KITSAP COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD

MEETING NOTES 5-17-17

NO QUORUM

PRAB Members attending: Ani Galz, Frank Stricklin, Jon Pearson & Joann Clark

Staff: Jim Dunwiddie, Steven Starlund and Leigh Snyder

Members of the Public – 1

Correspondence and Communication: None

Opportunity for Public to Speak: Jim Heytvelt reported on his experience working on the Washington Sea Grant Program at Harper Estuary. The team of 5 took a full day of training and now have a permit to trap and identify sea life (crabs) in the estuary to assist the University of Washington in a research program. The scientific work is interesting and he would like to find a way to involve kids in the science of it.

Directors Report – (see brief attached) – The Board of County Commissioners will likely fund the sign standards project that Steven Starlund will be speaking about. Staff will be removing the old back stop at Kola Kole Park and installing picnic tables to utilize the site in a passive way. If the need arises for organized play there is room on the other side. The Gorst Warehouse (third party) appraisal has been ordered. Once the value is set the negotiations for sale may proceed as the property was previously declared as surplus. A fence and gate has been installed to protect the preserve. Proceeds will be used to build a pole building for the south county Parks Maintenance crew. We will share some facilities with Public Works at the south county road shed.

Presentation – Steven Starlund – (see materials attached) Several standards have been decided upon for trail sign categories as follows – Simple post and plaque, rustic routed name signs, extensive trail and road system, specific use markers, wildlife viewing signs and significant acknowledgement signs. Emergency Rescue GPS markers (stickers) will be developed for extensive trail systems in coordination with local fire districts throughout the County. These markers will be placed at significant road and trail intersections with the emergency response agencies supplied with a trail map system for additional locator information. Once tested and developed for Kitsap County Parks, implementation will begin with support of Park Stewards.

Sub-Committee Reports

Newberry Hill Heritage Park- closed unauthorized trail in RCO near Heritage wetland, CK Lifeshouse students continue to pull Scotch Broom and clear trails, working with engineer for wet stamped boardwalk design. Annual Rummage sale held with over $1000 being raised. Frank Stricklin attended a symposium in Vancouver Washington with County Forester Arno Bergstrom presented by OSU, Forestry, Washington DNR and WSU on forest health and diseases.

Guest Services – In response to request from Evergreen Mountain Bike Association to grant exception to park hours of operation in Port Gamble Forest area for night riding during winter months – (See Committee Report) for full discussion and recommendation.
Executive Summary

Issue Description: Parks Department Briefing
Meeting Date: May 17, 2017
Attendee: Jim Dunwiddie

Action Requested At This Meeting: Briefing of Parks Department projects and initiatives.

Assistant Parks Director

Travis Buell has accepted the job offer and is expected to begin mid-June. Travis is currently serving as Assistant Director, Ardmore, OK Recreation & Parks Department.

Agreement Updates

Board Arena - Negotiations with a local non-profit organization continues for the operation and management of the facility located on the Fairgrounds.

Fairgrounds Tennis Courts - Kitsap County and Central Kitsap School Board have agreed, via ILA, for CKSD to resurface the six tennis courts. CKSD has contracted for work to begin late May/early June. CKSD to assume scheduling and maintenance of the facility. Parks Department to complete the renovation of the restroom and parking area.

Fairgrounds Athletic Field Upgrades – Conversations continue with CKSD regarding the potential conversion of two fields, at the Fairgrounds, to artificial turf multi-purpose fields.

Status of Park Projects

- Point No Point Restroom (attachment “A”)

- South Kitsap Regional Park
  - Parking, Field, Trail, and Skatepark Expansion (attachment “B”)
    - Dedication – June 24
  - Restroom Construction (attachment “C”)

- Wildcat Lake Picnic Shelter (attachment “D”)

- Fairgrounds/Event Center
  - Storage Building – Presidents Hall (attachment “E”)
  - Press Box/Concession Building (attachment “F”)
  - Lobe Field and Gordon Field PA System Upgrades (attachment “G”)


Capital Budget Summary Updates

The initial draft Capital Budget Summary report 2014 – 2017 will be distributed during this Parks Briefing. The summary is anticipated to provide a snapshot of Capital projects, funding year, project expenditures, and completion percentage.

