the need for a Special Event Permit. The event will use city rights-of-way and parks. In any case, transportation will want to see the details of the route, including where signs will be posted. Chair Freeburg noted that typically events that follow the rules of the road and have a limited number of participants, especially where a lot of city support is not needed, a Special Event Permit is not required.

B. 2 Line Opening Celebrations

Anthony Gill with the city's Cultural and Economic Development department noted working with Katie Halse, Lauren Millstad and Ariel Taylor at Sound Transit on the project. Light rail has been under construction on the Eastside for the past several years and the project is nearing its opening date. The full extension connects with downtown Seattle but the starter line, which will open soon, runs from south Bellevue to the Redmond technology center station. Overall the line will have eight stations, six of them in Bellevue. The line, which for a long time has been called East Link, will after it opens be called the 2 Line.

The opening celebration is intended to activate the eight stations of the 2 Line, including the ribbon cutting and concurrent station events and activations at each of the stations. Most of the activations will be small incorporating things like live music and small vendor fairs on private properties or the station area. There is as yet no specific date for the opening, but it will occur between mid- to late-March and mid- to late-April.

The objective of the event is to celebrate the alignment and the people who will be using it every day. The event will generate some media coverage and will showcase the communities who will be served. Rider information will be shared, and those who made the line possible will be recognized. The event is also intended to generate some buzz for the local establishments that will be accessible by the line.

The South Bellevue station event will include Pacific Science Center's mobile education van and a couple of tents with family and kid-friendly activities. The East Main station will have some activities organized by Sound Transit, including small-scale live music performances. The Downtown station will enjoy a ribbon cutting in conjunction with the Bellevue Downtown Association on a small street festival activation on 110th Avenue NE in front of City Hall. Eastrail Partners will be promoting station access via the trails for the Wilburton station, including some group rides. Meta and Wright Runstad are partnering on activities for the Spring District station that will include live music and vendors. For the BelRed station, the BelRed Arts District Community Alliance is planning an event on the Sound Transit park and ride facility that will include a small music stage, some vendors and some food trucks, as well as some interactive

arts activities.

Ariel Taylor with Sound Transit confirmed that there is no date yet for the opening. It is anticipated that a date will be announced within about a week.

Chair Freeburg pointed out that the Committee would in not be able to vote without having a date and time.

Neal Christiansen asked if there will be any celebration at the Redmond Technology Center station. Anthony Gill said there will in fact be celebrations at that station and at the Overlake station. The events at those locations are not within Bellevue's purview, however.

Christopher Rivera asked if there are any projections regarding the number of attendees. Anthony Gill said the largest event will be the one at the Bellevue Downtown station. It is anyone's guess as to how many will attend.

Ariel Taylor said the recent opening of the Tacoma Hilltop link saw between 400 and 500 people attend. Those activations were much smaller than what is expected for the Eastside given how long people have been waiting for light rail service. It is entirely likely the Eastside events will be attended by more than 500 persons, though that is not to say they will all be at the Downtown station event.

Landon Barnwell asked if the 2 Line will be open for operation prior to the event. Ariel Taylor confirmed it will not be open before the event. No trains will be available for people to get on until the ribbon is cut. All stations will be open after that time.

Anthony Gill said consideration has been given to having a shuttle service from the South Bellevue park and ride to the ribbon cutting event. Those folks would be able to take light rail back to the park and ride after the event. Ariel Taylor added that folks will be encouraged to use transit and other modes to get to the light rail opening.

C. Pakistan Independence Day

Discussion of this item did not occur given the time constraints.

❖ Application of Intent

A. Pacific Northwest Youth Entrepreneur Expo

Discussion of this item did not occur given the time constraints.

❖ Post-Event Evaluation

A. Garden d'Lights

Discussion of this item did not occur given the time constraints.

B. NYE Night Market

Discussion of this item did not occur given the time constraints.

❖ Comments/Follow-up

Chair Freeburg informed the Committee members that they would be notified as to the time later in the day to hold a quick meeting to approve the date, time and location for the events discussed.

7. NEXT REGULAR MEETING

❖ March 14, 2024

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Freeburg adjourned the meeting at 10:16 a.m.

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SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE
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February 8, 2024
8:30 a.m.

Bellevue City Hall
Virtual Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Susan Freeburg – Parks
Chad Charbonneau - Parks
Mark Anderson – Fire
Landon Barnwell – Police
Christopher Rivera – Transportation
Casiano Atienza – Transportation
Mike Ogliore – Business Representative Downtown

OTHERS PRESENT: Emily Martella, Parks, Andy Heider, Parks, Maggie Whittmore, Fire, Lizzette Flores, Community Development, Eric Stewart, King County METRO, Hazel Phillips, Fire

RECORDING SECRETARY: Gerry Lindsay

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. by Chair Freeburg who presided.

