

BECAUSE WE LOVE PARKS

2017 YEAR IN REVIEW

Our Report to the Community





OUR MISSION

Enhancing community by supporting
a thriving system of parks, trails
and open space.

OUR VISION

Bainbridge Island will be a place of great parks,
exceptional trails, vibrant green spaces and
excellent recreational opportunities that
connect our community.

There's nothing passive about parks.

Even the quietest trail in the deepest swath of island forest masks a level of background activity and vital support. Trails are maintained. Invasive plants are kept at bay. New trails and amenities are planned, fundraised and brought into being.

Stewardship of our robust park system is a decidedly active calling. That's where your Bainbridge Island Parks Foundation comes in. Strategically positioned at the crossroads of park lovers, users, volunteers and financial supporters, the Foundation is a key player in keeping our parks shining as jewels for our island.

In this Annual Report, we look back on 2017 with pride in our accomplishments over our organization's most productive year ever.

Through our solid partnership with the Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Recreation District, we are excited to highlight several new Friends groups established to plan, steward and fund island park projects. With this Friends program, the Foundation is fundraising for habitat restoration at the brilliant new Moritani Preserve in Winslow.

We also continued to support restoration work at Blakely Harbor Park, rooting out invasive ivy and blackberry and transforming the landscape with native plantings—leveraging financial contributions and volunteer energy. Read more about these and other success stories, and the many supporters who made them possible, elsewhere in this report.

“...the Parks Foundation is a key player in keeping our parks shining as jewels for our island.”

2017 saw the launch of our Stewards Circle, and we are incredibly grateful for all of our founding members! This fundraising program is designed to provide sustainability for our organization's operations and for annual programs such as the Student Conservation Corps and Trails crew. I invite you to join this critical inner circle of support!

Active. That was 2017 for your Bainbridge Island Parks Foundation in a word.

Now we are deep into another dynamic calendar year. This summer has seen the construction of new trails and boardwalks. The Caregiver sculpture took root at Owen's Playground, while planning for a revamped KidsUp! Playground at Battle Point is underway, renewing our commitment to our youngest park patrons. We're working with Islanders planning new amenities at Williams-Olson Park on quiet Manzanita Bay. And we dedicated the amazing new Hidden Cove dock, already a wildly popular amenity in its first sunny swimming season.

We invite you to enjoy our beautiful island parks fully and often—and join with the Parks Foundation as we work, together, for their common care through 2018 and beyond.

Sincerely,



Adin Dunning
Board President



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Bainbridge Island Parks Foundation programs in 2017 built on the vigorous groundwork laid in previous years, providing positive change across the island. Project activities like those described in these pages reflect the values of islanders and enhance the quality of life on Bainbridge Island.

MORITANI PRESERVE

Thanks to an extraordinary gift from the Fletcher Bay Foundation, Bainbridge Island welcomed a beautiful new park in fall 2017: Moritani Preserve. The 8.5-acre preserve near the head of Eagle Harbor offers meandering trails, rolling fields and quiet stands of fir, giving visitors a serene nature experience at the edge of bustling Winslow town center. A new Friends of Moritani Preserve group was created to leverage neighborhood and volunteer interest, bolstering restoration efforts beyond regular maintenance by the Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Recreation District. Support through the Parks Foundation will implement a 5-year environmental restoration program.



WILLIAMS-OLSON PARK

Through a memorial campaign for the late Carl Williams, fundraising is well underway to bring improvements to this spectacular but unstructured waterfront park overlooking Manzanita Bay. Friends and relatives of Williams, whose family homesteaded and maintained the property for generations, have already contributed more than \$80,000 to the campaign to fund yet-undetermined park improvements. A new Friends of Williams-Olson Park advisory committee will help guide the project under an agreement between the Parks Foundation and the Park District. Some work is expected to begin this year in the park center, with long-term ecological restoration planned on the forested upland areas.



COMMUNITY GRANTS

The Parks Foundation has established itself as a key supporter of local park and recreation programs through its annual Community Grants. In 2017, the Foundation provided \$17,000 in funding to six recreation programs and capital projects, including the Bainbridge Island Water Polo Club, Bainbridge Island Rowing, Fort Ward Community Hall, the Teen Center, Beach Volleyball Club and the Park District's Outdoor Programs. Thanks to you, our generous supporters, the Foundation was able to fund all six programs at close to full request, providing enhancements to popular park facilities that serve a broad array of island youths and families.



