



Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

Thursday, June 15, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 630pm with the following park board members in attendance:

John Semrau, Mike Elde, Jason Benson, Tim Manns, Kevin Loy, and Elizabeth Detillion.

Staff Members: Brian Adams

The minutes were passed unanimously without corrections.

Public Comments:

No Public Comments were provided

Board Discussion

Park/Facility Naming Resolution:

The Board agreed with Tim's comments and approved them moving forward intact. The PA had made comments about the restrictiveness of the policies but the intent was to put a process in place to properly vet candidates for their contribution to the betterment of Skagit County Parks and Recreation. The Board will make their recommendation but the Board of County Commissioners always make the final determination.

NSRA Trail Plan:

The department has talked with WDNR, PNTA, and Skagit Port about an augmented internal trail network as well as greater connectivity and enhanced trail systems in neighboring public properties. The plan would formalize NSRA as the sanctioned trailhead for connectivity to DNR lands to the north and east. Our plan would also include a coordination trail plan of NSRA with the Port of Skagit. More discussions will be necessary before we approach those with key landholdings between our lands and DNR lands. The Port would like a 'campus type setting with a vibrant feel'. The Board is supportive in the discussions and acknowledge the strong support from the public, as indicated in the 2013 comp plan.

Staff Update

Walberg Field

A ribbon cutting with RCO representation will be timed to coincide with the Cal Ripken Jr. Tournament scheduled for July 6 at 5pm.

Cleveland Park

The old playground has been removed and a new playground will be installed in mid-July. We are reaching out to the community to raise \$20,000 in funds to pay for one of the primary features (the spinner). The playground will bring us up to safety compliance and be incredibly popular.

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<http://skagitcounty.net/offices/parks/index.htm>



Recreation Report

Pressentin Update

In partnership with the Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group, we were awarded 1.9 million dollars for side channel habitat, trails, footbridges, and other improvements at Pressentin Park. The ALEA funds are threatened due to a technicality that arose with the budget. In the Governor's 'book 1' budget, the ALEA funding was set at 1 million of general funds with an additional 4.3 million apportioned from the State Bond Fund. This budget was proposed before it was completely known that 85% of the State Bond Funds would be required to satisfy the necessary cost share for an unanticipated number of successful school bonds. We believe a reasonable resolution would be to "back out" the proposed bond funds from the equation and restore ALEA to the intended target of 5.3 million. After the restoration at 5.3 million, any later budget trimming to the overall RCO package would affect ALEA Funds by the same rate.

Adjourn Next Meeting: June, 2017

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