



## PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Willis Tucker Park (Zoom meeting)

6705 Puget Park Drive Snohomish Washington

Tuesday July 14, 2020 3:00pm – 5:00pm (Zoom meeting)

10. Call to Order

10.1. John Ewald called the meeting to order. A quorum was not 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

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

x
x

20.2. Staff (Parks and other County Departments or agencies) – Russ Bosanko, Tom Teigen, Tammy Dunn (ex officio),

20.3. Guests – Jamie Holland.

30. Review Minutes of June 2020.

30.1. No changes suggested but without a quorum the vote to approve was postponed.

40. Public Hearings/Meetings

50. Oral Requests from the Audience/Correspondence

50.1. Jamie Holland commented that with the minimal usage of BMX facilities possible during COVID restrictions and corresponding reduction in ongoing maintenance, there were developing problems with overgrowth of blackberries and other nuisance plants around the perimeter of the BMX facility.

60. General Business

60.1. May 12, 2020 Field Trip – Rescheduled for September 8, 2020 – Esperance, Cavalero, Flowing Lake. Leave Willis Tucker Park at 2pm, hopefully return by 5:45pm. With the governor indicating delays in moving forward through COVID-19 restriction phases, September may also an unlikely date. Russ asked for feedback. Board members are willing to take private vehicles and make other adjustments to make the field trip possible, but the restrictions may take the decision out of our hands. Russ will keep us posted as the situation evolves.

60.2. RCO (Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office) -Planning staff have been working hard on nine (9) grant applications! County Parks could use additional letters of support from the Park Advisory Board and perhaps other groups that you are affiliated with. Sharon will review and provide a written sample. It would be ideal to have letters endorsed by the board before the end of July although getting multiple signatures on multiple letters in a short time frame might be challenging in our restricted meeting environment.

60.2.1. Whitehorse campground.

60.2.2. Kayak Point

60.2.3. Whitehorse trail – next phase.

60.2.4. Meadowdale Park – culvert project.

60.2.5. Oso slide memorial.

## 70. Reports from the Staff/Status Reports

### 70.1. COVID-19 impacts – Consistent with the Governor’s 4 phase plan:

It was noted that when crab season opened, enforcement of rules for parks during phase 2 went well with the majority of visitors to Kayak Point boat launch simply played by the rules or complied with instructions from rangers. It probably did not hurt that the weather was mediocre which probably reduced the number of visitors.

#### 70.1.1. Phase 2 – Snohomish County was granted by the Governor’s office entry into Phase 2

70.1.1.1. Gatherings limited to your immediate family + 5 others...or 10 max.

70.1.1.2. Most camping allowed but all yurts except Yurt 10 closed at Kayak Point.

70.1.1.3. Restrooms increased cleaning.

70.1.1.4. Playgrounds still closed.... Some athletic field use with approved safety protocols.

70.1.1.5. Park staff wear face masks.

70.1.1.6. Camping picnic shelters open w online reservations.

70.1.1.7. No cash handling.... Payment online, pre-paid, credit cards.

70.1.1.8. Dog parks open w social distancing.

70.1.1.9. Playgrounds closed until Phase 3.

70.1.1.10. McCollum pool closed.

70.1.1.11. Willis Tucker Park Spray Pad does not open yet.

70.1.1.12. Picnic Shelters closed until further notice. Note that parties with 5 or fewer individuals can utilize the shelters.

70.1.1.13. Drinking fountains/showers closed.

70.1.1.14. Events cancelled.

#### 70.1.2. Phase 3 – Outdoor group re: sports activities (5-50 people, Recreation facilities at less than 50% capacity) such as public pools.

70.1.2.1. Allow gatherings with no more than 50 people.

70.1.2.2. Indoor gyms – less than 50% capacity.

70.1.2.3. Government offices open...telework remains strongly encouraged.

#### 70.1.3. Phase 4 – Resume public interactions with physical distancing.

70.1.3.1. Resume all recreational activities.

70.1.3.2. Allow gatherings with more than 50 people.

70.1.3.3. Concert venues.

70.1.3.4. Large sporting events.

70.1.3.5. Resume unrestricted staffing of worksites but continue to practice physical distancing and good hygiene.

## 70.2. Planning/Engineering/Design/Construction Projects

70.2.1. Cavalero County Park – Substantial completion acknowledged on Friday, Jun 5, allowing us to have the park site open to the public on Saturday, June 6, 2020. Minor punch list items can be accomplished by the contractor while the park is open to the public until final acceptance of the project has been achieved. No official grand opening ceremony but that is possible in late summer of fall. Russ shared a slide show of the park that was quite impressive.

70.2.2. Esperance County Park also reached substantial completion with the park being open to the public, but playground remains closed. Perhaps grand opening ceremony late summer or Fall. Pictures shared on Zoom.

70.2.3. Kayak Point Golf Course/Public- Private Partnership RFP) (4th) open 1/31/20 – 2/28/2020. Possible RFP evaluations Wednesday, March 19, 10am - 12pm – Update from Russ Bosanko.

