

## Kitsap County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Minutes July 17, 2013

### Welcome and Introductions:

Chairman Jon Pearson welcomed the board, staff and public with special recognition to the newest PRAB members Susan Smith and Alvin Andrus in attendance. The meeting was called to order at 7:02PM.

**Members Present:** Jon Pearson, Alvin Andrus, Susan Smith, Anthony Otto, Susan Cruver, Staci Geiger and Jennifer Gerstal.

**Staff Present:** Jim Dunwiddie, Dori Leckner, Arno Bergstrom, Lori Raymaker, Ric Catron & Leigh Snyder.

**Public Attending:** 9 members of the public attended

**Approval of the May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013 agenda and minutes:** Motion to approve by Stacy Geiger with a second provided by Anthony Otto –agenda approved with no additions or corrections. Motion to approve the May 15<sup>th</sup> minutes made by Susan Cruver with Anthony Otto providing the second – minutes approved with no corrections or additions by unanimous vote.

**Correspondence and Communication:** none to report

**Opportunity for the Public to Address the Board:** Nelson Lanchester of the Kitsap Live Steamers invited the PRAB and staff to their “Friends & Family” event this Saturday beginning at 10:00 AM with a dinner in the afternoon at SKRP.

Lori Raymaker our Volunteer Coordinator spoke about our need for leash free dog area management assistance in our dog parks. We are having issues with aggressive dogs, unsupervised dogs and citizens acting as “trainers”, using negative training methods such as shock collars 7 choke chains with no official approval to do so. Three members of KARE (Kitsap Animal Rescue & Education) were present with president and founding member Dianne Canafax explaining their educational approach that focuses on force-free, reward-based training methods. They would partner with the Parks Department with their volunteers working directly with visitors, providing periodic-on-site visits to our dog parks to offer free classes on proper dog and visitor behavior. They would also attend special events held in our parks to provide free information and training in proper dog behavior and dog park etiquette. There are grants monies available where humane collars and/or harnesses may be given in exchange for choke collars. Susan Cruver stated that this is a wonderful opportunity for a worthwhile partnership. Jim Dunwiddie offered that we would appreciate their help at all parks and Lori Raymaker asked the board to officially endorse this group in a partnership. A motion was made to adopt by Susan Cruver with a second made by Jennifer Gerstal – motion approved by unanimous vote.

**Directors Report:** Jim Dunwiddie (providing both the directors report and operations report in Billie Schmidt’s absence) reported that we have been authorized RTCO grants to the department as follows: \$132,500 match for phase development of South Kitsap Regional Park Skate Park, and \$392,000 toward the North Kitsap Heritage Park expansion land acquisition. For the North Kitsap Heritage Park expansion of 183 acres we have \$892K in funds set aside in the capital budget and gap in purchase funding will need to come from other funds. Traffic patterns and parking are being reviewed for revision at SKRP. Items under review are: parking along the entrance drive, access/staging of skate park, and speed calming devices being addressed. We will be extending speed bumps and posting signs in the near future. Vandalism is on the rise – an expensive Sani-Kan has been destroyed and we are working to obtain a replacement canister. Special events like the Diamondback Bike event for 8-6-13 cannot be approved at this time but must wait a couple of months until we can clear the traffic and get a handle on vandalism. We will be discussing and concentrating on the true cost of vandalism over our next two meetings. This year at Island Lake the cost of the arson at this building alone is over

\$140,000 with an additional loss of \$30,000 in revenue. The scoreboard at Gordon Field is up and running. We truly have a “soccer stadium” atmosphere there. Public Facilities District will purchase the press box from the Pumas and donate it to our department. This is mobile and has a value of \$30,000. Village Greens has a new POS system installed – great marketing tool and for tracking inventory and fees.