Fair & Stampedede Update – August 23 – 27 “Hold on to Your Hat”

- No national act
- CFI/Harrison Hospital – Advance purchase 1,500 tickets
- 35 Food Vendors – Sold Out
- 120 Commercial Exhibit Applications
- $135,000 Sponsorship pledges

Rolling Hills Golf Course Oversight Committee

The RHGC Oversight Committee is scheduled to meet Thursday, May 25th. The Annual Meeting is scheduled October 19, 2017.

Root Rot Mitigation – South Kitsap Regional Park

Activity began late April and is expected to continue through June. The project has received good press coverage and public comment. The Parks Board Communications Committee prepared a public information flyer for distribution.

Trail & Sign Standardization

Staff has been working standardization of signs and markings for ease of visitor identification and first responder access.

- Discussion Draft – Trail Signs and Markers (attachments “H-1 and H-2)
- Discussion Draft – Interpretive Displays (I-1, I-2, and I-3)
PROJECT: Point No Point Restroom
DATE: May 2, 2017
LAST REPORT: March 30, 2017
PURPOSE: Permanent restroom facility for Point No Point Park.
BUDGET: $140,000
EXPENDED TO-DATE: $131,795
FUNDING SOURCE: Capital
GRANT DEADLINE: N/A
SUCCESSES: When the Point No Point parking lot was designed and constructed in 2013/14, an area was set aside for a future Romtec restroom. BoCC approved Contract for restroom purchase February 4, 2016.

Project was issued Substantial Completion status on September 16, 2016. All Contractor Work was performed per the approved Plans/Specs.

OPPORTUNITIES: FEMA has approved installation of flood-proof doors. Engineer will pay for and have this feature installed. Once complete, DCD will issue Flood Certificate and Certificate of Occupancy, allowing opening the facility for public use.

NEXT STEPS: Flood doors have been ordered and will delivered the week of May 15. Interior has been painted. Engineer's Contractor to complete Work. County's locksmith to supply locks and door hardware to be consistent with the same features used throughout County Parks.

NEEDED RESOURCES: N/A

NOTABLE 2017 PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENT TIMELINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1ST QUARTER</th>
<th>2ND QUARTER</th>
<th>3RD QUARTER</th>
<th>4TH QUARTER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Methodology to address FEMA flood plain dilemma solved.</td>
<td>Final Completion to be issued.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**PARKS DEPARTMENT**  

**STATUS REPORT**

**PROJECT:** South Kitsap Regional Park – Phase 1C Improvements

**DATE:** May 2, 2017

**LAST REPORT:** March 30, 2017

**PURPOSE:** Expansion of park facilities, including skatepark, landscaping, pedestrian connections, field grading, stormwater and R-O-W improvements.

**BUDGET:** $509,635

**EXPENDED TO-DATE** $545,354

**FUNDING SOURCE:** RCO Grants and Capital Funding

**GRANT DEADLINE:** March 31, 2017

**SUCCESSES:** All physical construction has been completed including skatepark, stormwater infiltration system, ADA parking, berm removal, field grading, chain-link fence removal, trail improvements, landscaping, R-O-W improvements and new entry signs. Substantial Completion walk-thru on April 27.

**OPPORTUNITIES:** South Kitsap Skate Park Association to install mural.

**NEXT STEPS:** Administrative paperwork will complete this project. Then a Final Completion can be issued.

**NEEDED RESOURCES:** Consultant to submit engineer-stamped As-Built drawings.

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<th>3RD QUARTER</th>
<th>4TH QUARTER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical construction completed.</td>
<td>Final Completion Notice to be issued.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PROJECT: South Kitsap Regional Park Restroom
DATE: May 2, 2017
LAST REPORT: March 30, 2017
PURPOSE: Permanent restroom facility for South Kitsap Regional Park.
BUDGET: $167,000
EXPENDED TO-DATE: $72,148
FUNDING SOURCE: Capital
SUCCESSES: Engineer has been hired for permitting. BoCC authorized purchase of Romtec restroom kit April 24.
OPPORTUNITIES: Engineer to develop site plan and submit along with stamped engineer restroom plans to Health District + DCD for review, approval and Permits.
NEXT STEPS: Restroom kit to be ordered.
NEEDED RESOURCES: N/A

