



PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Willis Tucker Park

6705 Puget Park Drive Snohomish Washington

Tuesday February 11, 2020 3:00pm – 5:00pm

10. Call to Order

10.1. John Ewald called the meeting to order. There was a quorum present.

20. Roll Call

20.1. Voting Board Members –

John Dewhirst (pending) (Dist. 3)
 David Divoky (At Large)
 John Ewald (At Large) (Chair)
 Mike Farrell (At Large)
 Ting Liu (At Large)
 Bob McCarty (Dist. 5) (Vice Chair)

x
x
x
x
x

Darrell Olson (At Large)
 Robert Putnam (Dist. 1)
 Shawn Tobin (At Large)
 Steve Yandl (Dist. 4) (Notes)
 Vacant (Dist. 2)

x
x
x
x

20.2. Staff (Parks and other County Departments or agencies) – Tom Teigen, Russ Bosanko, Sharon Swan.

20.3. Guests – Jamie Holland

30. Review and Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

30.1. Minutes of the November 2019 meeting were approved.

40. Public Hearings/Meetings

40.1. Russ Bosanko distributed a copy of proposed County Council Ordinance #20-001 to reduce parking and boat launch fees at certain parks. The public hearing is set for Wednesday, February 19, 2020, 8th floor of the County Camus, 3000 Rockefeller Ave, Everett WA.

50. Oral Requests from the Audience/Correspondence

50.1. Jamie Holland was invited to share or pose questions.

50.1.1. She indicated she has a son very involved in BMX and would be interested in opportunities to expand the number of locations for BMX activities beyond the current track operated by Evergreen BMX at McCollum Park. Currently, the family regularly commutes to Port Orchard and other moderately distant locations to participate in events.

50.1.2. Russ Bosanko shared a brief history of the partnership between Parks and Evergreen BMX and suggested that a recent change in leadership might open doors for other sites, possibly Evergreen State Fairgrounds or Cavalero Hill Park. He also shared with Jamie how the RFP process for public / private partnerships with Parks works and made some preliminary suggestions on how she might proceed.

50.1.3. Jamie provided an overview of the different levels of competition; local, state, regional and national, and answered questions on the levels of participation as well as positive impact on County tourism. A typical event might draw 500 participants plus their families.

60. General Business

60.1. Elect new chair, vice chair and note taker for 2020.

60.1.1. Unanimous approval of John Ewald to repeat as chairman, Bob McCarty to repeat as vice chairman and Steve Yandl to continue as note taker.

60.2. Boards and Commissions Training.

60.2.1. The power point presentation isn't complete but nearly complete.

60.2.2. Mike Farrell and John Dewhirst informed Russ that they have not yet received the training. Russ agreed to send them to power point to review.

60.3. May 12, 2020 Field Trip – Anticipate visits to Esperance, Cavalero and Flowing Lake for a tour time of roughly 2.5 to 3 hours.

60.4. Proposed County Ordinance #20-001 (see Section 40.1 on the upcoming public hearing). Proposal is from Councilman Nate Nehring. The proposal is to extend a 50% reduction in parking and boat launch fees for those 62 years of age or older at Flowing Lake, Kayak Point, River Meadows, Wenberg and Wyatt parks. The anticipated reduction in collections is approximately \$30,000 annually.

70. Reports from the Staff/Status Reports

70.1. Planning/Engineering/Design/Construction Projects

70.1.1. Wyatt and Sunset County Parks – City of Lake Stevens.

70.1.1.1. Park is to be transferred to the city of Lake Stevens in several weeks.

70.1.2. Esperance County Park.

70.1.2.1. Park is nearly complete but water issues due to recent rains has slightly postponed final work.

70.1.2.2. Pictures distributed.

70.1.3. Kayak Point Golf Course

70.1.3.1. Fourth RFP for public – private partnerships opened January 31, 2020. Russ Bosanko will update.

70.1.3.2. Russ distributed an article on repurposing golf courses that appeared recently in 'Landscape Architectural Magazine.

70.1.3.3. Russ suggested we could sign up/subscribe to receive notifications to stay on top of updates made to the dedicated web page for Kayak Point progress.

70.1.4. Carousel Ranch County Park.

70.1.4.1. Latest plan calls for 4 full size lit athletic field s

70.1.4.2. Roughly 60% of bid documents are ready to go.

70.1.5. McCollum County Park

70.1.5.1. Pictures and map diagrams of the Community Transit plan were distributed. There will be an increase in parking stalls, anticipating greatly increased demand for parking space in the near future.

70.1.5.2. Tom Teigen provided some preliminary thoughts regarding the potential for a Farmer's Market on the site. The agriculture community is quite enthused about having some sort of food hub.

70.1.5.2.1. Could include a food processing center. Currently, much locally harvested food crop is shipped quite a distance to be processed.

