



Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

Thursday, October 17, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 6:03pm with the following park board members in attendance:

Kevin Loy, John Semrau, Chris Allen, Mark Dobie, Ralph Rowland, Mike Elde, and Elizabeth Detillion

No corrections were made to the agenda. The minutes were passed with surname spelling corrections.

There were no additional matters raised by the public, beyond issues already on the agenda.

Formalized Partnership with PNTA: Questions raised at the September meeting were responded to by Jon Knechtel. Jon explained the intended route for the PNTA Trail, including the location of where it would intersect with the Cascade Trail. He explained that it would not utilize private property or private farmlands. Where the proposed trail crosses through areas with private ownership, it would be placed on existing public properties, including roadways, right of ways, and trails.

Jon explained that liabilities would be alleviated through the recreational use statute. Jon talked about a programmatic NEPA process being established as a part of the Comprehensive Management Plan for the PNTA, a trail which is federally recognized. The USFS would create the management plan with local control being given to local jurisdictions. The definition of improvement and maintenance was discussed.

Mr. Good stated concerns about the burden on landowners and whether a federal designation would encumber landowners or SCPR's ability to maintain the trail and whether there would be further costs, regulations, or requirements.

The PRAB made the following motion as a recommendation to staff:

Skagit County Parks and Recreation Director/Department to pursue and prepare a draft memorandum of understanding (MOU), for their review, with the USFS and/or PNTA, to include a portion of the Cascade Trail within the federally designated Pacific Northwest Trail.

Comp Plan Docketing Update: Brian brought up the changes and gave the date/time for the hearing with the Skagit County

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Planning Commission. The meeting is scheduled for 6pm on November 5. The Comp Plan discussion will be the first item on the schedule.

Clear Lake Amenities/Permitting: The permits are all being reviewed and we are hopeful to have a hearing scheduled with the hearing examiner before the end of March. In the meantime, we are starting the process for the construction/selection of a restroom building.

Adjourn

Next Meeting: November 21, 2013

DRAFT

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