



Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

Thursday, March 18, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 6:31pm with the following park board members in attendance:

Mike Elde, Kevin Loy, Tim Manns, Chris Allen, Ralph Rowland, Elizabeth Detillion, and Kerri Cook.

Staff Member: Brian Adams

From the Public: no members from the public were present.

There were no additional matters raised by the public, beyond issues already on the agenda. The agenda and minutes were passed by those present without any changes.

Board Discussion

Veterans Proposal for NSRA: The veterans that were slated to attend were not able to make it to the meeting. The Board wanted the following edits added to the pocket park proposal:

Design should fit in to the site with considerations to the original architectural design. The visual impact is an important design and amenity criterion.

Parking should be established along Helmick Road with considerations for safety, including proper ingress and egress.

A conceptual plan should be developed.

Pressentin Hybrid Plan: A conversation with Kelly Bush is imperative to see whether parking central to the park is possible. The high point near the barn would be the most ideal place for the parking lot. What conditions would be necessary to create the parking lot in this location? A kiosk should be placed in the park for educational purposes. Interpretive signs should be placed along bridges and trails. The community should be engaged early and their needs should be considered.

NSRA Business Proposal: The latest proposal was discussed. The board is in general agreement that the shift in ownership is a positive change. The Skagit Port staff has always been very good to



work with. A partnership between a business park and a recreational facility can create a campus type setting and provide a positive outcome for the community. A park trailhead should be established off of Fruitdale Road and a trail connection should be established that allows for safe hiking and bicycling traffic to the new facility. The path should provide access to the Fruit Loop trail.

Staff Report:

Clear Lake Project Update: The changes have been made to the plans and we'll be opening bids on March 23. Bid award is a week later and notice to proceed will be at the end of April. There is a 60 day construction window but it's our hope to have the job completed before the end of the window. At the latest, we'll have a bathroom in place before the end of June.

Fidalgo Park Updates: The Sharpe Park trail improvements have created a path that's more conducive to those that aren't as fleet on their feet as others. A bypass is paving the trail out of low and wet areas. The new Tursi Trail is progressing. A surveyor will be finishing the work in the spring. The landowner will inspect and approve the route before signing the easement.

Rodger's Property: Brian is working with Eccos Design to come up with a plan that fits our needs for the site. We won't be held to the specifics in the plan. It's essentially a placeholder for future development. This will be forwarded to the Corp of Engineers. If the Jay Group study is reapproved, it will buy us another five or six years, providing fewer regulations than a new delineation. It's our thought that the mitigation will be banked off-site, allowing our department to utilize the entire site for park/college needs.

Adjourn

Next Meeting: May 21