

APPROVED

February 19, 2014

**Parks Advisory Board Amended Minutes
January 15, 2014**

Welcome & Introductions:

Chairman Jon Pearson welcomed the board, staff and public. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.

PRAB Board Members Present: Jon Pearson, Alvin Andrus, Michael Tucker, Michael Arnold, April Gatz, Jennifer Gerstal, Susan Cruver & Frank Stricklin.

Staff Present: Jim Dunwiddie, Dori Leckner, Billie Schmidt, Arno Bergstrom, Ric Catron & Leigh Snyder.

Public Attending: 21 members of the public were in attendance.

Approval of the November 20, 2013 Minutes & January 15th Agenda: Motion made, second provided and the minutes and agenda were approved by vote.

Correspondence & Communication: None

Opportunity for the Public to Address the Board:

Kathryn Simpson, Troy Olson, Frank Holdcomb, Jan Ellis, Jeff Turnberg, Rebecca Brown and Tom Wittwer all spoke about Anderson Point Park. All wish the park to reopen as soon as possible. Kathryn Simpson feels the folks on the road are helping keep the park closed, County needs to honor any promises made to maintain the road, All parks have inherent danger this one is no different. Please update the Matrix with real answers to the specific questions asked. Work with the citizens to reopen the park. Troy Olson asked if the park is open by water access. Please address the road – private control over the road access is not acceptable the community in Olalla is interested and involved. Frank Holdcomb doesn't feel there is a real danger in the park but is concerned that private parties are blocking access via a gate to the public. Concerned with illegal activities that may be going on in the Park – with it closed there are not eyes to look out for that. Jan Ellis thinks the safety concerns are not that great. Put in a walking trail – full blown road with driving access is not necessary. Jeff Turnburg is concerned about the private gate does this allow for private access to a public park? He showed pictures of his family enjoying the park over past years. Rebecca Brown please waive the risk and reopen the park. Do what it takes there is real value in this park. Can it be reopened during the months there is little to no rain? Tom Wittwer supports the park being reopened and there are a number of the citizens in the community who will help with equipment if Parks can supply the resources to make the necessary repairs to reopen the park.

Jim Heytvelt spoke on behalf of the Harper Estuary- he has been involved with the restoration efforts for years and has found if you keep repeating yourself long enough you are heard. His group has been frustrated in their effort to obtain funding for the restoration because the project is on the smaller side. They have been through numerous studies and applied for grants hoping for funding. Recently they have obtained 4.3 million in grant money so the project will finally

happen. Plans are to restore the site back to its natural state in the 1700's. There are two components to the effort an East Side and West Side – each will have a meeting and then a joint meeting will be held. Commissioner Garrido has been a vital part of this effort.

Presentation Public Works: Bucklin Hill –Kristina Nelson, PE presented the information on the Bucklin Hill Bridge Project which includes estuary enhancement, bridge construction and roadway closure beginning after the school year is over from Blaine Ave. to Mickelberry Road for approximately one year. The presentation explained that Public Works will be taking a 5 foot strip from Old Mill Park and replacing via land conversion with a piece of property in kind possibly at Newberry Hill Heritage Park. The impact to Old Mill Park will be very minor. The project will improve fish passage, habitat, and movement, improve the roadway capacity from 2 to 4 lanes, have effective connections to the Clear Creek Trail System, provide for pedestrian and bicycle facilities with an urban design feature consistent with community visioning.

Directors Report: Jim Dunwiddie expressed his goal and the goal of the department is to reopen Anderson Point Park, the geo-tech survey should be out within the next several days. Once that report has been reviewed by the County (Parks, Risk, Legal etc.) it will be placed on the Website for view. The County Engineer has come up with estimates of 250K to 1.25 million dollars. Once we have the full GeoTech report with the scope of work we can put together our game plan, timeline, construction plans (any construction must go through the permit process), and identify where the community can help. A stewardship program under the Community Forester could possibly assist in writing grants as one of our major concerns is funding. We were fortunate that grant reimbursement came available to us in December which allowed for funds to be freed up from the capital account to fund the study. Our department has had no funding since 2008 therefore we have had to wait for reimbursement to proceed. We have been through the FEMA process on this area at least twice with no resulting funding. The County Park website will be updated as information becomes available. PRAB Board Member April Gatz will post information at AI's for the community as well.

Saturday the 11th a tree fell on a residence we have inspected the damage and are assessing if the tree was located on park property.

Monday the 13th the South Kitsap Skatepark Association presented their \$109,000 match for the RCO grant at the BOCC meeting. This will allow for the second phase of the park to move forward.

We are fortunate to be entering into another Interlocal Agreement with Key Pen Parks to allow for Horseshoe Lake Park to remain open for the entire month of September rather than weekends only this park season.

Port Gamble Block of approximately 585 acres should close in the next month to 5 weeks.

Silverdale Community Center is still being rented out and a lease extension is being processed at the current time. The recent article in the Kitsap Sun regarding the sale agreement being signed this past December was information the department did not have in advance of the report. Jennifer Gerstal expressed disappointment that the BOCC did not address or include

the PRAB in any of the discussions for the SCC prior to the recent article in the Kitsap Sun and the signing of the sale agreement in December.

Resource Superintendent: Met with the South Kitsap Skatepark Association to ask for assistance in the maintenance of the Skate Park. The group is eager to provide the assist and their partnership is welcome.

Operations Superintendent: See report

Forester: Three of the four lease contracts for Brush Harvesting are in the final stages of completion. There is the potential for revenue of 38K per year once the last lease is in place. This revenue will go right back into the parks as funds for projects by the various stewardship groups.

Newberry Hill Heritage Park Stewardship Plan is up for adoption by the BOCC on January 27th.

Park Project Coordinator: Permeable parking lot replacement is on schedule, South Kitsap Regional Park BCRA continues work on the plans for Phase 1A improvements, infrastructure improvements, frontage rain gardens, revamped entrance, signage, grading for open plan, parking improvements, additional trails and skate park expansion.

Community Forestry Report – In the midst of a public outreach to educate the public on the variable density thinning to take place that will improve wildlife habitat and the health of the forest. Information about this project will be posted along the trails where the thinning is to occur. We will seek the best contractor, who aligns with these goals with the experience to complete the work with the health of the forest environment as the focus.

Old Business – Fees will be discussed at the next PRAB meeting as the BOCC has endorsed a new and different way of presenting this information as part of policy. There will be a public meeting February 27th. Park Code is still being discussed. We are currently working on the commercial activity aspect in our parks – work in progress.

New Business - Nominating committee was selected composed of board members Jennifer Gerstal and Michael Arnold.

Meeting adjourned by President Jon Pearson with a motion by Sandra Cruver and second by Alvin Andrus.