2. OLD BUSINESS

❖ Applications of Intent

A. Northwest Ukrainian International Festival

Mike Ogliore allowed that the topic is a sensitive one and asked if what Valeriy Goloborodko had had to say in the first meeting satisfied the concerns of the departments.

Chad Charbonneau said the statements made by Valeriy Goloborodko match those made by him every year, and the same things keep occurring every year. It appears obvious that things will continue as they have in the past regardless of the stipulations placed on the event.

Mike Ogliore called for having an on-site team member tasked with serving as an enforcement manager. It seems to be the same vendors every year and if nothing is done to enforce the stipulations, there will be nothing different. Nothing will change unless they are forced to change. Nothing was heard from Valeriy Goloborodko that indicated things would change.

Andy Heider reminded the members that after the first year of the event the Committee recommended to Valeriy Goloborodko that an event coordinator should be hired. That was never done, however.

Mike Ogliore noted having reached out to provide assistance, but was turned down.

Chad Charbonneau said parks had a lead worker on site for the 2023 event specifically to call out things as they happened. The event organizer was given the opportunity to make corrections as things happened. While agreeing to change direction once they were informed of the need, nothing was ever done.

Mark Anderson asked if there is enough written documentation regarding specific violations and lack of follow-through by the organizer to back up a decision by the Committee should it decide not to approve the event. Such documentation will be needed to avoid any political fallout. The other option would be to give the event one more year with a very specific framework that includes clear stipulations and penalties.

Chair Freeburg said there is good documentation from 2023. Not approving the event likely will trigger some political fallout. Giving the event an additional year to make good on their promises would be a good approach. There should be clear stipulations and specific penalties; that approach likely would be supported by the political side. There is at least one Councilmember who is very supportive of the event. Additionally, Councilmember Stokes is supportive of events in the parks and could be a big help to the Committee going forward.

Andy Heider stated that there is a lack of support for the event on the part of the leadership team.

Chair Freeburg noted having had several conversations recently the support might be found to be different if it is shown in a succinct way that penalties and clear expectations were put in place and they were not followed. In the past support has been lacking and it is slowly changing, partly due to being able to show that benchmarks were put in place and they were just not able to meet them. There are arguments on both sides, however.

Mark Anderson said the concerns are understandable and noted having personally witnessed them. It may be necessary to draft very clear requirement to hire an event manager. The stipulation could outline that unless there is a signed contract with an event manager by a specific date that the Special Event Permit will automatically be denied. The approach is something the City Manager's Office could probably support.

Mike Ogliore concurred and suggested sitting down with Councilmember Stokes and outline the concerns of the Committee.

Mark Anderson asked if it would be the Special Events Committee or the routing and location subcommittee that sets forth the stipulation to hire an event manager. Chair Freeburg said the Committee could act to approve the date, time and location pending following strict conditions, with the routing and locations subcommittee actually setting the conditions.

Mike Ogliore suggested that giving the event one more chance would be the right thing to do, especially given the political atmosphere.

Mark Anderson agreed provided there is a conversation with Councilmember Stokes in which the reasons for being so firm and defined are outlined. Chair Freeburg noted being happy to set up a meeting with Councilmember Stokes for that reason.

A motion to approve the date, time and location for the Northwest Ukrainian Festival, pending clear conditions from the routing and locations subcommittee, and a meeting with

Councilmember Stokes, was made by Mark Anderson. The motion was seconded by Mike Ogliore and the motion carried; Chad Charbonneau voted against the motion.

B. Holi Festival of Color

Mike Ogliore voiced concern about the impacts caused by the color, including staining and the resulting cleanup efforts. The argument made by the organizer did not appear to be satisfactory to Parks. The impacts the color events have have been clear for years. Other than that, the organizer does appear to be committed to following through and the event should be approved with reservations regarding cleanup.

Andy Heider made clear approval of the event should be made pending a meeting of the routing and location subcommittee and with Parks prior to the event.

Mark Anderson noted that during a previous meeting it was suggested that there should be a conversation with Redmond about their view of the event and why the event was leaving Redmond. Chair Freeburg reported that in talking with Redmond it was learned that the event is not leaving Redmond as part of a favorable separation. In fact, the event had been suspended from Redmond for a year, something the event coordinator Beats of Redmond did not mention. In a meeting with the organizer that involved Nathan McCommon, Michael Shiosaki, Shelly Brittingham and Brad Bennett, things were not specifically called out but were hinted at. The event put on by the organizer in March was loud but was otherwise there were no issues. The pyrotechnics were part of why Redmond suspended the color event in Redmond.

