



Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

Thursday, April 21, 2022

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

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

Staff Members and Representatives: Brian Adams

Members from the Public: None

The March minutes were discussed and passed without changes. Tim made the recommendation to pass the minutes as written and Elizabeth seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Discussion

E-Bike Policy: John spoke about some of the local policies of neighboring jurisdictions. Most agencies have a speed limit of 15. The differences between the other recreational providers are generally subtle (with variations on which classes of e-bikes are allowed). Since the e-bikes can change classifications with a switch, differentiating would be difficult. After a lot of discussion, the board decided to support 'pedal assisted' e-bikes on trails where other bikes are allowed and not set policy by classes. Tim wanted to make sure the language wasn't so broad that it would permit other e-devices, including scooters. Kevin mentioned the need for flexibility and wanted language that would allow the director to adjust policy without the direct oversight of the board. Brian agreed to adjust the motion based on the discussion and to send it to the board for review. Brian said he would send it out for review and once approved it would be made available for signature. The policy will be informal until it is grouped with other code changes. When this happens there will be further public process. PRAB recommended policies:

- Pedal assisted e-bikes to be allowed on trails where other bikes are currently allowed, unless modified by the parks and recreation director.
- For all bikes, the speed limit shall be 15 MPH on these trails, unless modified by the parks and recreation director.
- The policy is to be reviewed in one year.
- The policies shall be posted on social media and SCPR website. Ongoing public input is encouraged.



- The parks and recreation director should review and adjust policies as site-specific issues emerge. The SCPR advisory board may review the adjustments and policies as necessary.

Staff Report:

Pressentin Park: Flood assessment has almost been completed. Before we assess damage to bridge #3, we will need to have our onsite FEMA inspection. Some of the split rail fences and portions of the trail are going to be replaced as part of our FEMA projects. We are in discussions regarding acquisition of the Balise property and will attain an appraisal this week.

NSRA: The plaza project bids will be opened on May 9th and will be completed in the summer of 2022. Bid packets have been distributed with construction slated for late May or June.

We continue to collaborate with The Skagit Trail Builders as we plan trail projects along Goat Creek. Work parties have been ongoing.

Guemes Island: We hope to have the new playground completed in July.

Trail: we continue to work with the community on fundraising efforts so that we can finish the separated path from the ferry to the park. They have raised matching funds for the trail, and we hope to attain permits very soon. I will be doing a wetland assessment in May.

Acquisitions: Filipini Falls – The trailhead is being designed by an engineer. Once permits have been obtained and construction is complete, the property will be transferred to Skagit County. It's an incredible parcel with enormous public value.

Skagit Flyway - The property has been placed in the Studley will for use as a future park.

Skagit River Fishing Access—The PSA has been signed and is being reviewed.

Adjourn.