

PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Willis Tucker Park

6705 Puget Park Drive Snohomish Washington
Tuesday September 11, 2018 3:00pm - 4:30pm

10. Call to Order

20. Roll Call

20.1. Voting Board Members –

John Briney (Dist. 3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bob McCarty (Dist. 5)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Catherine Collins (At Large) (Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Darrell Olson (At Large)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
David Divoky (At Large)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Robert Putnam (Dist. 1)	<input type="checkbox"/>
John Ewald (At Large) (Vice Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Shawn Tobin (At Large)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brett Kinney (At Large)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steve Yandl (Dist. 4) (Notes)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Julie Langabeer (Dist. 2) (Notes)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

20.2. Staff (Parks and other County Departments or agencies) -

Tom Teigen, Parks Director; Russ Bosanko, Division Manager; Emily Druschba, Sharon Swan, Tammy Dunn (ex officio), Tom Eksten.

20.3. Guests -

Jim Bloss, East County Parks and Recreation Commissioner.

20.4. Catherine Collins arrival was delayed so John Ewald chaired the meeting.

30. Review and Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting - The July, 2018 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

40. Public Hearings/Meetings

40.1. Tom Teigen announced that 10:30am, September 24, at the County Campus in Council Chambers there would be a joint resolution thanking 'Back Country Horseman' for their support of improvements at Lord Hill Park. Board members were welcome to attend.

50. Oral Requests from the Audience/Correspondence

60. General Business

60.1. Parks, Recreation and Tourism Booth

60.1.1. Emily Druschba was soliciting input and will be working with Rich Patton to make improvements for the booth next year.

60.1.2. It was hoped we could have labels and perhaps a short narrative for each of the pictures that would be on display.

60.1.3. It was felt we got plenty of visits without having to resort to any sort of drawing this year.

60.2. Boards and Commissions Training.

60.2.1. Russ Bosanko announced that the September 12 meeting previously scheduled for Willis Tucker Park was moved to the County Campus in Everett.

60.2.2. The final training session for 2018 is scheduled for Wednesday, December 12 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm, County Campus Public Meeting Rooms (address is 3000 Rockefeller Avenue, Everett, WA 98201). Catherine Collins stated she would be attending that session.

60.3. RFP – Kayak Point Golf Course.

60.3.1. The current operator, Access Golf, has written County Parks a termination letter indicating their last day of operating and managing the golf course will be October 21, 2018.

60.3.2. Russ Bosanko is working with County Purchasing to put out a specific RFP looking for someone to either operate the 270-acre Kayak Point Golf Course property as a public golf course or perhaps re-purpose some or all the property for other recreation activities or events. It's hoped the RFP would go out in early September with a closing date of November 1, 2018.

60.3.3. Darrell Olson, Brett Kinney and Tammy Dunn indicated an interest and willingness to participate in evaluation of received proposals.

60.4. With the RFP for Kayak Point Golf Course going out in early Fall to the public, private RFP would likely go out hopefully November 8, 2018 with a probable closing date sometime in December 2018.

60.5. Willis Tucker Park

60.5.1. Emily Druschba shared that the new policy for 'Movies in the Park' requiring attendees under 18 to be accompanied by an adult or legal guardian caused some limited displeasure the first few weeks but was generally well received and resulted in higher percentage of young families in attendance and greatly reduced teen loitering in the park after movies ended. Russ Bosanko circulated pictures of the crowds.

60.5.2. There was a situation where at least one real estate company who was not sponsoring the movies had apparently made some implied claims that they had when in actuality they had simply reserved a picnic shelter. The company management was later contacted and apologized for the subterfuge.

60.5.3. Attendance was good despite new competition from Thomas Family Farms running Thursday night movies in the Snohomish Valley on the same Thursday evenings.

70. Reports from the Staff/Status Reports

70.1. Planning/Engineering/Design/Construction Projects

70.1.1. Trail outreach with cities, county trail coalition etc.

70.1.1.1. Tom Eksten provided an update and distributed maps.

70.1.1.1.1. Catherine Collins asked Tom to provide some personal background. He was deeply involved in acquiring about 175 miles of trails while working for King County on the Forward Thrust bond. He has been deeply involved with the state trail advisory committee, served state and county in numerous capacities in support of trails and worked as a consultant after retiring from King County and before coming to be the "trail guru" for Snohomish County.

70.1.1.1.2. The initial plans Tom drafted were in a state of flux, in large part because of revisions responding to ADA mandates.

70.1.1.1.3. Has met with many city leaders within the County as well as other stakeholders in a regional trail system and has more meetings upcoming. Currently, he is seeking the public input that was lacking in his initial draft plan. Thus far, there is much enthusiasm from those he has met with.

