



## Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

Thursday, February 21, 2019

**The meeting was called to order at 633pm with the following park board members in attendance:**

**Board Members present: John Semrau, Kevin Loy, Jason Benson, Tim Manns, and Alex Knighton.**

**Staff Members and Representatives: Brian Adams and Consultant Patrik Dylan**

Agenda and Minutes: motion was made to accept the January minutes as edited and seconded. Motion was made to accept the agenda as written and unanimously passed.

### Board Discussion

#### **Chapters #3 Review:**

Brian and Patrik shared the chapter 3 updates with the Board before Patrik went through the chapter one page at a time. John wondered whether the plan adequately addresses our needs. We believe it will once we get through the needs analysis. The first step with updating the existing recreational facilities chapter was to determine whether the parks were categorized as appropriate.

A lot of discussion ensued. Jason thought NSRA should move from being a community park to the category of a regional park due to its draw from the entire county (and beyond). Alex felt we should include the disc golf course, pavilion, and utilities as existing facilities. Conway and Donovan parks were discussed. Donovan draws from a larger portion of the county during the summer months. A very large Latino demographic uses the park during the warm weather, especially when temperatures reach over 70 or 75 degrees. Regardless, these two parks will be re-categorized as community parks. Our only neighborhood park is Cleveland Park. Cleveland Park has potential for access to the fairgrounds. A new masterplan should be considered when the senior center changes location. The Fairgrounds facility is our sole special-use park. Questions were asked about Rexville Rock Park and Hansen Creek. Hansen Creek is a critical area adjacent to homes in the Fruitdale Road area and not contiguous to Northern State Recreation Area, through which a lower stretch of Hansen Creek flows. Rexville Rock Park may have some appeal and take on a higher level of need when measurements are taken during the needs analysis. Rexville Rock Park was mentioned as something that might be a good fit for a leadership Skagit project. Other comments:

- Samish Beach Access will be categorized as a regional park based on the draw of the shell-fishing, especially during the summer low (minus) tides.
- Bird watching should be added to the parks guide showing the opportunities/activities. Tim provided comments via e-mail to chapter 3 that will be incorporated into the document.
- Frailey Mountain will need adjustments to the language.
- Pilchuck Tree Farm property should have changes to mitigation language.
- Ann Wolford needs a new picture (current picture is an aerial of the property formerly named "Ann Wolford" rather than the present one so-named).
- An intern will be making changes to the data.
- Clear Lake swim language?

315 South Third Street  
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

360.336.9414 phone  
360.336.9493 facsimile

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

**Chapter #4 Review:**  
Postponed to March

**Staff Update:**

**Padilla Bay Shore Trail:**

A landowner that bought the old grain building property where the PBST south parking lot is located is willing to sell the property for County use. We have received the title report and prepared to move forward with a PSA. The property value is nominal and the value to the Parks Department is significant. John mentioned how important it is to have the property as a leverage point for working with the Dike District. The land can be important for them as they Kevin made the motion to purchase the property at the projected cost of \$6500. Alex seconded and the motion passed unanimously.



**Projects / Grants:**

**NSRA:** Coffman Engineering provided the engineered drawings and specifications for the waterline and septic but will need to modify the specifications as per comments by our engineering team. When the final drawings and specifications are in hand, Dave Walde can start putting the bid package together. I submitted our septic permit in early January and hope to have the JARPA ready soon. Phase 1 should be completed by July 30, 2019 and phase 2 will be completed a year later. Parking improvements, legacy walk infrastructure, solar panels, historical artifacts, a restroom, and campsites are included in phase 2, funded via RCO.

We continue to work with the Port of Skagit on the loop trail which will utilize the old connections from the hospital to the Farmstead. The Port is sharing the costs associated with the new trail and Skagit Trail Builders will be creating the trails. The new trail will give visitors access to the old Spanish tile-roofed buildings as it winds through campus. We are in the process of permitting to replace the bridge that collapsed in 2003. Work parties for the trail will begin in April.

**Presentin:**

The design and engineering and park plan is being prepared by Herrera. Additional funding has come in for the project. The 3 million dollar project will break ground in 2019! Patrik and I have been teleconferencing regularly with Herrera via Webex. We hope to have the engineering completed very soon. There are a lot of development challenges due to the cultural resources along the terrace.

**Tursi Trail:**

The eight acres I submitted a grant for three years ago has been awarded. The property will be boundary-line adjusted to the State which has the adjacent property. The newly acquired land expands the Tursi Trail wildlife corridor and allows us to make adjustments to the trail route.

315 South Third Street  
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

360.336.9414 phone  
360.336.9493 facsimile

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

**Adjourn: Next Meeting March 21.**