Anthony Otto wanted to know if there is any program in place to encourage citizens to “flame & shame” those folks who are destructive at the skate park. Jim Dunwiddie stated the formation of a stewardship group for the park would encourage correct behavior especially if some of the citizens who regularly use the facility are included. Ric Catron volunteered that he has regular discussions with the Skate Park Association to let them know what is happening and has posted the damage on their Facebook page to increase awareness. Jon Pearson wanted to know if we have signs posted for the penalties of vandalism. Susan Cruver asked about camera surveillance. Jim Dunwiddie responded that we are working with Risk Management and the Prosecutor to formulate a plan of action. The use of camera surveillance is tricky with requirement for storage of the information etc.; however, there may be a possibility of surveillance with live streaming that would not have that requirement attached. We continue to work on this issue. Another suggestion is that our Public Affairs Officer continues to place articles in the paper letting the public know what vandalism is costing them as tax papers and where it is occurring.

#### **Staff Reports:**

**SKRP** – Ric Catron reported the grand opening of the skate park, held June 22, 2014 was a great success with over 3000 folks attending. He thanked those board members who attended. This is a very popular park! We will be addressing several traffic issues as Jim Dunwiddie stated with expansion of speed bumps, no parking signs and parking islands. Phase 1A improvements will include infrastructure improvements, frontage rain gardens, revamped entrance along Jackson Avenue, grading for open play, playground expansion and additional trails. We will also upgrade the signage. Anthony Otto asked what the lifespan is of the compacted gravel used on the trails. Ric responded it is actually 10 years or more.

**Salsbury Point Park** – Jim Dunwiddie reported that Commissioner Gelder is working with the tribe, public, commercial and sport fishing interests, and the neighbors to the park on the issues we have there. We have an agreement to lease property for trailer parking. We simply cannot use the dock for fishing as it is too dangerous with all the boat traffic but we are creating access via a pathway from the park to the beach to allow for saltwater fishing. Our long term plan includes an accessible fishing pier at the park but that will involve testing and there is the issue of funds before we can proceed with any plans in that direction.

#### **Subcommittee Reports –**

**Parcels Grouped for possible divestiture** – parcels were looked at using the same criteria as the adopted Open Space Plan. We have actually identified and removed several parcels as belonging to other departments within the County, 2 more were conveyed to MPD’s prior to review, 4 meet the water criteria and are removed, 1 identified as having potential partners for further site development, there are three more in cities, 3 partnership with schools, 2 with existing partnerships, 2 that may revert back to the original owner, 3 requiring additional research, 3 with the potential for partnerships and 3 to possibly divest – Erlands Point – 0.10 acre, unimproved lot in a housing area, Tracyton Creek – 0.44 acre in manufactured home park and Southworth – 2.2 acres in residential area. (Refer to PRAB Parcel Divestiture Sub Committee Report for Specifics).

**Forest Stewardship Pilot Program** – Arno Bergstrom – this is a pilot program a committee will work with Arno and the PRAB to form a committee of 3 people – one from each district. We will meet frequently through out the year. Frank Strickland is a PRAB member on the committee. Our tasks include gaining a working knowledge of the Kitsap County Forest Stewardship Policy and Forest Stewardship Pilot Program (FSPP), assist with the development and adoption of the county-wide FSPP,

Review and provide input on individual park-forest stewardship plans, annual work plan and budget and participate in public workshops, meeting and outreach activities related to the FSPP. The committee will report to the PRAB and the PRAB will make recommendations to the BOCC. Newberry Hill Heritage Park will be our starting point. The pilot program is a 4 year program and will not be held in SK until the pilot program has ended. Planning in the south end of the county will be ok but no implementation can occur until the pilot program is over.

Jon Pearson stated out next scheduled meeting is for August 21, 2013 which is opening day of the 2013 Kitsap Fair & Stampede. Anthony Otto motioned to cancel our August meeting with Jennifer Gerstal providing the second. The motion passed and our next meeting will be September 18<sup>th</sup> at Long Lake. Please volunteer to work at the Fair booth Lori Raymaker will send an email to the PRAB members with the schedule and opportunities to sign up.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.