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<tr>
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<th>3RD QUARTER</th>
<th>4TH QUARTER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Engineer hired. Purchase of restroom kit authorized.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PROJECT: Wildcat Lake Picnic Shelter
DATE: May 2, 2017
LAST REPORT: March 30, 2017
PURPOSE: Group Picnic Shelter
BUDGET: $50,000
EXPENDED TO-DATE: $36,403
FUNDING: Capital
SUCCESSES: In process of purchasing picnic shelter. Language in Contract is being resolved.
OPPORTUNITIES: Picnic shelter will have rain gutters + downspouts per new 2017 Stormwater requirements. County forester to clear site prior to construction.
NEXT STEPS: When Contract is approved, shelter will be ordered and Plans submitted to DCD for review/approval/permit.
NEEDED RESOURCES: N/A

NOTABLE 2017 PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENT TIMELINE

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<th>3RD QUARTER</th>
<th>4TH QUARTER</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Picnic shelter kit was advertised and Notice of Award issued by Purchasing.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PARKS DEPARTMENT

STATUS REPORT

PROJECT: Presidents' Hall Storage Building

DATE: April 26, 2017

LAST REPORT: March 30, 2017

PURPOSE: To add storage at the Presidents' Hall for tables, chairs, pipe and drape.

BUDGET: $42,000

EXPENDED TO DATE: 

FUNDING SOURCE: Capital Funds

SUCCESSES: Final site walk showed 4 punch list items. Contractor completed 3 of the 4 punch list items, waiting for touch up paint.

OPPORTUNITIES: Need touch up paint for mark on south side

REVISIONS: 

NEXT STEPS: Punch List items to be completed

NEEDED RESOURCES: Contractor

NOTABLE 2017 PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENT TIMELINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st Quarter 2017</th>
<th>2nd Quarter 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concrete slab Inspection of concrete, Walls, Roof Electrical, Final inspection</td>
<td>Punch list items Final billing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PROJECT: Fairgrounds Concession Upgrade (Lobe Press Box)

DATE: April 26, 2017

LAST REPORT: March 30, 2017

PURPOSE: Upgrade the Concession Building/Press Box in Lobe Fields

BUDGET: $100,000

EXPENDED TO DATE: $0

FUNDING SOURCE: Capital Funding - REET

SUCCESSSES: No bids submitted. Negotiated contract with JA Wright.

OPPORTUNITIES: Contractor to submit plan and contract documents.

REVISIONS: DCD requires shorter stairs, adding to building width dimensions.


NEEDED RESOURCES: Contracts.

NOTABLE 2017 PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENT TIMELINE

<table>
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<th>1ST QUARTER 2017</th>
<th>2ND QUARTER 2017</th>
<th>3RD QUARTER 2017</th>
<th>4TH QUARTER 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Use existing Board Arena booth drawings and re-bid. Secure Contractor after no bids submitted.</td>
<td>Quote from Contractor. Contractor.</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"F"
PARKS DEPARTMENT STATUS REPORT

PROJECT: Lobe #1 PA System Upgrade

DATE: April 26, 2017

LAST REPORT: March 30, 2017

PURPOSE: To upgrade the PA system and lighting at Lobe Field #1

BUDGET: $37,000

EXPENDED TO DATE:

FUNDING SOURCE: Capital Funds

SUCCESSSES:

OPPORTUNITIES: Lobe Field project on hold until after new press box is installed.

REVISIONS:

NEXT STEPS: Purchase. Install.

NEEDED RESOURCES: Press box project to be completed at Lobe. Gordon Sound to purchase items and install.

NOTABLE PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENT TIMELINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st Quarter 2017</th>
<th>2nd Quarter 2017</th>
<th>3rd Quarter 2017</th>
<th>4th Quarter 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purchase and install Gordon Field equipment</td>
<td>On hold until Lobe Press Box Constructed</td>
<td>On hold until Lobe Press Box Constructed</td>
<td>Purchase and install equipment at Lobe Field.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Central Parks

Anderson Hill Athletic Fields
Tree removal along the fields still a work in progress. This will increase air flow and more sunlight onto the fields, thus allowing the fields dry out, and increase play on the fields. Still work in progress.

