

## Parks, Recreation and Fair Board Minutes

Thursday, August 21, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm with the following Park Board members in attendance:

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

**Staff Members and Representatives:** Brian Adams

*A motion was made to approve the May minutes and August Agenda. The motion to approve the minutes and agenda was approved and passed unanimously.*

### Board Discussion:

#### **Renaming Big Rock Park:**

- The Board supports a **hybrid name** that includes both the native name “Yudwasta” and the traditional name “**Big Rock.**”
- John recommends listing "Yudwasta" first, to honor the native heritage.
- The Board will revisit the renaming and naming policies at a future meeting, including discussions on new park acquisitions.
- The renaming process must adhere to protocol, including alignment with the Board of County Commissioners' resolution.

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### **2025 Priority Park Projects**

#### **Pressentin Park (FEMA Repairs)**

- Repairs will continue.
- Design work for the old Good Foods restaurant is planned.
- Sale of the **Balise property** targeted for **spring 2025**.

#### **Swinomish Boat Launch**

- Repairs scheduled for 2025 after a long permitting delay.
- Infrastructure is deteriorating; mitigation fees will apply.

#### **Skagit Playfields**

- **New playground installation** (Dec 2024/Jan 2025).
- Restoration of **Otto Walberg Memorial** is next.
- New soccer fields ready for play in **fall 2025**.

#### **Howard Miller Steelhead Park (HMSP)**

- **Modular restroom installation** by spring 2025.
- Office building nearing completion.

#### **Northern State Recreation Area (NSRA)**

- Continued trail work and **footbridge completion by end of 2024**.
- Trails will connect with Port of Skagit property in 2025.

#### **Big Rock Park**

- Acquisition complete in **summer 2025**.
- Trailhead design work underway.

#### **Studley Park**

- Adds **15 acres** to inventory.
- Acquisition completed by end of 2024.

#### **Filippini Park**

- **Purchase and Sale Agreement** finalized by end of 2024.
- Focus on waterfall park trails and trailhead for **fall 2025**.

#### **Fairgrounds**

- New restroom construction to be completed by **spring 2025**.
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