70.1.5.2.2. Could have both a commercial kitchen and teaching kitchen.

70.1.5.2.3. A public market could be the centerpiece of such a hub.

70.1.6. Possible county wide parks and trails bond in 2022.

70.1.6.1. County is trying to learn what they can from the recent East County Parks and Recreation District Bond/Levy.

70.1.7. West Lake Roesiger Update – Need to get update from Tom Teigen at March meeting.

70.1.8. Executive Horse Council of Snohomish County.

70.1.8.1. The group of roughly 45 meets monthly. Sharon Swan provided an update.

70.1.9. Whitehorse Community Park

70.1.9.1. Sharon Swan distributed a conceptual drawing of the campground improvements.

70.1.9.2. This will be our first park with equestrian camping. Parks was made aware of the need for equestrian camping from the recent 'horses count' survey.

70.1.9.3. The project will be in two phases, which will be followed by construction of a restroom.

70.1.9.3.1. Phase One will be the RV loop and equestrian camping loop with scheduled construction occurring late Summer or Fall.

70.1.9.3.2. Phase Two will be the tent camping loop.

70.1.9.4. Currently in the permitting process and construction diagrams are being completed.

70.1.10. Veterans acknowledgement on Centennial Trail.

70.1.10.1. There is interest in signage to recognize veterans, however, there is already existing signage and proceeding on adding more requires a sensitive but thorough evaluation process to keep everyone happy in the future.

70.1.11. Lighting a single field at Willis Tucker Park with a lighting grant awarded to Mill Creek Little League.

70.1.11.1. If this plan continues to move forward, Parks will coordinate with the adjacent HOA through Steve Yandl to make sure neighbor concerns are addressed before lighting is installed.

70.2. Events

80. Park Director's Time (Tom Teigen with help from Russ Bosanko).

80.1. Tom spoke about a proposed bill in Olympia that would impose a 0.1% sales tax as a parks funding mechanism. County Parks returns (from fees etc.) roughly two thirds of what is drawn from the general fund but still needs to seek funds to have a sustainable system.

80.2. Recent changes on the County Council mean there could be changes in how tax revenue is distributed to different county departments in the future.

80.3. We discussed property tax and taxation in general. Tom recommended committee members to talk to neighbors and consider what our funding model in the future should be. In evaluating and returning with suggestions, he asked we review the funding model through the lens of the three considerations listed below.

80.3.1. Fiscal sustainability.

80.3.2. Environmental sustainability.

80.3.3. Equitable access.

80.4. Tom addressed ongoing efforts to be more data driven (with accurate data) to be smarter in what we do. This includes techniques such as geofencing which he explained.

80.5. Russ shared some staffing changes at both Council and Parks.

80.5.1. Megan Dunn is new to the Council and Terry Ryan recently moved to the Executive's office working on airport issues leaving the District 4 position vacant for the time being.

80.5.2. Parks will soon be interviewing a candidate to fill the vacant communications specialist position.

80.5.3. Special events scheduler, Emily Scott now spends 3 days a week at the fairgrounds, the remaining two at Willis Tucker Park.

80.5.4. Also, Park Maintenance Supervisor 1, Park Ranger Assistant, Facility Maintenance Worker II have recently been filled or are posted on the County's Job Opportunities webpage.

80.5.5. Russ distributed a large organizational chart to provide an overview of the Sports Commission/DVA/Tourism staff.

90. Messages from the Board. Around the Table

90.1. John Dewhirst

90.2. David Divoky

90.3. Tammy Dunn

90.4. John Ewald

90.4.1. John is still hearing from many interested parties regarding shooting range/park opportunities. He wants to make sure our board and Parks is still receptive to the options.

90.4.2. John wants to make sure the West Lake Roesiger Park remains as a discussion topic for our group.

90.5. Mike Farrell

90.5.1. Mike was involved in lobbying for the possible 0.1% sales tax to support parks. He indicated the bill has bipartisan support and would hopefully be moving from house to senate soon.

90.5.2. Provided a synopsis of the recent levy and bond measures for the East County Parks District, said they had learned from the experience and were pursuing new funding options but was happy to share with County staff so any proposed bond measure would have a greater chance at passing.

90.6. Brett Kinney

90.7. Bob McCarty

90.7.1. Bob recently spent time lobbying both on behalf of cities and Highway 2 needs.

90.7.2. Bob wanted to chat with Kevin Teague on new info regarding the potential shooting park.

90.7.3. Recent weather-related problems in Sky Valley highlighted need for emergency generators.

90.8. Darrell Olson

90.9. Robert Putnam

90.10. Shawn Tobin

90.11. Steve Yandl

100. Adjournment

ADA Notice: Snohomish County facilities are accessible. Accommodations for persons with disabilities, sign language interpreters and communications materials in alternate form will be provided upon advance request. Please make arrangements one week prior to the hearing by calling the Park Department office, 425-388-6602.