

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2004

JACK DAVIS PARKS MAINTENANCE SHOP

690 COUNTY SHOP LANE

BURLINGTON WA 98233

6:30 P.M.

6:30 – 6:35 p.m. **Roll Call of General Meeting**

Present

Keith Magee, Chairman
Colleen Fisher, Vice Chair
Lloyd Brown
Peter Swanson
John Semrau
Liz McNett Crawl

Absent

Jeri Krampetz
Kevin Loy

Staff

Bob Vaux
Dennis Lind
Tawni Helms

6:35 – 6:45 **October Minutes** – The October minutes were reviewed and approved. Colleen motioned to approve the minutes as they were presented. That motion was seconded and Lloyd Brown.

6:45 – 6:50 **Public Comment Period** – No public in attendance. John suggested having the public sign in when attending meetings. Bob stated that if the public chooses to speak to the board they need to state their name, spelling and address before presenting. This will help to ensure all participant names are included in the minutes and names are spelled correctly.

6:50 – 7:10 **Adopt – A – Trail or Park Program**

The board reviewed the proposed application and guidelines for the SCPR Adopt – a Trail or Park Program. Keith commented on the two year commitment. He suggested the term be longer. Bob stated that two years allows for turnover of the adoption for changing groups. Groups wanting to commit to a longer term need only reapply after the two year term.

John suggested eliminating the “or park” preposition. He stated it was too wordy or disjointed. Bob stated it more accurately reflects the program as groups can volunteer to serve in either capacity.

Keith suggested changing the language of *under 18 years* to 17 years and younger in the guidelines document to be consistent with the language in the application.

Concern was expressed about the amount of time and energy needed from Parks staff to train volunteers on an annual basis. Bob stated that it is within our ability to train groups on an annual basis and a variety of strategies can be implemented. Large group training, video training and on site staff training. Lloyd suggested using the Adopt-A-Highway training video.

It was suggested and agreed that the scope of work should be limited to the Project Maintenance Plan described in the application so that the volunteer group and SCPR are on the same page as to what is involved and what is expected of the volunteers.

Liz made motion to adopt the resolution and the accompanying documents to go forward to the Board of Skagit County Commissioner's with a resolution for the Adopt-A-Trail or Parks program. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

7:10 – 7:25

Staff Reports -

Best SELF: Bob Vaux spoke of his recent meeting with Mike Crawford regarding Boys & Girls Club. Although there wasn't a lot of progress made this last year to develop a plan or strategy to work together there is ongoing communication. Additionally, a new Executive Director has been hired locally for the Boys & Girls Club and Tawni will be working to develop a strong rapport to become more familiar with the respective programs and to ultimately find ways to work together.

Tawni also reported that she spent an entire day with representatives from the NorthWest Educational Services District (NWESD) and Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). Discussion at this meeting surrounded the recent audit of OSPI by the Feds last summer. The results of the audit have not yet been released but word is there was a finding at the state level and as a result the state will be cutting back on the summer migrant grant. More importantly, the criteria for eligibility is being scrutinized with higher intensity. In addition, the expectations involved with providing a migrant summer program have multiplied. Armed with this new information it was proposed that SCPR not pursue the summer migrant grant. This third and final proposal was a combination of both the first two. Essentially, eliminating the migrant grant and reducing the program by 8 classrooms. Tawni also reported that the Skagit County Finance Administrator was receptive and supportive of this third and final proposal.

Recreation:

Dennis reported that gym space is becoming an even greater precious commodity and more expensive all the time. Revenue for 2004 is up as projected with the increase program fees.

Cardinal Cove:

The lease for Cardinal Cove has not yet been received from the College.

7:25 – 7:35

Hwy 20 Trail -

Liz reported that Dean Maxwell has prepared a letter for Don Munks to sign for the East – West trail. Initially, there were concerns regarding the proximity to the railroad and

trains. Bob said there is no train so there is no issue. The City of Anacortes purchased the train rail.

Liz also went on to report that she authored and was awarded a technical assistance grant through the National Park Service. As a result the NPS will provide technical assistance to do a feasibility study of dikes and trails. Bob stressed the importance of beginning a community conversation with property owners prior to the feasibility study. Liz responded that that is her goal and she plans to speak with the property owners to identify issues, legal and otherwise and compensation. Once all of the issues are identified then they can talk about strategies and how to work through the issues.

Bob also spoke of Burlington's successful negotiations with the Dike District. Recently, the Dike District has agreed to open the dike off Gardner Road. However, it is not yet posted.

7:35 – 7:40

Board Nominations:

With the approaching new year, Keith nominated Colleen Fisher to Chair the board. That nomination was seconded by Liz. Colleen nominated Lloyd as Vice-Chair. Voting will commence in January at the next meeting.

Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 7:40
The December meeting has been canceled
Next Meeting January 20th, 2005