



Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

Thursday, January 19, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm with the following park board members in attendance:

Board Members present: Tim Manns, Jose Riefkohl, Greg Francioch, John Semrau, Elizabeth Detillion, Chris Allen, Adriana Suarez, and Kevin Loy

Staff Members and Representatives: Brian Adams and Greg Adams

Members from the Public: Virginia Tautscher (Vtautscher83@gmail.com)

Board Discussion:

Documenting artifacts at historic farmlands: Virginia introduced herself as a hobbyist who has been metal detecting at historical sites all over the state of Washington, the Philippines, and New York. Her interest is to preserve items for future generations via recovering and displaying items for the public. Virginia was attracted to NSRA from its history and mission. She appreciates that it was a self-sustained farm in which the patients produced food for the mental institution and other public institutions within the state. Virginia is reading Mary McGoffin's book about the history of the facility and wants to ensure the artifacts aren't lost to attrition as the public slowly but steadily finds historical remnants at the park. Virginia purports to be very meticulous in her work and is sensitive to native vegetation.

The board discussed the proposal. Tim talked about the NPS policies in which metal detecting is strictly prohibited. He also mentioned the Park is on the national historic registry, including all of the ag buildings. As a facility recognized for its cultural existence, Tim felt further discussion with Mary McGoffin and Kelly Bush would be helpful. A hike through the facilities with the Olmstead Society could prove to be helpful as well. Kevin felt that the Upper Skagit Tribe should have an opportunity to speak to this proposal. The Board felt the discussion should be revisited at the February or March meeting.

Young's Park: This was a discussion about a potential acquisition so the notes will be very general. The landowner adjacent to our property sustained property damage during the king tide events in December. This same landowner owns the tidelands in front of our park. A discussion about a potential property exchange was discussed. This matter needs to be discussed further with the BOCC to see if there is support for attaining the tidelands.



Conway Park: John has a history with this area, both personally and professionally. The assessor map seemingly has some parcels that don't match the chain of title transfers. These land discrepancies may include land owned by the Dike District, Skagit County, and the Fire District. The Board asked that we follow-up with a meeting to discuss the discrepancies. We will start with the assessor and GIS offices.

Staff Report:

NSRA: The Veterans Park Plaza is close to meeting the grant requirements with RCO. To complete our project and close the grant we will need to install solar panels on the picnic shelter. The contract has been signed and the panels will be placed within eight weeks.

We continue to collaborate with The Skagit Trail Builders as we complete the final trail projects. New maps and wayfinding signs are being completed and are being installed.

The non-profit organization responsible for the veteran placards is having issues with timely installation. We are working with them to resolve this issue. The placards are selling at a clip of about 15 per month and we anticipate more now that there has been further advertisement.

BERP: We have been informed that our department continues to have management responsibilities for the Burlington-Edison Regional Park on B-ESD High School property. Although we believed this park was officially transferred, we don't have a record of the transfer and because there was RCO funding used to develop the facility, RCO has contacted us about compliancy. We are hoping to work with the B-ESD to unravel this and didn't know if there was an agreement on record indicating a transfer of management. Our department hasn't had this park in our inventory, maintained or improved this park in twenty or more years.

Adjourn.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

Thursday, November 21 October 15, 2019 2020

The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm 5:00 pm with the following park board members in attendance:

Formatted: Font: 11 pt



Board Members present: Tim Manns, Jason Benson, and Elizabeth Detillion, Jason Benson, Alex Knighton, John Semrau, Greg Francioch, and Chris Allen and Chris Allen.

Staff Members and Representatives: Brian Adams and Eccos Design consultant Patrik Dylan.

Public: Andy Basabe from Vamos Project

Board Discussion

;

s-is

The challenges and opportunities associated with developing the site into housing.

Key site characteristics that would essentially be a "showstopper" (i.e., cost prohibitive, environmental, safety issues without appropriate mitigation options, etc.).

ofon the process itVamos is partnering with Burlington Edison School District to provide programming in Skagit County Parks on Saturdays for Latinx youth. Burlington Parks are all closed, and we are working on transportation to get kids to the Skagit County Parks. They have chosen NSRA for its open and green space to facilitate their bilingual and environmental education activities.

Vamos Outdoors Project will provide outdoors programming for youth through the Gear Up program. All programming will follow social distancing protocols as laid out by Vamos Outdoors Project, BESD, and the Skagit County Health Department, whichever is the most conservative. Vamos will provide insurance, supervision, and enrichment activities, provided by 2 trained outdoor educators. Gear up will provide outreach, food, and one staff member from Gear up or BESD. Families will arrive at parks of their own accord. Participants will meet at a local green space and spend 2.5 hours with Vamos. Vamos will provide 2 hours of activities, with ½ hour for lunch.