Anna Smith Park
Members off the Bremerton Naval Hospital adopted the park and will be conducting general park cleanup and removing English ivy.

SWF Park
Working on seawall lighting repairs.
Preventative maintenance to be conducted on shelter roof.

Guillemot Cove
Parks staff looking into the overall condition of the beach house, whether to keep or not. GPC interested in partnering with us to demo the beach house and shoreline restoration project.

Wildcat Lake Park
Parks staff working with local companies towards prices and cost towards the piling removal in swimming area.
Parks staff to re-roof the restroom building in spring 2017. Parks staff to re-roof the well house in spring 2017. Soliciting bids for a new roof on the maintenance/mechanical shop.

Old Mill Park
Parks staff to work with local volunteers to rehab the front entrance into the park.
Enterance and front of the park to be landscaped. Slated to be completed in spring 2017.

Chico Salmon Park
The new park sign was installed 2-weeks ago.
North Parks

Kola Kole Park
Parks staff maintaining all of this park. Commisioner Gelder purchased and had placed, 2 Adirondack chairs in the park, near the Boy Scout Hall.

Point No Point Lighthouse Park
Parks staff in partnership with Public Works staffing, removed vegetation and spoils from the parks wetlands and surrounding ditches, to improve water flow in the park wetlands. HPA to be submitted in April, work to be done in September. Waiting on WDFW staffing review of the work.

Buck Lake Park
Parks staff working with DNR, WDFW and KC Noxious Weed Coordinator on lake weed removal to restore swimming area.
Parks staff working with contractors towards costs of piling removal in swimming area.
Parks staff replanting several new Thundercloud Plum trees in parking lot.
Parks staff working with Public Works staffing on Cora Ave easement with new property owner, and the Hansville Greenway stewards.

Salsbury Point Park
New landscaping to be added in flower beds around the unisex restroom.

Island Lake Park
Soliciting bids for the new roof at the picnic shelter.
Rock and landscaping improvements to the building in April and throughout the summer. Staff to work on a plan for the phase 1 entrance. Plans for submittal in October.

Arness Roadside Park
Parks staff working with Stillwaters Education Center staffing on the placement of estuary interpretative signage at the park. Installation to take place this month.
Commissioner Gelder purchased and had placed, 2 Adirondack chairs in the park, near the beach on the right side of the park.
South Parks

Horseshoe Lake Park
Parks staff working with local companies towards prices and cost towards the piling removal in swimming area. Key Pen partnership again this year.

Anderson Point Park
Parks staff started performing Milihanna Road maintenance -- looks great. One minor culvert washout. Work to be completed in 30 days.

Rotary Park
Parks staff to remove trees in various locations in the park and install a drainage ditch along field #1 to improve field play. Parks staff looking to improve to allow for more use on these fields, with local youth soccer for fall use and little league play in summer.

Harper Park
Parks staff to work with volunteers in removing the old metal bridge.

SKRP
Parks staff continues to work with KCSO, to deter illicit activities at the park. Increased presence of KCSO. Parks staff looking at performing work inside the horseshoe pit, park and ball field. The installation of the irrigation weather station component slated for installation. The revision to the Horseshoe Pitch area underway between parks staff and the HPA. Parks staff working with the WYA to remove invasive weeds, scotch broom and install plantings in various areas of the park -- More color. Parks staff will be overhauling the open lawn area by the playground.
Parks Resource Division Report

May 2017

Stewardship Coordinator

Point No Point
- 991 people visited the Lighthouse in April
- 2 classes from Wolfe Elementary have gone through the school outreach program

Hansville Greenway
- OPG logged the property south of the Hansville Greenway along the Outback Trail easement.

Island Lake
- 150 volunteers from Kitsap Bank braved the weather on a rainy Saturday to help clean-up and beautify the park

Silverdale Dog Park
- Volunteers had a work party to clean-up the park, move the kiosk to the interior portion of the park, and remove broken banner frames.

Howe Farm
- Volunteers from South Kitsap High School Key Club and Columbia Bank worked with staff to install a boardwalk next to the beaver dam. This will allow access to the upper, forest section of the park.

Banner Forest
- Volunteers finished clearing all downed trees from last winter’s storm. All trails are now open.
- Lori gave a trail decommission training to the Banner Forest group.

