



## **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes**

**Thursday, May, 2023**

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

**Board Members present: John Semrau, Tim Manns, Chris Allen, Jose Riefkohl, and Kevin Loy**

**Staff Members and Representatives: Brian Adams**

**Members from the Public: None**

**A motion was made to pass the April minutes and the May agenda. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**

### **Board Discussion:**

**NSRA Shelter Sign:** Brian wrote comments on a docket item for PRAB consideration. The letter advocates for the amendment of SCC 14.16.500(3), allowing for trails to be an outright permitted use in the OSRI Zone. The letter still needs signatures from the majority of the board and is available at the convenience of board members. For members who agree, your vote is your signature. Once we have at least five signatures we will turn it in to the planning commission.

**Model Rocketry:** this item postponed until the proponent is available to discuss and answer questions.

**Guemes Tidelands Acquisitions:** We are still awaiting the title report from Guardian Title. Once we have the title report, we can put together an offer to acquire the lands. This can be done through an easement, BLA and/ outright purchase, or a combination thereof. The low valuation of tidelands creates a challenge for us so we will need to know how much flexibility we have based on the anticipated appraisal. We will work with our legal team on this process. I made a site visit with Commissioner Wesen and he fully understands the importance of public beach access at our park.

**Studley Property:** We have talked with the commissioners about the conditions and are separating the policy and legal questions. The one sticking point is the reversionary clause. This will need to be vetted further. The Studley family is flexible on the type of 'development' required within twenty years. Trails will be considered development. They want to make sure the area doesn't become ignored, thus allowing homeless encampments.



## **Staff Report:**

### **Skagit Playfields:**

Soccer fields: The bid documents for the soccer fields will be posted and distributed before the end of the month. We anticipate the project taking 85 working days and being wrapped up by October 31. Softball fields: The paving project was finally completed!

**Pressentin Park:** We have had our kick-off meeting with Reichert and Ebe. The design work for the FEMA projects has begun. The timeline from design to completion is being established. BLA: I met with the surveyors at the Blaise Property. If the north side of the 1-acre parcel can be aligned to the center line of SR20, it will help retain our trail current trail configuration. If not, we will adjust the east/west configuration of the 1-acre parcel.

**NSRA:** The Veterans Park Plaza has met the grant requirements with RCO and the final payment was received this month. The solar panels were installed in early May. We continue to collaborate with The Skagit Trail Builders as we complete the final trail projects. New maps and wayfinding signs are being installed. Information about our parks and NSRA trails will be available at the SW street fair in June.

**Samish Island:** We have chosen a contractor for painting the tennis and pickleball courts. Now that the pollen has settled, this work will commence and be completed soon.