Vamos Outdoors Project is the culmination of many different inspirations on many different soils. VOP is inspired by a mother taking her sons to the top of Sauk Mountain as toddlers, to the alpine meadows, rivers and peaks of the Cascades as teenagers. It is a Spanish teacher realizing that the outdoors make for an ideal immersive classroom. It is an English teacher in Spain working with Moroccan immigrants in a public school wishing he could share a place as beautiful as Whatcom County through his teaching. It is a young man traveling through South America realizing that language is a key that opens doors to mountains, valleys, and rainforests across the world. It is a group of friends standing on the highest point in North America realizing

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Indent: Left: 1"

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Bold

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Bold

Formatted: Font: (Default) +Body (Calibri), 11 pt

Formatted: Indent: Left: 1", First line: 0"

Formatted: Indent: Left: 1", No bullets or numbering

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0"

Formatted: Font: (Default) +Body (Calibri), 11 pt

Formatted: Font: (Default) +Body (Calibri), 11 pt

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0", Don't adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Don't adjust space between Asian text and numbers



that the reason they are there is because of the desire to find personal growth through engaging experiences in nature.

We work to bridge culture and language barriers through access to Environmental Education. We want the youth we serve to draw upon transformative experiences as they grow to love their bodies, their culture, their communities, and their landscapes.

The Vamos Project is aligned with the goals of environmental education as outlined in our Comprehensive Parks Plan. (Page 5-6):

Utilize parklands, facilities, and programs to promote environmental education and encourage park visitors to become stewards of Skagit County's natural resources.

Support partnerships with environmental education organizations to provide programs at outdoor classrooms and other appropriate gathering places in Skagit County parks.

Brian asked the Board to comment on a "cost-free" partnership with Vamos based on their program being aligned with the goals of our Parks Plan. The Board agreed.

Park Board Recruitment:

We are still working on this. We may have a new recruit from District #1.

Staff Report: A report was provided and discussed. C'r wefor the structures,

Adjourn.

Agenda and Minutes:

Motion was made and seconded to accept the October minutes and November Agenda, Minor adjustments were made to the board attendees. Both passed unanimously.

Board Discussion

Final Comp Plan Review:

Patrik shared the entire plan with the board including the Executive Summary, appendices, acknowledgements and last month's adjustments to the final chapter. Minor edits were made and the executive summary was rewritten to accommodate the Board's changes.

The signature page for the plan has been created and we will be asking PRAB members to sign it at the December offsite event. This will be scheduled for December 19th at 4:30pm. The park plan will be scheduled for adoption as a "stand-alone document" in January. It will be docketed and enter further public process in the latter half of 2020. The resolution and signature page will be sent out for review. The plan will be reviewed further with the planning commission in 2020 as we go through the formal docketing process.

Formatted: Font: (Default) +Body (Calibri), 11 pt

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0"

Formatted: Font: (Default) +Body (Calibri)

Formatted: Space After: 0 pt, Line spacing: single, No bullets or numbering

Formatted: Font: (Default) +Body (Calibri), 11 pt

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0"

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0"

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0"

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Bold

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0"

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0"



Project Summary:

Skagit Playfields:

We have selected Field Turf from KCDA as our contractor for the turf. Test holes are being dug in November and will be provided to the contractor. The college is donating 150k towards this project. A cultural Resource report needs to be completed for the infields in early 2020. A contract will be drawn up for getting the scope of work completed.

Pressentin Park: The project will break ground in the fish window of 2020. There are significant development challenges due to the cultural resources along the terrace. Excavation should begin in March of 2020.

We weren't able to get bids from those on any of the pre-bid rosters for replacing the roof of the old Good Foods Building. We will be taking the bid documents for the new Fair roof and repurpose/ re-scope it for the new roof.

NSRA: The waterline and septic system are in. We have provided SW Rotary with the design for signage and the signs are currently being constructed offsite. We met with a CXT rep this week and will place an order in November. The permit was approved. The bathroom is being scheduled for a March of 2020 delivery.

The loop trail which will utilize the old connections from the hospital to the Farmstead is officially open. The Skagit Trail Builders have been partnering with us on the trails with help from volunteers, including students and staff from the Job Corp. The new trail will give visitors access to the campus before looping back to the park. The new 34' bridge has been completed at a cost of just under 15k!

Skagit Fairgrounds:

A new roof (funded from a USDA grant) will be completed before the end of the year. There is discussion about moving the Fair but there has been many other times over the past 135 years that the Fair was going to change locations. The advisory board will assist in looking at alternative locations for placement of the Fair.

Adjourn.

Formatted: Centered, Indent: Left: 1.19"

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0"

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0"

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Bold

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Bold

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0"

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0", First line: 0"



~~Next Meetings: December 19 at 4:30 pm at Skagit~~