JAY ABBOTT YOUTH FUND

Mentorship of island youths in sailing, bicycling and skiing programs is made possible under this memorial fund, established in partnership with the Foundation to honor the life and service of the late Jay Abbott. Early in 2017 the second-ever JAY Fund Grant Cycle commenced, and four projects were awarded funding totaling \$10,275. The program positively impacted more than 350 youths in the grant cycle, through support for mentorship and coach training and certification programs that enhance youth activities. While the Fund was envisioned as a short-term program, healthy fund balances will allow us to continue the Jay Abbott memorial grant program beyond this year.

HAWLEY COVE PARK

Overwhelming support by neighbors and local businesses propelled the Hawley Cove boardwalk campaign to success in record time. The Foundation reached its goal of \$20,000 in just three weeks, to fund construction of a new boardwalk that will improve park access for the mobility impaired and link adjacent neighborhoods on the north shore of Eagle Harbor. Construction will respect the park's sensitive marsh ecosystem, as crews will utilize a new boardwalk anchor-auger machine also funded by a Parks Foundation grant with support from Bainbridge Rotary. The machine has already been successfully deployed in constructing a small footbridge on the new Old Mill Trail, dedicated in early in 2018.



2017 Revenue



Total revenue: \$316,732

- General Contributions and interest income: \$139,863
- Trillium Trail Run Revenue: \$9,150
- Restricted Contributions and grants: \$167,719

2017 Expenses



Total expenses: \$183,419

- Management and General: \$55,330
- Fundraising: \$20,014
- Programs, Grants and Services: \$108,075

Summary Balance Sheet as of 12/31/17

Assets	\$	\$377,264
Liabilities	\$	\$23,075
Equity		
Restricted Assets	\$	\$208,861
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$	\$145,328
Total Equity	\$	\$354,189
Total Liability & Equity	\$	\$377,264

OUR IMPACT

New trail projects in active planning:



14

Dollars funding parks, trails and recreational improvements:



\$108,075

Hours of stewardship support for parks and trails:



2598

Bainbridge families supporting parks and trails:



530

Dollars raised and designated for 2018 improvements:



\$201,719

Youth experiencing improved recreation through BIPF grants:



21000

DONORS & VOLUNTEERS

We'd like to thank the following donors and volunteers for their support of the Parks Foundation.

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OUR ISLAND IMPACT

23 places on Bainbridge Island where the Parks Foundation has made a difference

Fay Bainbridge Park: New boardwalks and invasive weed removal

Hidden Cove Park: Park District partner in funding new dock

Manzanita Park: Trail repair and upkeep

Ted Olson Preserve: Invasive weed removal

Williams-Olson Park: Park improvements project-planning and funding new concept plan

Battle Point Park: KidsUp! Playground renovation, invasive weed removal, new gymnastics equipment, soccer field amenities

Meigs Park: Invasive weed removal, planning advocacy, trail route planning

The Grand Forest: Invasive weed removal, trail maintenance

Sakai Park: Trail planning and easement work, tree planting and invasive weed removal

Aquatic Center: Community grants for lane lines, drinking fountains, swim team and water polo amenities, fiscal sponsor for steam room

Rotary Park: Fiscal sponsor for Owen's Playground, Community Grant for Little League covered playing facility, trail construction

Yeomalt Cabin: Fiscal sponsor for cabin renovation

Hawley Cove Park: Invasive weed removal and funding partner for new boardwalks

Waypoint Woods: Developing new Winslow park with trail connections

Moritani Preserve: Work with Advisory Committee & Friends Group to fund restoration

Lost Valley: Advocacy for new trail system

Gazzam Lake Preserve: Trail construction and upkeep, invasive weed removal

Pritchard Park: Trail repair, invasive weed removal and park advocacy

IslandWood: Advocacy and construction of new public "Old Mill" trail

Eagledale Park: Worked with neighbors to create Heyday Connector Trail, linking Eagledale to Blakely Harbor Park

Schel Chelb: Support for new playground

Blakely Harbor Park: Ongoing park development and restoration activities

Fort Ward: Invasive weed removal and trail upkeep in park, grants for new Community Hall renovation