Chair Freeburg suggested that approval of the event should be in association with setting clear stipulations by the routing and location subcommittee.

A motion to approve the date, time and location for the Beats of Redmond Holi festival was made by Chad Charbonneau. The motion was seconded by Mike Ogliore and the motion carried unanimously.

C. Washington Ganesh Festival

Chair Freeburg noted that in the first meeting the event organizer had requested a three-day event but the Committee had favored a two-day event on September 14 and 15 in Crossroads Park.

Answering a question asked by Mike Ogliore, Chair Freeburg confirmed that the event will not be allowed to have fireworks.

A motion to approve the date, time and location for the Washington Ganesh Festival was made by Mike Ogliore. The motion was seconded by Chad Charbonneau and the motion carried unanimously.

D. Scooped All You Can Eat Ice Cream

Mike Ogliore expressed reservations about the event. The for-profit organization behind the event will not be generating a lot of economic impacts in terms of overnight stays and the like, yet it is seeking a six-day footprint in Downtown Park for a gated event. The community is growing and it wants to see strong events, but there do not appear to be enough good things coming from the event.

Chad Charbonneau said Parks also has serious reservations about the timeline. If there were only one day for setup and one day for tear down, Parks could probably get on board. It would be much better to not have six-foot fencing taking up almost half of the center circle.

Mike Ogliore pointed out that the event's business model is based on that requirement. They will be charging \$25 per head and as such want to have the area fenced off. Chad Charbonneau suggested the same could be accomplished through the use of wristbands or a card of some kind.

Chad Charbonneau said before voting to approve the event, the Committee should hear from the organizer about any willingness to bend in regard to the timeline and their proposed layout.

Chair Freeburg said it sounded as though the Committee was not ready to approve a six-day event, and wanted the organizer to speak to their degree of flexibility.

There was consensus in favor of tabling the approval of the event pending seeking additional information from the event organizer.

Andy Heider commented that even a four-day event may not be acceptable to Parks. The logistics alone with all the setup and take down, and the effect that will have on the public using the park, are a real concern. The six-day format clearly will not be allowed. The city does not even require four days for setup and tear down for the 4th of July celebration.

Chair Freeburg pointed out that the Committee approved the Rock 'n' Roll Marathon event which was in the park for several days. A reduction of time and space will be sought. It is likely that going forward there will be some changes in the types of events will be requested. A broader conversation will need to be had about special events.

Andy Heider pointed out that the Committee's hand was forced in regard to the Rock 'n' Roll Marathon.

E. Seattle St. Jude 5k Walk/Run

Chair Freeburg voiced the opinion that the event does not rise to the level of needing a Special Event Permit. The walkers will be following the rules of the road, will not even need officers at the roadway crossings, and will not require any road closures.

Mike Ogliore agreed. The event planner has experience, and the venue choice is excellent.

Landon Barnwell agreed, adding that the event organizer will need to make sure the participants know they will have to follow the rules of the road and cross roadways without assistance from Police. They could post vest-wearing volunteers at the crossing points to make things safer for the participants.

Chad Charbonneau said regardless of whether or not the event is required to obtain a permit, a pre-event meeting will need to be held with the event organizer to review the specifics.

Mark Anderson concurred with Landon Barnwell.

Christopher Rivera agreed as well but said Transportation will want to provide simple conditions, such as the placement of signs to avoid creating sight-distance issues, and following the rules of the road. Each of the roadway crossing locations has a designated crosswalk.

There was consensus not to require a Special Event Permit for the event.

F. Flavors of India

Chair Freeburg noted that the event is returning to Crossroads Park for 2024. The footprint will be similar to what has been seen in the past.

Chad Charbonneau pointed out that the 2023 event had triggered changes to the city's cooking fuel policies. Parks is otherwise okay with the event.

A motion to approve the date, time and location for Flavors of India was made by Mike Ogliore. The motion was seconded by Chad Charbonneau and the motion carried unanimously.

G. Pacific Northwest Youth Entrepreneurial Expo

Chair Freeburg said the proposed date is June 23 in Downtown Park from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with setup starting at 8:00 a.m. and breakdown completed by 7:00 p.m.

Chad Charbonneau said some changes to the proposed layout will be required, but otherwise Parks has no concerns.

A motion to approve the date, time and location was made by Mike Ogliore. The motion was seconded by Chad Charbonneau and the motion carried unanimously.

3. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Freeburg adjourned the meeting at 3:11 p.m.