

**APPROVED**  
**OCTOBER 15, 2014**

**Kitsap County Parks Advisory Board  
Long Lake County Park  
Minutes September 17, 2014**

Chair Alvin Andrus called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm. Introductions of those present were made -

**Board Members Present:** Alvin Andrus, Frank Stricklin, Jennifer Gerstal, Susan Cruver, Stacy Geiger, Jon Pearson, Anthony Otto & April Gatz.

**County Officials Present:** Chair of the Board of County Commissioners Charlotte Garrido

**Staff Members Present:** Jim Dunwiddie, Dori Leckner, Ric Catron & Leigh Snyder

11 members of the Public were in attendance.

Chair called for a motion for the approval of the July 2014 minutes. Frank Stricklin made a motion the minutes be adopted as presented, Susan Cruver provided the second.

Action Taken: minutes approved as presented by unanimous vote.

**Correspondence & Communication:** none

**Opportunity for Public to Address the Board:** Becky Brown asked when Anderson Point Park may be re-opening and status of the road. Jim Dunwiddie responded that the bid is opened with receipt due back September 22, 2014. BoCC is expected to expedite the award of the contract, if a responsible bid is submitted. There are ongoing conversations between the County Civil Prosecutor, and the legal representative of the neighbors on the road. There may be four possible options to consider.

**Directors Report:** Jim Dunwiddie will report on the Capital Budget next month as the funding availability is questionable at this time, as funding will come from a general fund appropriation. Budget presentation is at 2:00pm September 18<sup>th</sup> in Port Orchard. PRAB members may attend but not participate. Director will be asking for funding of 3 maintenance positions that will make up only ½ of the staff reduced since 2008. An increase in the Extra Help budget item is also being requested as an efficient way to secure staff for the busiest time of the year. Our staff is responsible for 484 acres per full time employee with the median in the country being 95 acres per full time employee. Thanks to the staff for the great job they do with the limitations they deal with. It appears that the Kitsap Fair & Rodeo will end up in the black again this year after all the accounting is complete.

In reviewing the items sent to the PRAB, the 2015 Organization Chart will include the Project Coordinator moving to the newly created Planning Division. The process of hiring a Park Planner is underway. Parks could possibly receive another 1000 acres to park inventory in 2015, with the addition to the North Kitsap Heritage Park and the Port Gamble Block. The bottom line budget request 4.5% more than in the 2008 departmental budget. The grants submitted for the Sound to Olympics, Kitsap Gap, and the Bike Park, both acquisition projects adjacent to or within the Port Gamble Shoreline Block, scored outside anticipated funding. The department will participate in the county wide trail planning initiatives for Water Trails and Non-Motorized Trails. The new County Administrator, Karen Goon, started her employment last week and we have 2 scheduled partial days for central and south park tours. The Management Plan for Banner Forest Heritage Park has been finalized with plans to come to the PRAB for discussion next month. The plan will also be distributed to County Commissioners.

**Questions for the Director:** Did the headliner at the Fair pay off? – We feel that it was pretty close to a break even and did increase the attendance for the X-treme Bulls event which had been down over the past few years.

What has been the cost of vandalism? We are running less than last year in vandalism related expenses, but what really hurt was the loss of \$30K in rental revenue from closing of the Anderson Fields due to damage caused by a 4-wheeling incident this past winter.

#### **Staff Reports –**

**Forest Stewardship Pilot Program** – written report provided in Arno Bergstrom's absence.

**Superintendent of Operations** – written report provided in Billie Schmidt's absence.

**Park Resources Superintendent** – Dori Leckner reported the backstops and dugouts have been removed from one softball field at South Kitsap Regional Park in preparation of the field being converted into soccer fields. The infield mix from those fields will be repurposed at Vets field. The users of the facility, SK Girls fast-pitch/softball had relocated to Bloomquist/Rotary Park after its renovation. Old Mill Park restrooms remain closed since being vandalized in 2013 – repair to cost 9K via contractor. A new graffiti resistant paint is now being used; paint is costlier but allows graffiti to be cleaned off easily by washing. Point No Point Lighthouse Society has secured several grants used for repair roofing, siding, paint and windows in the vacation rental and Lighthouse Society office. Docents received funding from the state's license program to replace windows in the Lighthouse. Accessible sidewalks will be constructed at no cost.

**Parks Project Coordinator** – Will attend a pre-construction meeting, September 18 for the Wildcat Lake and Horseshoe Lake parking lot replacements slated for mid October. Bids are due September 22<sup>nd</sup> for the Anderson Point work, and schedule for early and the work should commence soon on the Salsbury Boat Ramp. The Olalla parking lot project is in permit review process and is expected to be constructed early 2015. Monthly updates will be provided.

Jim Dunwiddie reported that there will be activity both at Rotary Park and South Kitsap Regional Park, as we are in the process obtaining permits and formulating a plan to address problematic trees. There will be public meeting scheduled, once all is in place as staff is striving for a cost neutral solution.

**Subcommittee Reports: NHHP** -Frank Stricklin reported that on June 27<sup>th</sup> the National Day of Caring volunteers removed a car body, litter and noxious weeds – thanks to Lori Raymaker and Harrison Hospital. There was a fire in the park from an apparent lightening strike. Thanks to CKFR and the US Navy who responded – CK Fire & Rescue sent 2 trucks and ran hoses into the park, controlled the fire and left an overnight watch. Cleaned culverts 17, 16, & 15. Relief culverts 15 & 16 were plugged at high-water by beaver. Culverts 17 & 18 were completely plugged by beaver. Noxious weed control – mowing and tilling Bird Meadow and Deer Fern Trail was performed with thanks to Dana Cogan for her assistance and to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward of the LDS who pulled scotch broom by hand. Restorative Forestry – Northwoods logging thinning went very well and the stewards are very pleased. The logging done by another subcontractor on the high value trees was not done as well as we anticipated. More communication between the general contractor and the subcontractor needs to happen to alleviate damage to trail signs, trails and thickets. We feel more specific conversations around the handling of culverts should occur on the next go around as well. We are keeping the long range objective in mind; some problems are aesthetic and some perception. Very pleased with the thinning Northwoods Logging performed.

**Mushroom Policy** –Policy sent out to the PRAB in resolution form was reviewed. The policy may later on be incorporated in the Park Code when rewritten. This proposed Resolution will be presented to the BOCC. Thank you to the Mycological Society who assisted with the formation of the proposed Resolution and its wording. Frank Stricklin moved to recommend adoption of the policy and to send to the BOCC for review with Jon Pearson provided the second.

Action Taken: motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Old Business:** none

**New Business:** Dori Leckner reminded the PRAB Keyport days is Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup> with a thanks to the PRAB members signed up to assist in staffing the booth. A big thank you to PRAB members who assisted in staffing the Parks booth at the recent Kitsap Fair & Stampede!

**Comments:** Jon Pearson said he recently had a wonderful tour and train ride with the Kitsap Live Steamers group at SKRP. Very impressed with what they have done and his grandkids enjoyed the ride. Vandalism occurs on the Clear Creek Trail he works on as well and it is quite frustrating.

Jennifer Gerstal – attended a meeting regarding the Clear Creek Trail and the replacement of the bridge that will be occurring. A presentation was made by a member of Portland State that was interesting about the study she is conducting on Curley Creek before and after the project is complete.

April Gatz motioned for adjournment with Anthony Otto providing the second.

Action Taken: meeting adjourned by Chair, Alvin Andrus at 7:06 pm.