70.1.1.1.4. On area of focus is to create links between trails and population centers to area waterways and Puget Sound.

70.1.1.1.5. Talked briefly about an exciting new trail surface being used and evaluated in Ferry County. If it holds up over time, this type trail would make possible lower cost trail construction of trails suitable for horse traffic and other uses with minimal negative ecological impact.

70.1.1.1.6. Pointed out the value of making trails wider than absolutely needed when possible since the trail isn't truly usable out to the edge and a good multi-use trail demands a bit of "elbow room"

70.1.2. Lord Hill Park update.

70.1.2.1. Russ Bosanko shared some issues of vandalism at Lord Hill due to the isolated nature of the Tester Road entrance.

70.1.2.2. Looking for a caretaker for the entrance on the Monroe side of the park to hopefully curb some of the vandalism problems.

70.1.3. Wyatt Park

70.1.3.1. Russ Bosanko indicated trusses had been completed for the roof for the new boat house.

70.1.4. "Horses Count" survey

70.1.4.1. Catherine Collins and Sharon Swan reported that there were just shy of 1500 responses sent in on the survey with about 2/3 coming from zip codes in Snohomish County.

70.1.4.2. This sort of data, while not complete, had never been done before and was making possible new maps that could show density of horse ownership within the county.

70.1.4.3. The predominant message was that owners were interested in more back country trails for horse riding, improvements to regional trails and trail head improvements with attention to the needs of horse riders and also overnight equestrian camping as well.

70.1.5. Wenberg Construction update.

70.1.6. WTA (Washington Trails Association) at Heybrook Ridge.

70.1.7. Park Mitigation Fee Update.

70.1.7.1. Sharon Swan distributed a summary sheet on the 2018 biennial Update to Snohomish County Park Impact Mitigation Fees.

70.1.7.2. Sharon spoke on the history and reasoning behind the fees and current changes.

70.1.8. 2015-2016 RFP update.

70.1.9. Historical Video Project – Catherine Collins, Carousel Horse Community Park, Nakashima Barn/Trailhead, Flowing (Leckies) Lake County Park, Bob Heirman/Thomas' Eddy, Rhody Ridge Arboretum (Completed), Kayak Point County Park (Completed), etc.

70.1.9.1. Recently added to our webpage, Joe Rantz, 1936 Olympics. North Cascade Boathouse, Wyatt County Park.

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

80.1. Tom shared that 2018 fair attendance wasn't a new record but came in 3rd best attended (using uninflated data). Through use of E-ticketing, honest head counts are available and crowd density can be determined in real time making it possible to direct staff to where service was most needed.

80.2. Answered questions on the fair's safety history which has been good but will always be a point of emphasis.

80.3. The county is nearing the end of the current budget process. Parks, Recreation and Tourism will likely be sharing some REET funds with surface water management in support of the common goal of maintaining clean water for recreation and other purposes.

80.4. Evaluation of options for the future to add multi-use structures to the fairgrounds while honoring the priority of protecting the character of the fair.

80.5. Tom commented on how the limited serving of alcohol with a beer garden linked to the speedway went. The decision to allow beer during the fair had caused some consternation on the fair board.

80.6. Jim Bloss had some inquiries and comments regarding funding sources to link and improve existing trails as part of the regional trails plan.

90. Messages from the Board. Around the Table

90.1. John Briney

90.2. Catherine Collins

90.2.1. Catherine worked the fair booth solo and felt she would have benefited from more information resources since she is so new to the advisory board.

90.2.2. Commented about nauseous odor wafting from the ride area that was a challenge to work with.

90.3. David Divoky

90.3.1. Commented that his shift working the booth was his first visit ever to the fair and he really enjoyed himself.

90.3.2. Worked with ranger, Nick Gero, and found him knowledgeable and pleasant to work with.

90.4. John Ewald

90.5. Brett Kinney

90.5.1. Brett had visited Flowing Lake Campground and felt it was quite nice with the exception of the limited/restricted entry area that led to congestion. County Parks has a plan in place to widen and improve the entry way into the park.

90.5.2. Brett had some feedback regarding conversations with the public during his booth shift.

90.5.2.1. There is interest in more hookups for electric vehicles at parks.

90.5.2.2. Inquiries on camping options at or near the fairgrounds.

90.5.2.3. Questions on the difference (or links) between the annual passes for the county and the pass for Washington State Parks. He suggested we might have information on the annual pass featured at future fair booths.

90.6. Julie Langabeer

90.6.1. Julie enjoyed her stint at the fair and felt the rangers she had the opportunity to work with were very informative and entertaining.

90.7. Bob McCarty

90.7.1. Bob was working evening security at the fair. He shared a complaint issue some parents had regarding the shutdown time for the young children's ride section.

90.7.2. There were issues where RVs have inadequate electric connections that result in system overload with the current capacity.

90.8. Darrell Olson

90.9. Robert Putnam

90.10. Shawn Tobin

90.11. Steve Yandl

100. Adjournment