

Kitsap County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

**MINUTES**

June 20, 2012

6:00 p.m.

Eagles Nest

1195 NW Fairgrounds Rd

Bremerton, WA 98311

**REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING**

---

**Welcome & Introductions:** Chairman Pearson welcomed the board and called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

**Members Present:** Jon Pearson, Tony Otto, Beth Leone Mullins, Stacy Geiger, Mike Arnold, Jennifer Gerstel, Wayne Chapin, and Bart Staker

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

**Public in attendance:** Nelson Lanchester, Barbara Lanchester, Terry Hubbard and members of the Couture Creek Model Airplane Club.

**Approval of February 29, 2012 Minutes:**

Mr. Arnold made a motion to approve the February 29, 2012 minutes.

Second: Mr. Chapin

Vote: unanimous

**Presentation**

Ms. Raymaker introduced Rebekah Uhtoff and April Mills from Bremerton and Beyond Accessible Play. Ms. Uhtoff and Ms. Mills are engineers and both have children with Spina Bifida. They noted that there are 2,500 kids with special needs in Bremerton and CK School Districts. Special Needs includes Physical, cognitive, communication, social, emotional, sensory, chronic health impairment. The presenters shared interest in creating accessible playgrounds where kids could play.

A brief video was shown which explained the differences between accessible and inaccessible play equipment and features. They were also shown examples of accessible ground covers. They noted that Seminole Homestead Park in Gig harbor, a 40 minute drive from Bremerton, is currently the closest accessible park. Kiwanis Park in Bremerton is a good option for parents of autistic children due to the secure surroundings.

Ms. Mills and Ms. Uhtoff stated they are here to serve the community and assist the County in coming up with ideas to implement accessible play equipment. Their organization has applied for several grants. They have received one grant along with several other donations. The sponsors of the Bremerton and Beyond Accessible Play sponsors include: Military special needs network, Hollyridge Center, Bremerton Parks and Recreation, PSNS and IMF Naval Managers Association, Spina Bifida association of WA State

Director Dunwiddie thanked the presenters and stated he would like to work with their organization and assist them with future grant opportunities as they related to county park facilities.

### **Public Comment**

Mr. Lanchester, KLS, invited the board members to the Kitsap Live Steamers July 4<sup>th</sup> event.

Mr. Hubbard, Vice President, Coulture Creek Model Airplane Club, stated they would like to publicly thank Ms. Leckner and Mr. Dunwiddie for improving the flying site at the park. Director Dunwiddie thanked club for their support.

### **Forest Stewardship Update**

Director Dunwiddie stated the County has held several public meetings regarding the Forest Stewardship Plan. The next scheduled meeting is July 17<sup>th</sup> at the Kingston Community Center. The department has a website page dedicated to the plan and draft document of the Forest Stewardship Policy.

The policy will be introduced to the Board of County Commissioners on September 10. The Parks Board will have the opportunity to give their support at the September PRAB meeting. The adoption of the Policy is anticipated on September 24, 2012. Director Dunwiddie plans to add a new operating division to the Parks department for 2013. This division may include one manager and one support staff person.

### **Staff Report**

Operations Superintendant Schmidt reported that the Eagles Nest renovation is near completion. The pervious pavement project adjacent to the fairground barns will begin the last week of June. and continue through the first week of August.

Marketing: July is national parks and recreation month; a calendar of suggested activities have been added to the department website. Mrs. Schmidt passed out copies of the new Village Green Golf Course brochure.

Resources Superintendant Leckner reported on the great success of National Day of Caring. Parks staff teamed with KCR on four projects including general park cleanup, ADA accessibility at Old Mill Park, trail work at Point no Point Lighthouse, gravel work at Hansville Greenway. She also noted that the Newberry Hill Rummage sale was a great success.

The Island Lake Community Center renovation is complete. Future plans for the Community Center include a deck and a photography area. The plants for the photography area will be donated by roadhouse nursery. Staff is working with KC Sheriff to deter vandalism at that location and the community has stepped up to assist.

The Fishing Derby at Island Lake Park was a great success with 319 registered kids.

Director Dunwiddie reported the County last year had entered into a long term agreement with Rolling Hills Golf Course. At the conclusion of 20 years, the property will be turned over to the county. In the meantime, a golf management team will operate and maintain the public golf course. The team will be required to make an annual payment to the county. He reported that the golf course management team has generated the revenue to make the first installment in September 2012.

The County entered into a partnership with South Kitsap Girls Softball Association and the Port Orchard Rotary at the Rotary Park. Rotary has contributed \$30,000 for field renovations. The re-dedication of the park is scheduled June 30.

### **Board Organization – Subcommittees**

Chairman Pearson asked the board to review the following proposed subcommittees and asked board members to specify which committee they would like to participate in and give a show of interest at the next regular meeting.

:

1. Vandalism Deterrent/Containment - Park Code, Enforcement, Surveillance Systems, Camp Host,
2. Park Management - Land Divestiture, Trail Standards, Park Classification/Area Management Plans
3. Partnerships - Stewardship, Outreach, Marketing
4. Public Use - Fees, Cost Recovery, Policies

### **Stewardship Reports**

Mr. Otto and Mr. Chapin attended a meeting with the board members from South Kitsap and Commissioner Garrido to implement a stewardship started in South Kitsap. Wayne stated he is awaiting response from the Commissioner.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Pearson made a motion to adjourn at 7:14pm

Second: Mr. Arnold

Vote: Unanimous

*Next meeting: July 18, 2012 @ 6pm, Long Lake Community Center*