Old Mill
- Volunteers with Western Washington University and Kitsap Rocks partnered to clear up Old Mill Park. The strangest piece of debris was an old rusty cash register.

Anna Smith
- Volunteers from Naval Hospital Bremerton Patient Admin Dept. decommissioned the cut through path at the stairs near the street.

Illahee
- 35 people from Comcast worked with Illahee Stewards to clear scotch broom, move the kiosk in the Almira Parking lot, and work on trails.
The Bremerton Rotary is working with the Illahee Stewards to install a picnic shelter in the Almira parking lot area. All work is being funded through the Bremerton Rotary for this project.

Newberry Hill Heritage Park
- Volunteers have been working to reroute Rodie Hill trail to include a gentler grade with switchbacks.

Guillemot Cove
- Volunteers have rerouted the trail around the backside of the old Nest House site.

Erlands Point
- Lori is meeting with perspective volunteers from Olympic College and Western Washington University who want to improve and clean-up Erlands Point Park
- Life Jackets were put out at all lake parks.
- Kitsap Dogs Inc. had their Annual Meeting
- Lori met with representatives of the 3 dog parks and Diane from Kare to discuss how to best educate dog owners who use the dog parks. The plan is to set up a committee to work with Kare on a program.
- Lori did an interview with a 2nd grader for a school project on tracking animals in the woods.
Parks Planning Report

May 2017

Steven Starlund | Ric Catron

Point No Point – Restrooms
Replacement “flood doors” have been ordered, delivered, and soon to be installed. With that completion, the restroom will be “open for business.”

PORT GAMBLE FOREST HERITAGE PARK – Boardwalk | STO PROJECT IS COMPLETE.
Working with the WCC crew and North Kitsap Trail volunteers, the gravel- armored trail approach to the boardwalk was completed and rough-cut running boards installed... just in time for the 30-60 Stottlemyer Race on May 13-14.
An anticipated 500 riders will compete on the Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park trails.

A Forest Restoration Sign entitled: “Why Forests Need to Breathe” is in final review. It is intended to be posted at the trailhead kiosks and an on-trail sign. Text and photos will explain and demonstrate the “forward-effect” of the forest thinning, replanting, and restorative process.

North Kitsap Heritage Park – Salmon Grant | Landscape Planning

Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) review committee reviewed and evaluated Beaver Stream site to help rank this forest bridge planning project ($6,000). The final application is due in August.

South Kitsap Region Park – Expansion

PROJECT IS COMPLETE.
South Kitsap Skate Park Association is planning a dedication ceremony on Saturday, June 24. Following the extensive forest thinning, an updated trail plan will be developed and signs prepared.

Howe Farm Park – Boardwalk constructed
Staff designed a fiberglass extruded grid boardwalk (4ft. wide) to cross the original farm road which was flooded and mud stock from the creation of the beaver dam. Volunteers from the South Kitsap High School and Columbia Bank cleared the approaching old farm road of overgrown blackberries and scotch broom and constructed 60 ft. of grid boardwalk skirting the beaver pond. This opens up trails in the beautiful 40-acre woodlot.
Land Acquisition -- Well Fargo Land Donation
Parks has agreed to accept 20 acres of land which has been offered to Parks as part of a Wells Fargo Bank property foreclosure.

Wildcat Lake -- Picnic Shelter
Staff has submitted a building permit for a new kitchen shelter in the upper field of the park. A wood frame shelter is begin purchased.

Natural Structures 'Siskiyou' model; 30' x 36'. Photo shows steel posts, ribbed metal roof, glue-laminated beams and wood under-decking. Design eliminates bird-roosts above picnic tables. Our color will be dark forest green.

REGIONAL PLANNING & ETC.

Parks and Open Space Plan 2018 (PROS)
Parks staff are working with the County's Comprehensive Plan staff to assemble the demographic data and land-use mapping. The PROS PRAB Sub-Committee is scheduled to meet to review the planning and stakeholder outreach strategies.

Park Emergency Sign Plan -- GPS locators
Staff and Park Stewards are working with Poulsbo Fire Dept. regarding coordination and installation of a GPS trail safety system at Port Gamble Forest. The GPS are inexpensive ($1 ea.).

