

KITSAP COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD

January 17, 2024
MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 PM by the Parks Advisory Board Vice-Chair, Lisa Hurt. Guidelines of the hybrid Advisory Board Meeting were read.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES | ACTION: Lisa Hurt requested correction to November 15, 2023 meeting minutes. Lisa was incorrectly named as Park Steward. *Lisa Hurt motioned to adopt November 15, 2023 meeting minutes with correction. Jon Pearson seconded the motion. Minutes approved.*

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Joshua Wright – Legacy Forest Defense Coalition. In November, Kitsap County Board of Commissioners sent a letter to Department of Natural Resources requesting a pause on upcoming timber harvesting of older and structurally complex forests on DNR managed lands in Kitsap County. They requested this pause so Kitsap County could work with DNR to protect these mature forests. Kitsap County Parks could play a key role in protecting four parcels of trust lands owned by DNR at Big Beef creek.
Request Kitsap County Parks consider the possibility of reconveying these four parcels to protect 20 acres of 120-year-old forests. DNR parcel # 627862776276 and 6288. Contact - joshua@wlfdc.org
- Sam Huff – West Sound Disc Golf Association. Provide a year in review and bring attention to the popularity of the sport in this area. Volunteered 300 hours to maintain and improve the Fairgrounds course in 2023. Provided statistics regarding the usage of the course which has increased due to the growing popularity of the sport. Community is actively seeking areas for additional course. The Square Lake property is highly desired.
- Beverly Parsons – Hansville resident.
 - Regarding PROS plan, the director's report says that a third and final survey is targeted for late January/early February 2024. However, it is not clear when the PROS plan is to be submitted and if and when there will be a public hearing about the plan itself (not just giving input through a survey). I see on the PAB 2023 Work Plan (p.17) that you want it completed by March 2024 but that is part of their 2023 work plan. Have you revised that date? How will you get adequate public comment on the plan as a whole when you're still collecting survey data? Also, will you be holding a public hearing on the plan such as is being done by the Planning Commission on the CAO and the Comp Plan?
 - Regarding another item on the 2023 work plan: it talks about reviewing the "Port Gamble and Coulter Creek framework recommendations to be reviewed as part of the updated PROS plan". Where is this fitting in the process?
 - The director's report also says that "wide-spread community engagement is paramount to a successful PROS plan...". It says that "community segments currently underrepresented are youth and differently abled so the staff is trying to close the gap with ...". It says nothing about community segments that represent BIPOC communities, low-income communities, and communities with different access to technology and capacity to respond to the surveys as conducted. What are you doing in that regard?
 - On another topic, how does the public have a voice in making recommendations for membership on the PAB, and the length of terms of PAB members? Who determines if a person can be reappointed versus giving new people an opportunity to serve on the PAB? Also, what about racial representation on the PAB? It looks to me like the membership is all white and there are no youth on the PAB. Please provide information regarding these aspects of the PAB.
- Carol Price –
 - Extended thanks to the Friends of Newberry Heritage Park for sending letters supporting beaver legislation, Senate Bill 5846. This legislation will provide management and funding for beaver refuges.

- Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park Stewardship meeting – proposal to not decommission the north end of Alders Trail rather create a walking only trail.
- What is a Dirt Camp at Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park? How will it affect other park users?
- Marion Allen – How do volunteers and Park Stewardships Groups communicate with each other? The volunteer newsletter is nice, but the volunteers should have opportunity to share presentations, take fields trips and for restoration groups to educate each other.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS-

- Staff Introduction – Kevin Ceder, new Kitsap County Forester, started January 8, 2024. Originally from Gig Harbor. Background in Natural Resources and Forestry.
- 2023 Events Year in Review- Alex Hardy presented statics regarding rental usage at all facilities throughout 2023. Provided information regarding 2024 Events team goals.

POSITION ELECTIONS –

Nominating Sub Committee has met several times via phone. Nomination from the committee are-

- Parks Advisory Board Chair – Larry Walker
- Parks Advisory Board Vice Chair – Lisa Hurt

No further nominations presented.

ACTION | Jon Pearson moves the Board vote on nominees. Linda Berry Maraist second motion. Unanimous vote to approve nominees.

PAB WORKPLAN – 2023 workplan provided for review. Begin conversations to update goals and create 2024 workplan. Recommendation to carry over two high priority goals, (i) PROS Plan and (ii) Parks Code updates. Additional moderate priority goals (i) Events policy updates, (ii) PAB Bi-law updates, (iii) Community and youth engagement in Parks.

Question has Parks considered developing a monitoring plan to validate the success of a park in meeting the PROs Plan mandate for protecting wildlife and plants in Kitsap Parks?

