



Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

Thursday, September 21, 2017

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

Mike Elde, Jason Benson, Chris Allen, Kevin Loy, and Elizabeth Detillion.

Staff Members: Brian Adams

The minutes were passed unanimously without corrections.

Public Comments:

No Public Comments were provided

Board Discussion

2018 Grants / Capital Improvements:

Priorities: Working with partners on getting trails reinforced at NSRA; Working with Partners on Rock to Lake Trail; Grants for SVP; Similk Bay Access; Veterans Park; Big Rock Access; and Rexville Outlook. The grant application requests for 2018 will be due in March. We will need to firm up our specific plans as we get into January so we can be further along with our plans prior to sending in our letter of intent. We are also looking towards establishing a dedicated funding source for acquisition.

NSRA Mitigation Plan:

We will be working with PW, SVC, and DOE in getting a mitigation plan established at NSRA for mitigating wetlands at the Rogers' property, Old Church property, and Helmick Road improvements. This will allow us to develop our master plan for the east campus area at the playfields. This will be done by improving and placing conservation easements on wetlands.

Comp Plan:

A discussion ensued about surveys. How do we get the best and all-inclusive data sets? Do we get a good cross section of demographics? What questions should be asked? Kevin thought surveys should be distributed at Walmart. Others thought phone data or email distributed data seems to work in the modern era. Fortunately, we measure needs through a four pronged approach, which helps make up for any weakness in any given subset. Measurements are done via LOS, Surveys, Public Meetings/Input and Use Patterns. We'll need to reach out to the survey experts to determine how surveys should best be completed. The timelines for public meetings will be further vetted at our next meeting. The plan is due in '19 in order to stay eligible for ongoing grants.

Staff Update

Presentin Park

In partnership with the Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group, we were awarded 1.9 million dollars for side channel habitat, trails, footbridges, and other improvements at Presentin Park. The ALEA funds are threatened due to a

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technicality that arose with the budget. In the Governor's 'book 1' budget, the ALEA funding was set at 1 million of general funds with an additional 4.3 million apportioned from the State Bond Fund. This budget was proposed before it was completely known that 85% of the State Bond Funds would be required to satisfy the necessary cost share for an unanticipated number of successful school bonds. We believe a reasonable resolution would be to "back out" the proposed bond funds from the equation and restore ALEA to the intended target of 5.3 million. After the restoration at 5.3 million, any later budget trimming to the overall RCO package would affect ALEA Funds by the same rate.

Due to the lack of a capital budget, we have begun to move forward with the acquisition component, at a cost of \$115k for the parking lot. This will be done with a waiver of retroactivity. The waiver allows us to recover funds once they become available.

Board Questions:

Kevin asked Brian to look into the reduction of rates for people within the zip-code for camping/activities. Elizabeth asked about the leaks in the bathroom at the Playfields and the erosion in batter boxes. Brian promised to look into these concerns/questions.

Recreation Report

Summer has ended and kids are back in school. We just ended our Indian Summer Softball League with over fifty teams participating. Fall sports began September 17th with Boys & Girls High School Basketball Leagues, which are preparatory leagues for the upcoming High School winter season. We have 30+ total teams for this league with teams coming from as far away as Sultan and British Columbia. We'll also kick off our youth girls basketball season October 21st w/ the MV Girls Pre-Season Jamboree (October 21st) and then the Girls S.W.I.S.H. Basketball League, which will play games from October 28th through December 16th. We'll also start back up adult basketball (October 9th) and adult volleyball (October 11th/13th). All of our fall sports seasons finish up right before Christmas, where we'll then switch over to our Boys S.W.I.S.H. Basketball League and start up new winter adult seasons.

Adjourn	Next Meeting: October, 2017
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