



Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

Thursday, February 18, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm with the following park board members in attendance:

John Semrau, Kevin Loy, Chris Allen, Liz McNett Crowl, and Kerri Cook.

Staff Member: Brian Adams and Jennifer Swanson (public works)

There were no additional matters raised by the public, beyond issues already on the agenda. Minutes were approved (after agreeing to take John's name from the attendance record); February agenda was approved as drafted.

Board Discussion

Centennial Trail

An update/presentation made by Jennifer Swanson of public works. The most Centennial Trail plan was rolled out and vetted by the group. Liz was pleased to see the plan for trail placement through the Clear Lake and swim beach area. A couple of minor changes were suggested. The bridge locations will be the biggest challenge. Liz talked about potential funding sources, including pedestrian/bicycling and safe routes. Brian agreed follow and act on RCO funding opportunities this grant cycle. Brian will meet with RCO reps the first week of March. A discussion about purchasing parcels or gaining access via easements ensued. It's important to note that this is not rail banked property and all remaining parcels will need to be purchased. PUD is extremely interested in this corridor for a utility easement. Liz brought up the importance of providing neighboring property owners with emergency ingress and egress along the trail corridor.

Bills in Olympia:

Several bills are of interest in the parks/rec arena. Brian has been actively participating in a discussion with fellow park providers and keeping up with the progress of bills. Amendments to the recreational immunity law will be pursued during the summer and assimilated into the amendment for the 2017 legislative session. Mercer Island is very interested in leading this crusade.

NSRA Veterans' Park

We'll be using design from the HMSP picnic shelter for the NSRA project. A capital request for 250k was made in Oly. Money and materials are coming in. It's our hope that the permit for the shelter will be ready by April 1.

Tursi Trail

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<http://skagitcounty.net/offices/parks/index.htm>



We would like to cut the ribbon on National Trails Day. WTA work party was Presidents Day weekend.

Recreation

We have 100 boys SWISH teams in 2016. March Madness Tourney coming soon. We are celebrating the roll back of rec taxes on the youth programs.

Walberg Field YAF Grant

The contract was signed after a cultural resource scare. The resource was an old dairy barn .5 miles from the ball field.

Adjourn Next Meeting: TBD, 2016

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