Washington Recreation and Parks Association (WRPA) Conference -- Mr. Starlund presented a workshop at this conference in Spokane entitled -- "Why Signs Don't Work", the psychology, appropriate messaging, and design of parks signs. It was attended by > 80 participants and judging from immediate feedback, it was well-appreciated.

Planning Standards Manual -- Staff drafted a manual for planning processes, forms and permits. This will be available for review later this month.
Background: Trail names and signage has largely been the result of work by volunteer park stewards. However, this has created a variety of signage systems throughout our Preserves and Heritage Parks. To begin to standardize park-wide sign designs, materials, labels, and emergency GPS locators, we have acknowledged three standard designs for park trails and interior roadways.

Note: **Emergency Rescue GPS markers (stickers) are to be developed for extensive trail systems in coordination with local fire districts throughout the County. GPS markers will be placed at significant road and trail intersections and the emergency response agencies supplied with trail map system for additional locator information. Once this system is tested and developed for Kitsap County Parks, implementation will begin with the support of Park Stewards.

APPROVED TRAIL SIGN CATEGORIES:

1. **Simple Post & Plaque** -- these trailhead signs are treated 4"x4" posts or 6"x6" posts with plastic plaques routed with trail names. Trail length or other data may be included.
   
   Parks with this system: North Kitsap Heritage, Illahee, Hansville and Anderson Landing
   
   **GPS Rescue stickers are placed on the upright post below the trail name.**

2. **Rustic Routed Name Signs** -- supported by single or double posts, signs are routed wood signs (approx. 6"x18"), horizontally mounted to upright treated posts. This method is labor intensive and more costly than the simple post & plaque, but offer a backcountry rustic look.
   
   Parks with this system: Banner and Newberry Heritage Parks, and Guillemot Preserve
   
   **GPS Rescue stickers are to be placed on the upright post, below the named sign.**

3. **Extensive Trail & Road System** --intended for extensive forest roads, road and trail intersections. These trail systems will be signed with Numbered Road Posts and Carborundum Trail Posts. These are quick to install, long-lasting and cost-effective.
   
   - 6"x6" treated posts are placed on the right corner of an interior road intersection, labeled with a (USFS) style road numbering system, visible in both directions.
   
   - Named trails are signed with carborundum posts are labeled with vinyl lettering reading vertically.
   
   - Carborundum posts are driven into the soil (~24" deep) at the trailhead and trail/road intersections. Posts and lettering colors will be approved for each park location.
   
   Parks with this system: Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park.
   
   **GPS Rescue stickers are to be placed atop trail name within the top 6" of the post top.**
SPECIFIC USE MARKERS: Trails are often designed with specific construction standards for intended use or experience. Specific signage needs will be included in an Approved Park Trail Plan and signed accordingly with international recreation symbols (stickers).

Wildlife Viewing Signs:

Size: approx. 8" x 14"

Materials: Plastic or aluminum with vinyl lettering/clear-coat.

Note: All signs will be mounted to posts installed at intersections or viewing areas. No signs will be mounted to live or dead trees.
TRAIL SIGNAGE STANDARDS
HERITAGE and PRESERVE PARKS

Background: Trail names and signage has largely been the result of work by volunteer park stewards. However, this has created a variety of signage systems throughout our Preserves and Heritage Parks. To begin to standardize park-wide sign designs, materials, labels, and emergency GPS locators, we have acknowledged three standard designs for park trails and interior roadways.

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   - Named trails are signed with carsonite posts are labeled with vinyl lettering reading vertically.
   - Carsonite posts are driven into the soil (~24” deep) at the trailhead and trail/road intersections. Posts and lettering colors will be approved for each park location.

   **Parks with this system:** Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park.
   **GPS Rescue stickers** are to be placed atop trail name within the top 6” of the post top.
**Introduction**

**Interpretation Need:** Where there is a significant park feature or setting (natural, cultural or historic), there is an apparent need to introduce that story or environment to the park visitor. The art of interpretation is to convey through text, graphics and photos, a succinct story and not just a lot of information. Our park visitors typically will not reach extensive text, but will consume park information if it is developed with key interpretive principles and designed to fit within the landscape setting.