ACTION | Larry Walker moves to adopt 2023 workplan moving forward as the 2024 workplan. Lisa Hurt seconds motion. All Board members in favor.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Point No Point Beach and Shoreline Restoration Project –
 - This is a two-Phase project. Phase 1 largely completed in December which solely focused on north beach repairs on County Parks property. Work included importing materials to repair damage caused by King Tides in 2022. Proposing a Phase 2 to bring north beach elevation higher, add a secondary shore dune near the entrance road to provide dual level protection, add vegetation to north beach to help stabilize soil and rebuilt the rock wall on Coast Guard property in front of lighthouse, repair work to parking lot and repair east beach. Higher level of review and permits from regulatory agencies. Targeting summer of 2024 to begin Phase 2 work.
- Stollemeyer Trailhead Parking Lot
 - Finalizing contract with Contractor, Marwood General Construction. Board of County Commissioners will review and sign contract on January 22, 2024. Site visit and preconstruction meeting scheduled to discuss timeline.
- Maintenance and Operations Program–

Security at Facilities – Parks experiencing a string of vandalism and break ins at Long Lake Park and other facilities. Currently working with Kitsap County Risk Management and Information Services departments to acquire security camera systems and remote security camera trailer units. Plans to install and implement this equipment at most high targeted areas for vandalism over the next year.

Cold Weather Impacts- Multiple areas damaged due to cold and freezing temp

 - Eagle's Nest water line break and flooding in Parks office.
 - Fire suppression system breaks at two barns.
 - Van Zee building over 20 leaks in building water supply system.
 - Wildcat Lake maintenance building and Kola Kole Schoolhouse had frozen water system and no water access.

Finding additional issues at Pavilion and other locations due to cold weather damage. All scheduled

events at these locations had to be canceled.

- Natural Resources Program – Project Spotlight presentation WTA trail work at Banner Forest Heritage Park.
- Parks Open Space Plan –Holiday slowdown but ramping back up in January. Data analysis from the surveys will lead to the drafting of the various elements of the plan which will then help inform the updating of the Goals and Objectives. Third survey is being formulated and will be released soon. This survey is primarily focused on priorities for Capital Improvement projects which is just one segment of the PROs Plan. Projecting there will be a need to extend the due date with the Recreation Conservation Office to April 2024.

SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS – NONE

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

OLD BUSINESS –

- Has the permitting to build stairs at the bridge in Olalla been approved? Permits have not been approved yet. Kiosk was installed and lifejackets supplied with the coordination of Olalla Bay Market.
- Port Gamble Parks Stewards met on January 3rd. Making some real progress, with Irene Weber’s help, on the process of building a connector trail to the Stollemeyer trailhead parking lot. Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance also attended January meeting and shared their concerns regarding lack of parking for Ride Park. Many have concerns about delays of the Ride Park parking lot construction. Bay View parking lot is overused. Suggests more signage at Bay View parking lot to recommend other parking options. Upcoming Work Party on Saturday January 20th, planting on January 27th and next Park Steward meeting in February.
- Last October, Sierra presented to PGFHP Parks Stewards a presentation on wildlife at PGFHP. Would the PAB be interested in this presentation?
- **ACTION** | Jon Pearson moves to have the PAB write a letter to WTA to thank them for the work they have done in Kitsap Parks. Linda Berry Maraist seconds. All members approve.
- Alex Wisniewski presented Joanne Clark with a plaque from the County Commissioners to recognize and appreciate Joanne’s time and service to the Kitsap County Parks Advisory Board.

Alex Wisniewski shared information pertaining to the process to apply for an Advisory Board position. County Commissioners appoint positions to applicants.

NEW BUSINESS –

- What is the process for trail adoption? How do people adopt trails? New program since 2022. Application process for trail adoption.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Joe Lubischer –
 - What is the age breakdown of the groups using the athletic fields?
 - Can you provide a copy of the recording of the Events Presentation?
 - What are the athletic field conditions?
- Jevy Terrell – President of South Kitsap Girls Softball Association and Treasure of South Kitsap Soccer Club. Extended thanks to Alex Hardy for a great presentation and for her efforts to listen to, and respond to the athletic community needs.

Adjournment | **ACTION:** *Larry Walker moved to adjourn the meeting. Jon Pearson seconded the motion. Motioned carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35PM.*

PARKS ADVISORY BOARD ATTENDANCE

PAB MEMBERS	STAFF	PUBLIC
Lisa Hurt, Vice-Chair	Alex Wisniewski	Online public attendee names
Nancy Whitaker	Alex Hardy	not captured

Linda Berry-Maraist	Irene Weber	
Amy Smalley	Kevin Ceder	
Larry Walker	Brian Hauschel	
Jon Pearson	Chuck Cuzzetto	
Amy Lawrence	Dee Tuttle	

