

Seattle Park Employee Association Records, 1977-1983

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Seattle (Wash.). Dept. of Parks and Recreation
Title	Seattle Park Employee Association Records
Dates	1977-1983 (inclusive) 1977 1983
Quantity	.4 cubic foot, (1 box)
Collection Number	5802-16
Summary	Records of an employees association which sponsored social and recreational events.
Repository	Seattle Municipal Archives Seattle Municipal Archives Office of the City Clerk City of Seattle PO Box 94728 98124-4728 Seattle, WA Telephone: 206-233-7807 Fax: 206-386-9025 archives@seattle.gov
Access Restrictions	Records are open to the public.
Languages	English
Sponsor	Funding for processing this record series was provided through a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

Historical Note

The Department of Parks and Recreation maintains the City's parks, shorelines, and boulevards; and administers community centers, public golf courses, and other athletic and cultural facilities. Seattle's first park was established in 1884 after David Denny donated land to the City for that purpose. At that time, a three-member park committee, with limited authority, was created to manage the nascent park system. A Board of Parks Commissioners was established in 1890 with control over all public parks and authority to appoint a Parks Superintendent. In 1896, the City Charter created the position of Superintendent of Streets, Sewers and Parks. The Parks Department became a separate entity in 1904. In 1926, a City Charter amendment abolished the position of Superintendent, distributing its responsibilities between the Head Gardener and the Landscape Architect. A 1948 City Charter amendment required the Board of Park Commissioners to appoint a park superintendent to administer the department. In 1967, another City Charter Amendment reconstituted the Board as an advisory body to the Mayor and City Council, changed the agency name to Department of Parks and Recreation, and placed fiscal and operational administration under the superintendent. In 1902 the City hired the Olmsted Brothers, the country's premier landscape architectural firm, to design a parks and boulevards system. Although not all of the plan was implemented, the Olmsted legacy is evident in many of

Seattle's parks and boulevards. The City acquired significant amounts of property for park purposes following the turn of the 20th Century, but in 1926 further acquisition was limited by a City Charter amendment that stipulated only money in the Park Fund could be used for that purpose. However, in the 1970s the Forward Thrust Bond issue, along with federal grants and the Seattle Model City Program, supported the largest expansion of the Park system in Seattle history. These programs funded more than 70 new parks and park facilities. The Department manages over 6,000 acres of park land, over two dozen community centers, five municipal golf courses, the Aquarium, and many other recreational and athletic facilities.

Content Description

Minutes, correspondence, event files, membership information, photographs and slides documenting an organization of Parks Department employees and its activities. The Park Employee Association was a social organization that sponsored outings, sports teams, and a holiday party.

Use of the Collection

Preferred Citation

[Item and date], Seattle Park Employee Association Records, Record Series 5802-16. Box [number], Folder [number]. Seattle Municipal Archives.

Administrative Information

Detailed Description of the Collection

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

5802-16: Park Employee Association Records, 1977-1983

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
1/1	Ballots	1980-1982
1/2	By Laws	undated
1/3	PEA Correspondence	1977-1982
1/4	Events	1981-1982
1/5	Forms	undated

Container(s)	Description	Dates
1/6	Function Book - Holiday Party	1981-1983
1/7	Membership Applications	1982-1983
1/8	Membership List	1981
1/9	Minutes	1977-1979
1/10	Minutes	1980-1982
1/11	Sonics Ticket Sales	undated
1/12	Slides - Events	undated
1/13	Photographs - Employee Picnic and Other Events	undated
1/14	Photographs - Holiday Party	1982

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Public Employees

Corporate Names :

Seattle (Wash.). Dept. of Parks and Recreation

Geographical Names :

Seattle (Wash.)

Form or Genre Terms :

Photographs

Slides

Finding aid prepared by Janet Ness

2011