*It's not enough to open minds; do not overload them. Put there just a spark. If there is some good inflammable stuff, it will catch fire.*  
--- Anatole France

Differing from signs that provide simple information, directions or rules, Interpretive Signs tell a story. They offer an introduction to a new environment, historical or natural perspectives. Interpretation invites the visitor to inspect and learn more about a park setting.

**Interpretive Principles:** More than just information interpretive displays must:

- Relate to audience
- Reveal Something New
- Provoke Interest
- Address readers’ different learning styles (see matrix below)
- Provide Context—relate to a the bigger story, place or time

**Message Design:** Interpretive content should relate to the variety of visitor "learning styles". Strive to address each of these interests, following this learning styles matrix.

---

![Learning Styles Matrix](image-url)
EST. 2017

BEAVER POND TRAIL BOARDWALK

BUILT BY VOLUNTEERS:

NORTH KITSAP TRAIL ASSOCIATION
EVERGREEN MOUNTAIN BIKE ALLIANCE
BACK COUNTRY HORSEMAN ASSOCIATION
&
WASHINGTON CONSERVATION CORPS

FUNDED BY:
RECREATION EQUIPMENT INC. [REI]

PORT GAMBLE FOREST HERITAGE PARK
Introduction

Interpretation Need: Where there is a significant park feature or setting (natural, cultural or historic), there is an apparent need to introduce that story or environment to the park visitor. The art of interpretation is to convey through text, graphics and photos, a succinct story and not just a lot of information. Our park visitors typically will not reach extensive text, but will consume park information if it is developed with key interpretive principles and designed to fit within the landscape setting.

It’s not enough to open minds; do not overload them. Put there just a spark. If there is some good inflammable stuff, it will catch fire. -- Anatole France

Differing from signs that provide simple information, directions or rules, Interpretive Signs tell a story. They offer an introduction to a new environment, historical or natural perspectives. Interpretation invites the visitor to inspect and learn more about a park setting.

Interpretive Principles: More than just information interpretive displays must:

- Relate to audience
- Reveal Something New
- Provoke Interest
- Address readers’ different learning styles (see matrix below)
- Provide Context—relate to a the bigger story, place or time

Message Design: Interpretive content should relate to the variety of visitor “learning styles”.

Strive to address each of these interests, following this learning styles matrix.
Interpretive Text: Interpretive writing should be more than just information, but portray the context of time and place, and give the reader a feeling of story sharing. Example:

Wikipedia Style:
Railway time was the standardized time arrangement first applied by Railroads in the U.S. in 1883. Local time zones were synchronized and a single standard time applied. Railway time was progressively taken up by all railway companies, to adjust for cross-country travel.

Story Style:
Railway Time: When traveling no faster than an ox-drawn, wagon, keeping time in the West was as easy as tracking the sun. By 1883, cross-country railroads had schedules to keep. They demanded exact and uniform time keeping across many local time zones. Anything less meant passengers missing connection or worse, head-on train collisions. Railway time clocks became standard with all railroad companies and clocks were displayed at each station.

The synchronized time system got mixed reviews... "The sun will be requested to rise and set by railroad time," grumbled the Indianapolis Daily Sentinel. But railroad time prevailed.

Basic Interpretive Sign Specifications:

Sign Base and Support: 1" inch PVC with metal post and backing. Recommended display: 18"x24"

Graphics and text: vinyl laminate with clearcoat

Example of full color interpretive layout.

Sign post attachment.
Formal Interpretive Displays:

Materials: More elaborate sign message and graphic layout are determined for more intense educational locations. Careful planning should be made for location and layout of these signs to blend with the location aesthetics. Porcelain enamel, fiberglass embedment, and other outdoor durable surfaces shall be useful.

Examples:

Pt. No Pt. Whale Watch sign

Mt. Rainier Interpretation

Park Planning/Construction Interpretive Signs: Park development plans and construction starts will posted high visible signs detailing the plans, details, and timelines for the park construction or significant part activities.

South Kitsap Regional Park Example:

Sign Materials: Printed on foam core or outdoor banner fabric.

Sign Base/Support: Install to a single post, kiosk, or construction fence attachment.
Why Forests Need to Breathe

**History:** As a commercial treefarm, this stand of trees was tightly stocked with firs. Left un-thinned, this forest grew dense and dark. Few understory plants survived.

