

Kitsap County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

MEETING NOTES

March 21, 2012

6:00 p.m.

Eagles Nest

1195 NW Fairgrounds Rd

Bremerton, WA 98311

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

Welcome & Introductions: Chairman Pearson called the meeting called to order by at 6pm.

Members Present: Jon Pearson, Nancy Frank, Sandra Bauer, Susan Cruver, Stacy Geiger.

Public in attendance: Nelson & Barbara Lanchester, Jack Carver

Staff in attendance: Jim Dunwiddie, Lori Raymaker, Dori Leckner, Billie Schmidt, Tarrah Dofelmier.

Approval of Feb 29, 2012 Minutes – Due to lack of quorum, no vote taken.

Presentation – Stewardship Report

Ms. Raymaker thanked the Board for their service and invited them to attend the Kitsap County Volunteer Recognition Event on April 18th in the Commissioners Chambers.

Ms. Raymaker, Parks Stewardship Coordinator, is responsible for working closely with Kitsap County park volunteers, and coordinating volunteer programs and events. Ms. Raymaker presented a report to the Board on stewardship projects accomplished in 2011 and 2012 goals. The list of stewardships groups in her report include:

Bandix Dog Park
Guillemot Cove
Anderson Landing

Banner Forest
Newberry Hill Heritage Park
Silverdale Dog Park

Howe Farm
Illahee Preserve
North Kitsap Heritage Park

Mr. Dunwiddie stated the County has purchased a utility trailer with tools for Ms. Raymaker to use with the park volunteers. Ms. Raymaker said the trailer is very secure and can easily access most areas. It has created efficiency in her work and the volunteers love it. Ms. Raymaker is currently working on calculating volunteer hours for 2011. She estimates there is up to twelve thousand volunteer hours. Ms. Raymaker is in the process of starting a new a stewardship group in South Kitsap. Ms. Cruver gave information to Ms. Raymaker regarding composting animal waste.

Presentation – County Trails Plan by Dennis Oost

Mr. Oost gave a presentation on the Non-motorized trails plan being drafted for the central and southern areas of the County. He is currently working with community groups and holding weekly workshops to educate the public.

Trail plan Essentials:

1. Adopt a trail plan with prioritized routes.
2. Obtain commitment to the implantation of the trail plan in Kitsap County by the County and community volunteer organizations.
3. Engage a full time proactive County Trails coordinator.
4. Adopt appropriate and achievable trail standards to allow trails to evolve over time.
5. Acquire permanent trail access across open space and promote land conservation.
6. Design, fund and develop trails for strategic use of available financial resources
7. Allocate transportation funding effectively
8. Create a regional non-motorized trail connecting population centers.
9. Establish Trail Connections
10. Ensure annual community review of trail plan progress.
11. Recognize the citizens of Kitsap County as a volunteer base for trail stewardship.

Goals and Objectives:

1. Work with various organizations, community groups, private land owners to develop public-private partnerships for creating a system of connected multi surface and multi-use trails.
2. Promote healthy lifestyles by designing a trail system that serves citizens of all ages and abilities with diverse outdoor recreation activities.
3. Establish Trail routes that highlight the natural beauty of our region and promote appreciate of wildlife and natural systems.
4. Encourage both traditional and innovative land uses to ensure preservation and access to public open space, and development of trails linking Kitsap Communities, working forests, agricultural areas, and new development and community services.
5. Provide educational opportunities and identify points throughout the trails system that highlight cultural resources, working lands & local history and natural science.
6. Connect our trails with other regional, county and cross-state trail systems.
7. Promote our trail system as an eco –tourism and recreation destination and enticement for economic development on the Natural Side of Puget Sound.
8. Encourage non-motorized transportation by offering multiple trail access points and safe, reasonably direct routes between Kitsap Communities.
9. Promote safety in Trail Planning Considerations. Create a network of water trails that allow public access to shoreline by non-motorized boats.
10. Prioritize activities by focusing first on achievable spot fixes
11. Kitsap County will utilize and actively encourage recently adopted best practices in trail construction.

Mr. Oost stated his goal by end of the year is to go through approval process with BOCC.

Director's Report

Mr. Dunwiddie discussed the Kitsap County Open Space Plan and the approval process. He attended a public hearing last week. The plan adoption is anticipated to take place on March 26th. The plan will be filed with RCO on April 1st, 2012.

Director Dunwiddie is expecting a final agreement with the Kitsap Live Steamers completed by April. Jim discussed new partnerships with South Kitsap Girls Softball Association and South Kitsap Rotary, in which the organizations will accept responsibility for field maintenance and fund field improvements.

Director Dunwiddie stated there will be changes to the brush picking RFP's.

Mr. Dunwiddie requested a meeting to coordinate the Board's work plan. He indicated there is a pressing need to on creating subcommittees for review of fees and public use policies.

Staff Report – Billie Schmidt

Ms. Schmidt reported on the following items:

Roof Repair - We will be contracting a roofer to repair leaks at the Pavilion and Presidents Hall. Repair work should be done by April.

Security Gates - We plan to install five additional security gates at the Fairgrounds and Events Center to control vehicular access. This project should be complete by summer 2012.

Gordon #2 grass athletic field - The field will stay closed through the end of May.

Event Pro - We are working I/S to get our new event software installed.

Marketing – We have partnered with the Kitsap Sun, they will be running advertisements for our department in the near future.

Ms Bauer stated she would like to see changes and clarity to the event list on the Parks Department website. She indicated the website is a great sales tool. Ms. Bauer suggested cross linking with the visitors and Convention Bureau.

Mr. Pearson had questions about the 2012 Roller Derby's. Ms. Schmidt stated that attendance this year was down by almost half.

Staff Report – Dori Leckner

Ms. Leckner reported on the following items:

Grants – The department had received a Boaters Facilities Grant for improvement to the Salisbury Point Boat Launch. We are also working on surveying the Parklands and preparing permits for Shoreline grant work. Other potential grant projects include Howe Farm Barn and the NK Options property.

Staff - Project Coordinator position remains open. We have filled two maintenance positions and extra help positions in the Parks and at Village Greens Golf Course. Ms. Leckner reported on upcoming training, planned repairs and general maintenance to be completed by Parks staff.

Staff Report – Dori Leckner - continued

Parks Vandalism – Ms. Leckner reported on park vandalism at SK Regional Parks, Norwegian Point Park, Kola Kole and Buck Lake Park.

Kingston Community Center – We are working to establish a MOA with the Kingston Library for them to take over maintenance of the Indianola Room and Kingston Community Center.

Ms. Leckner reported on various maintenance projects at the following parks: Banner Forest, Howe Farm, Veteran's Park, Village Green Golf Course, Rotary Field, Anderson Point Park, View Point Park, Bandix Dog Park, SK Regional Park, Camp Calvinwood, Horseshoe Lake Park, Harper Park, Wynn Jones Park, Olalla Boat Launch, Long Lake Park & Island Lake Park.

Mr. Pearson inquired about the cost involved for renovating restroom at the Silverdale Dog Park.

Future Agenda Items:

Mr. Dunwiddie would like to discuss the formation of a stewardship group at SK regional Park.

Mr. Dunwiddie would like to invite Arno Bergstrom back to do a presentation on the Forest Management Program.

Adjournment:

Ms. Bauer made a motion to adjourn meeting at 7: 45pm.

Susan – Second

Vote –Unanimous