

APPROVED

JUNE 19, 2019

**Kitsap County Park Advisory Board
Minutes May 15, 2019**

PRAB Members Present: Larry Walker, Josh Hopp, Joanne Clark, Brian Higgins, Jon Pearson, Frank Stricklin

Staff: Jim Dunwiddie, Travis Buell, Steven Starlund, Rachael Fleck, and Leigh Snyder

Members of the Public: 14

Meeting called to order by Chair Larry Walker at 6:04 PM.

Introduction of the Board and Staff.

Adoption of the April 17, 2019 Minutes

Motion: Josh Hopp

Second: Joanne Clark

Discussion- none

Action: Minutes adopted

Public Address – Jim Aho spoke about the Lost Continent Acquisition Plans – (See Attached) Jim Dunwiddie acknowledged Mr. Aho and all his dedicated work to the Illahee Preserve. Three members of the public spoke in support of the Sound To Olympic Trail and expressed concern that this is not addressed in the NKHP Masterplan. Another citizen expressed concern that the main objective of the masterplan is conservation and active recreation seems to be closed out of the Park. He asked that exclusions not be made, and the plan is carefully reviewed by the PRAB before making a recommendation. He would like to see a feasibility study done. In response, the North Kitsap Stewards stated that a trails plan will follow the masterplan and that is where the trails will be addressed. Frank Stricklin asked the groups represented to consider when are the amount of trails enough – we need to protect the wildlife habitat for generations to come.

Presentation by the North Kitsap Stewards of updated Masterplan (See Handout). Discussion about the String of Pearls trail that was adopted by the County prior to the acquisition of block II of the NKHP. The NKHP Stewards are of a mind that the Sound to Olympics Trail would be better served routed elsewhere due to soils, topography etc. Some discussion of why the Norman Road parking area is desired. It is desired so that there is an access on the Kingston side of the Park. NKHP Stewards plan to conduct surveys of users 3-4 times per year to see where they are coming from and how they are accessing the Park. McKenna Roots a high school student thanked the stewards for addressing scotch broom removal. This is important for the environment.

Motion to Adopt the NKHP Masterplan and recommend approval by the Parks Department and Board of County Commissioners

Motion: Frank Stricklin

Second: Jon Peason

Discussion: none

Action: Motion passed with 1 abstaining and 1 opposed

Wild Fish Conservancy – Norwegian Point Park-Finn Creek – Presentation by Jamie Valasko- Conservation Organization for Research and Advocacy related to wild fish. Feasibility study accessed the natural processes at the mouth of Finn Creek, collection of data and talking with the public. The goal of the project is to restore the area to its natural process by removing the barrier culvert to improve the habitat and restore the saltmarsh tidal estuary. This will serve to enhance the public experience at NPP by improving the habitat complementing the adjacent park. Conceptual designs presented – moving streams away from road constraints, remove the tidal flood gate and culvert, hydraulics model studied to avoid flooding – construction of a berm – low level, perhaps a boardwalk and viewing platform. Could use fill material from site to save costs. Anticipate coming back to PRAB in June with final costs, design report. Seeking public partners and grant funding for project.

Directors Report – As attached

Subcommittee Reports – Communications – Jim Dunwiddie suggested renaming to Community Outreach – Josh Hopp agreed to chair and Jenise will serve as well.

Parks and Property – Frank Stricklin- continuing the evaluation process and looking to match parcels with make sense partners -school districts etc.

Visitor Services – no report – Jim Dunwiddie will schedule a meeting of this subcommittee prior to the next PRAB meeting to discuss the athletic field policy.

Stewardship Reports –

NHHP – See Attached

Banner Forest – Thanks to the NHHP group and Frank Stricklin for taking a walk through the park to discuss the benefits of restorative thinning.

Old Business-

Joanne Clark asked the status of the permit at Anderson Point Park -not issued to date per Jim Dunwiddie.

New Business:

Stewardship committees to come up with guidelines for electronic communications as decisions are being made by groups without public discussion ie “E-Mail Meetings”. Meetings need to be open. Volunteer Coordinators are working on policy and discussion. Larry Walker volunteered to assist.

Nomination & Selection of Vice Chair:

Motion: Frank Stricklin **Second:** Joanne Clark

Discussion – none (self-nomination)

Action: Passed

Motion to accept Frank Stricklin as Vice-Chair through this term

Motion: Josh Hopp **Second:** Joanne Clark

Discussion: none

Action: Passed

Meeting adjourned at 8:24 PM