



Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

Thursday, February 16, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 630pm with the following park board members in attendance:

Chris Allen, Jason Benson, Elizabeth Detillion, Liz McNett Crowl, Kevin Loy, John Semrau, and Tim Manns.

Staff Members: Brian Adams

The minutes were passed unanimously with a change to the second sentence in the last paragraph. The word "unopened" was dropped from the sentence.

Board Discussion

Skagit Leadership Project: Viewing Platform:

A Skagit Leadership cohort talked about a project they will be undertaking for our department. Dave Lervik handed out a design for their proposal portraying a viewing platform adjacent to the Centennial Trail. The platform decking will be constructed with a permeable grit-surfaced fiberglass decking and ramp. Interpretive signs are planned, displaying information about the cultural history of Big Rock, the railroad, and the wildlife of Barney Lake. Sandra Benton talked about the promotion of the trail through marketing strategies. The group sees the project as a way to promote the Centennial Trail in a positive way. Tim Manns volunteered to help with the interpretive signs but was concerned about the condensed timeline. The goal will be to get one interpretive sign placed before the dedication scheduled for May 4 at 4pm. The Board was supportive and

Naming Policy Updates

Tim Manns led the discussion on the new edits for the naming policy. John brought in a list of talking items to share with the Board. After edits were discussed and agreed on, Tim took the document for further edits. The edited document will be sent to Brian for distribution prior to the next meeting. Once voted on by PRAB, the document will be moved on to the Board of County Commissioners via a resolution so that there is a recorded policy for future reference by future boards.

2017 Acquisition Priorities

Brian listed some of the acquisition needs for 2017 and beyond. Without dedicated funds for making acquisitions, Brian is interested in finding a creative way to find a secure funding source. Although we have been successful in acquiring properties over the years by cobbling grant funds, in most cases matching funds are required. By using our project priorities as a guide, we ranked our list from most important down. Trails, Big Rock access, and HMSP expansion are all priorities. Most counties use conservation future dollars for their

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funding. Although these dollars are used for the Farmland Legacy program, 10% dedicated to our department for acquisition would go a very long ways.

PUD Project

Skagit PUD is interested in constructing a 36" waterline from the Russian Orthodox Church to Clear Lake. As a condition for using our trail corridor, there will be certain requirements. We are just beginning our negotiations with PUD. We will be granting PUD permission to do further surveying via a right of entry agreement.

Staff Update

NSRA State Budget Request

We are asking the State for a million dollars via a capital request sponsored by Kirk Pearson. The proposal landed on Senator Honeyford's "list" meaning the project has made the first cut. Brian met with the members on the capital budget committee in Olympia.

NSRA Trail Project: MV Trail Builders

The trail builders have been researching the park and are very interested in creating new trails and reconditioning old trails. The group will be meeting with us very soon to discuss their findings. The Board will be able to vet their proposal.

Adjourn Next Meeting: March, 2017

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