



## Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

Thursday, June , 2016

**The meeting was called to order at 635pm with the following park board members in attendance:**

**John Semrau, Kerri Cook, Ralph Rowland, Kevin Loy, Chris Allen, Liz McNett Crowl, Elizabeth Detillion, Tim Manns, and special guests Rich Sundance and Mayor Jason Miller of Concrete.**

**Staff Members: Brian Adams**

No additional items were added to the agenda. The minutes were corrected to confirm John Semrau was not at the May meeting. Presentin Park was moved from *discussion* to *update*.

### **Board Discussion**

#### **Veterans Community Park**

Rich Sundance presented his ideas for Veterans Community Park and provided an update on the non-profit status of the 'friends of the veterans' organization. A website will be developed to better accommodate the funds that will be funneling to the non-profit account. Placards, picnic tables, flag poles, pavers, benches and other amenities will be available to clubs and individuals to sponsor. Rich has stated his interest in seeing the configuration of the Veterans Park expanded to accommodate other potential amenities, such as a campground, bus service, and veteran assistance facilities. He envisions the Veteran's Group entering in to an agreement that would allow their non-profit to one day run the campground and veterans facility. Any such agreement would have to be vetted by the parks board and approved/signed by the board of county commissioners. It's important to keep the veterans group focused on what has been approved and within the 1.2 acres allocated for the project. The board thought it was important to curb the dialogue of the expansion (at least for now) and keep the group's attention focused on the plaza project. Brian will take the message with expansion when he meets with the veterans group. There were concerns raised about the artifacts as well, especially as it pertains to risk. If large pieces of equipment are on site it will inevitably become a draw for kids to climb on.

#### **Concrete Trail System Concept Plan**

The Town of Concrete developed a trail plan through a National Park assistance grant. The town of Concrete would like to see the Cascade Trail expanded eastward towards Rockport, if and where possible. They would also like to see the trail loop through town, connecting the Silo Park, Baker River, Down Town, and other desirable areas. They envision shared use paths and would like to see

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a combination of single/two track trails. The Town of Concrete is looking to partner on projects as they pursue their plan through completion.

### **Barney Lake Trail**

Liz provided an update on the progress of the Centennial Trail. An RCO grant application has been submitted for developing a section of trail along Barney Lake. The entire length of the trail is about 1.5 miles and will run the Nookachamps near Big Rock to Nookachamps near Babcock Road. It will meander by one of the most beautiful and wildlife rich areas in the area.

### **Staff Update**

#### ***Tursi Trail***

The ribbon cutting was well attended and is being used.

#### **Walberg Field**

The dug-outs are completed. The drainage is scheduled for the last week of July. The backstop and fencing will be completed in the Fall.

#### **Presentin Park**

The grant applications have been submitted. The grants include habitat improvement projects, as well infrastructure for recreation. The grants will be formally presented in August with rankings coming out a month later. Grants won't be awarded until the next legislative cycle.

#### **Big Rock**

Graffiti and fire pits continue to be a problem. We are working on a new contract with Skagit Land Trust to help solve some of the ongoing issues. In the meantime, we are placing signs and patrolling. It may be worth starting a program of 'neighborhood patrols.'

<b>Adjourn    Next Meeting: July 21, 2016</b>
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