**So all might enjoy...**

In 2015, 535 acres of Port Gamble Forest became a County Heritage Park. Following a forest stewardship plan, an intensive forest-recovery program has begun. Weak and crowded fir trees are scheduled for thinning. Young tree saplings; cedar, hemlock and maple are hand-planted to restore a native forest community.

> "After forest disturbances, like storm and fire, nature restarts. Woody debris and tree snags are habitat. Sun penetrates and warms the forest floor. New life can now sprout everywhere." — Anne Bergstrom, County Forester

A once dark and eerily quiet forest will now grow green with sword ferns, salmonberry, huckleberry, and salal. There is a buzz of bugs and bird chirps again. Deer tracks appear on trails.

Over seasons and years, this forest community will change again with new dominant trees and undergrowth.

That’s Nature!
May 8th, 2017

Meeting Notes

Meeting With Kitsap County Parks Advisory Board Guest Services Committee

Re: Request from Evergreen Mountain Bike Association to Grant Exception to Parks Hours of Operation in Port Gamble Forest Area

Present: Jim Dunwiddie, Ani Gatz, Joanne Clark, Kathryn Thompson, Dori Leckner

Items Discussed:

1. Historical use of land
2. Evergreen’s commitment to obtaining and maintaining land
3. Consequences of actions as they extend to other parks and user groups
4. Consequences of wildlife impact

At this time we understand and sympathize with the request of the Evergreen mountain bike association and are committed to finding a way to compromise and meet the needs of all user groups to the best of our abilities.

Results of Preliminary Meeting:

1. Despite the fact that previous owners have allowed night riding on the property, it has been Parks Policy from the inception of the department to close all parks at dusk. Further, while policy is not law, breaking of this policy constitutes violation of County Code on public lands, which means trespassing, and trespassing is a violation of law. Therefore we must move forward very carefully with the input of the County Prosecutor and the Sherriff’s office, and change policy with their input.

2. We are incredibly grateful for Evergreen’s involvement in Parks acquisition and maintenance. We are also aware of the numerous other volunteer and user-group contributions to parks, both in tens of thousands of dollars raised, nonprofits and LIDs created, thousands of hour of labor — much of it professional level services — and their efforts to maintain and manage their parks according to code and without asking for exception. We are aware that we must be cognizant of the results of granting one group exception and the expectation that we will then begin to entertain exception to numerous groups, creating the proverbial slippery slope and possibly creating a great deal of issues for Parks in the future. Therefore we must move forward with long-term, large-scale vision in mind when meeting this request because the decision will set an important precedent.

3. While this seems at first like a simple request, it has proven to be far more complex, both in liability issues and the impact of relationships with other user groups and government entities. At this time the committee is doing further research on ways to meet needs of all groups, including reserving a specific area of the park that is dedicated to night riding, while other areas of the Port Gamble Forest Area are reserved for forest preservation, as required by the various granting agencies and organizations supporting the parcel’s acquisition. We are also awaiting feedback from the county prosecutor and risk manager if the activity is covered under the state’s recreation immunity law. Additionally, there has been a strong voice to protect the wildlife and we are taking this into account as we continue working on a detailed plan that respects the needs of all parties including the land, flora, and fauna.
Newberry Hill Heritage Park Stewardship Report

Unauthorized Trails

Closed unauthorized trail in RCO near Heritage wetland.

Restorative Forestry

Attended symposium in Vancouver Washington presented by Oregon State University School of Forestry, Washington DNR, and WSU on forest health and diseases. The California 5 spined ips is moving north and is currently in Washington near the Dalles killing large tract of Ponderosa Pine. Root diseases, invasives and stresses on trees was covered as well as abiotic factors affecting tree health. A collaborative panel discussion on using a combination of Arborists and loggers in urban areas to mitigate dangerous trees.

Monday Weed Warriors

CK Lifetreehouse students continue to pull Scotch Broom, and clear trails. Noxious weed removal began along Old Timber Trail and is expected to be clear of mature Scotch Broom plants by end of May.

Little Anderson Boardwalk Project

Working with engineer for wet stamped boardwalk design.

Rummage Sale

Park stewards held their annual rummage sale at KC Fairgrounds in the Van Zee building and raised over $1000.00. Unsold items were donated to ARC and Goodwill.