70.2.3.1. Received 11 proposals for various county park properties – 4 of the 11 relate to the Kayak Point Golf Course Property specifically.

70.2.4. Carousel Ranch County Park – Demolition of the remaining structures completed by contractor and county parks staff. Getting close to 90% plans, possibly go out to bid late 2020, or Spring 2021.

70.2.5. McCollum County Park, Community Transit park and ride improvements, Russ working on new maintenance and operation agreement with Community Transit, Potential Farmer's Market via RFP proposal. Drive thru COVID 19 testing may be occurring at McCollum Park soon.

70.2.6. Evergreen State Fair Park – East side will be used as future field hospital replacing the Angels of the Wind Arena in Everett.

70.2.7. Possible County-wide Parks and Trails Bond, November 2022. Considering the economic impact of COVID-19 restrictions, this is an improbable date, but the concept remains in play while we progress for a healthier economy.

70.2.8. West Lake Roesiger Update Tom Teigen.

70.2.9. Executive Horse Council of Snohomish County – Update Tom Teigen, Russ Bosanko.

70.2.9.1. About 3 weeks prior to this meeting a small event with 8 horses was held.

70.2.10. Whitehorse Community Park – Camping Improvements go out to bid late May early June with possible construction later Summer/Fall. MOU w Town of Darrington, Darrington School District, Darrington Youth Athletic Association and Snohomish County Parks.

70.2.11. Veteran's acknowledgement on Centennial Trail, looking to relocate project possibly at county campus in Everett.

70.2.12. Lighting one (1) field at Willis Tucker Park with Mill Creek Little League

### 70.3. Events

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

80.1. Parks Personnel Changes resulting from COVID-19 impact.

80.1.1. Hiring freeze until December 31, 2020.

80.1.1.1. Specific exceptions granted by the county council.

80.1.1.1.1. FTE – FMW4 – park maintenance NPDES – position is paid by surface water management (SWM) division.

80.1.1.1.2. Fifteen seasonal staff.

80.1.1.1.3. Seven park ranger assistants; 4 in operations, 3 in maintenance.

80.1.1.1.4. Eight park aides in park operations.

80.1.1.2. Initially denied.

80.1.1.2.1. One FTE senior park planner.

80.1.1.2.2. One FTE park ranger assistant.

80.1.2. Tom indicated that COVID-19 restrictions were making this a very tough budget cycle for parks.

80.1.2.1. Parks leaders for several counties are in regular communications researching new funding options to support parks.

80.1.2.2. Financial care package was not supposed to be an offset for lost revenue which means no mitigation of the loss parks will endure by not having the Evergreen State Fair plus other lost uses of the fairgrounds during restriction.

80.1.2.3. An inquiry was made about the possibility of drive in movies at the fairgrounds. Tom shared that the idea had been considered and the conclusion was that the probability of an event not making money or even losing money was too high for the risk to be taken. Restrictions from the governor are fluid so even if the risks were acceptable drive in movies might not be allowed anyway. Looking at options like opening rides but that is not without problems. Car racing can happen but without fans.

80.1.3. Jamie Holland inquired why Squire Creek campground was set up to be walk ins only with no reservations possible. Russ and Tom were a bit surprised by that and promised to check it out.

## 90. Messages from the Board. Around the Table

90.1. John Dewhirst

90.2. David Divoky

90.3. Tammy Dunn

90.3.1. Tammy said that not moving forward into Phase III of restrictions was impacting events planned for August, September and beyond.

90.3.2. Tammy indicated challenges, both economical and the huge impact on youth sports and sports in general.

90.4. John Ewald

90.4.1. John spoke briefly about a new type boat being used more frequently on Lake Roesiger.

90.4.1.1. The boat is a surf/wake boat. Basically, a powerful boat designed to take on significant ballast so it rides deeply enough in the water to produce waves that can be surfed.

90.4.1.2. This started when the lake had historically high-water levels and the arrival of the boats caused damage to docks, other shoreline structures and the shore itself.

90.4.1.3. Parks would be the agency to place signage restricting use of such boats or other problematic watercraft.

90.5. Mike Farrell

90.6. Ting Liu

90.7. Bob McCarty

90.7.1. Bob indicated disappointment in not hearing any progress on reconveyance of the land for a range or steelhead park.

90.7.2. Pedestrian bridge project he has been involved in is near completion.

90.8. Darrell Olson

90.8.1. Had gone hiking at Lord Hill for the first time last weekend. He was impressed.

90.8.2. In response to a question, he commented that much, or all high school athletics would likely not commence as usual in fall.

90.9. Robert Putnam

90.10. Shawn Tobin

90.11. Steve Yandl

90.11.1. Made an inquiry about a neighbor near Willis Tucker Park wanting to create a small “rock garden” display along a path in Willis Tucker Park. Sample pictures had been forwarded to Russ. Russ had discussed the idea with rangers, and nobody saw a problem with such a non-permanent and discreet display that would give some artistic folks a creating outlet to relive cabin fever after COVID-19 limits.

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.