



## Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

Thursday, April 15, 2015

**The meeting was called to order at 6:31pm with the following park board members in attendance:**

Liz McNett Crowl, Chris Allen, Ralph Rowland, Elizabeth Detillion, and Kerri Cook.

Staff Member: Brian Adams

From the Public: no members from the public were present.

There were no additional matters raised by the public, beyond issues already on the agenda. The agenda and minutes were passed by those present without any changes.

### **Board Discussion**

**Sinclair Island:** Brian updated the Board on the status of the Sinclair Island project. There was some question as to why we are taking the lead position with this project when we are so limited with resources. Kerri wondered if a grant with NPS might be justified, especially knowing that there is a larger pool of partners. The recipients of the NPS grant are provided organizational and directional support. The NPS grant has an August deadline. There was discussion of why PW isn't taking the lead, since the dock design has a strong residential component.

**Pressentin Hybrid Plan:** The project is moving up the priority list based on earlier available funding. Brian will talk to the commissioners this month and plan for a meeting in the Marblemount community for June. The meeting will replace our normal PRAB meeting. There could be some sensitivity about this project due to the prior master plan for the park. The prior plan had a more active recreational component, including camping, playgrounds, day-use facilities, much like HMSP. The plan was fully placed in the 100 year flood plain. Native artifacts found when the road was being built shut down the project before it got started. Federal grant funding was returned.

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**NSRA Business Proposal:** The latest proposal was discussed. The board is in general agreement that the shift in ownership is a positive change. The Skagit Port staff has always been very good to work with. A partnership between a business park and a recreational facility can create a campus type setting and provide a positive outcome for the community. A park trailhead should be established off of Fruitdale Road and a trail connection should be established that allows for safe hiking and bicycling traffic to the new facility. The path should provide access to the Fruit Loop trail.

There has been ongoing enhancement work done with the riparian of Hansen Creek. A new dialogue should be established with the new landowner (Port of Skagit) in the future to ensure the restoration efforts continue. There are areas of the creek that weren't restored in the past due to our inability crack the bureaucracy associated with The Washington State General Administration Office.

**Staff Report:**

**Clear Lake Project Update:** The changes have been made to the plans and we'll be opening bids on March 23. Bid award is a week later and notice to proceed will be at the end of April. There is a 60 day construction window but it's our hope to have the job completed before the end of the window. At the latest, we'll have a bathroom in place before the end of June.

**Fidalgo Park Updates:** The Sharpe Park trail improvements have created a path that's more conducive to those that aren't as fleet on their feet as others. A bypass is paving the trail out of low and wet areas. The new Tursi Trail is progressing. A surveyor will be finishing the work in the spring. The landowner will inspect and approve the route before signing the easement.

**Rodger's Property:** Brian is working with Eccos Design to come up with a plan that fits our needs for the site. We won't be held to the specifics in the plan. It's essentially a placeholder for future development. This will be forwarded to the Corp of Engineers. If the Jay Group study is reapproved, it will buy us another five or six years, providing fewer regulations than a new delineation. It's our thought that the mitigation will be banked off-site, allowing our department to utilize the entire site for park/college needs.

**Adjourn**

**Next Meeting: May 21**

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