



Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

Thursday, October 20, 2022

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

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

Staff Members and Representatives: Brian Adams and Greg Adams

Members from the Public: None

The September minutes were discussed and passed with minor amendments. Elizabeth made the motion and it was seconded by Tim.

Board Discussion:

Drones in Parks: There was Board consensus for drone free zones in campgrounds and at events, and at sport field activities. Kevin wanted to ensure the director was allowed to provide discretion to make adjustments due to emerging circumstances. A discussion about whether a permit should be required for flying drones within SC Parks. Greg discussed some of the advantages of a permit requirement with a registration system. After 30 minutes of discussion it was decided that most drones are already regulated through the FAA and that our policies should be site specific to certain areas. At this time, permits won't be necessary but we will continue to monitor our parks to determine if further action will be required.

NSRA Veterans Park: John stated that horses should be eliminated from ADA Trail and signs should be posted. The ADA surface won't withstand for the substantial weight of horses. John recommended a secondary path alongside the ADA path. New gate has been placed and its locked at night.

Staff Report:

Recreation:

Although fall programs are still ongoing and will be finishing up in mid-December, we're already looking forward to the winter and spring. The Boys SWISH Basketball League (100+ teams expected again in 2023) will begin games on Saturday, January 7th to kick off our winter program season. Our staff is currently busy with Boys SWISH registrations and assisting organizing teams locally as needed for this regional program that will have teams from Canada, the islands and from throughout Skagit, Snohomish and Whatcom counties. In December we'll also get our sign-ups for practice & tournament use of the Skagit Valley



Playfields, which is highly anticipated by youth and adult teams for these 'premiere' northwest softball/baseball fields

HMSP:

We are working on shoreline issues so that we can be in position to have a restroom replaced in the day-use area. We will be requesting funds in our 2023 budget for this replacement.

Skagit Playfields:

Soccer fields: A meeting to discuss the short-term and long-term plans for the properties on the east side of the campus is scheduled for November 30. Potential partners include SVC, MVSD, City of Mount Vernon, and SCPR. We believe there is an opportunity to utilize the property in a way that will benefit all parties.

Softball fields: We have hired SRV Construction to do the paving project and weather has delayed completion. Its possible that the job won't be completed until spring due to the temperatures.

Adjourn.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

Thursday, November 21 October 15, 2019 2020

The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm 5:00 pm with the following park board members in attendance:

Board Members present: Tim Manns, Jason Benson, and Elizabeth Detillion, Jason Benson, Alex Knighton, John Semrau, Greg Francioch, and Chris Allen and Chris Allen.

Staff Members and Representatives: Brian Adams and Eccos Design consultant Patrik Dylan.

Public: Andy Basabe from Vamos Project

Board Discussion

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The challenges and opportunities associated with developing the site into housing.

Key site characteristics that would essentially be a "showstopper" (i.e., cost prohibitive, environmental, safety issues without appropriate mitigation options, etc.).

ofon the process itVamos is partnering with Burlington Edison School District to provide programming in Skagit County Parks on Saturdays for Latinx youth. Burlington Parks are all closed, and we are working on transportation to get kids to the Skagit County Parks. They have chosen NSRA for its open and green space to facilitate their bilingual and environmental education activities.

Vamos Outdoors Project will provide outdoors programming for youth through the Gear-Up program. All programming will follow social distancing protocols as laid out by Vamos Outdoors Project, BESD, and the Skagit County Health Department, whichever is the most conservative. Vamos will provide insurance, supervision, and enrichment activities, provided by 2 trained outdoor educators. Gear-up will provide outreach, food, and one staff member from Gear-up or BESD. Families will arrive at parks of their own accord. Participants will meet at a local green space and spend 2.5 hours with Vamos. Vamos will provide 2 hours of activities, with ½ hour for lunch.

Vamos Outdoors Project is the culmination of many different inspirations on many different soils. VOP is inspired by a mother taking her sons to the top of Sauk Mountain as toddlers, to the alpine meadows, rivers and peaks of the Cascades as teenagers. It is a Spanish teacher realizing that the outdoors make for an ideal immersive classroom. It is an English teacher in Spain working with Moroccan immigrants in a public school wishing he could share a place as beautiful as Whatcom County through his teaching. It is a young man traveling through South America realizing that language is a key that opens doors to mountains, valleys, and rainforests across the world. It is a group of friends standing on the highest point in North America realizing that the reason they are there is because of the desire to find personal growth through engaging experiences in nature.

We work to bridge culture and language barriers through access to Environmental Education. We want the youth we serve to draw upon transformative experiences as they grow to love their bodies, their culture, their communities, and their landscapes.

The Vamos Project is aligned with the goals of environmental education as outlined in our Comprehensive Parks Plan. (Page 5-6):

Utilize parklands, facilities, and programs to promote environmental education and encourage park visitors to become stewards of Skagit County's natural resources.

Support partnerships with environmental education organizations to provide programs at outdoor classrooms and other appropriate gathering places in Skagit County parks.

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~~_____ Brian asked the Board to comment on a “cost-free” partnership with Vamos based on their program being aligned with the goals of our Parks Plan. The Board agreed.~~

Park Board Recruitment:

~~We are still working on this. We may have a new recruit from District #1.~~

~~**Staff Report:** A report was provided and discussed. C’r wefor the structures,~~

Adjourn.

Agenda and Minutes:

~~Motion was made and seconded to accept the October minutes and November Agenda, Minor adjustments were made to the board attendees. Both passed unanimously.~~

Board Discussion

Final Comp Plan Review:

~~Patrik shared the entire plan with the board including the Executive Summary, appendices, acknowledgements and last month’s adjustments to the final chapter. Minor edits were made and the executive summary was rewritten to accommodate the Board’s changes.~~

~~The signature page for the plan has been created and we will be asking PRAB members to sign it at the December offsite event. This will be scheduled for December 19th at 4:30pm. The park plan will be scheduled for adoption as a “stand-alone document” in January. It will be docketed and enter further public process in the latter half of 2020. The resolution and signature page will be sent out for review. The plan will be reviewed further with the planning commission in 2020 as we go through the formal docketing process.~~

Project Summary:

Skagit Playfields:

~~We have selected Field Turf from KCDA as our contractor for the turf. Test holes are being dug in November and will be provided to the contractor. The college is donating 150k towards this project. A cultural Resource report needs to be completed for the infields in early 2020. A contract will be drawn up for getting the scope of work completed.~~

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~~**Pressentin Park:** The project will break ground in the fish window of 2020. There are significant development challenges due to the cultural resources along the terrace. Excavation should begin in March of 2020.~~

~~We weren't able to get bids from those on any of the pre-bid rosters for replacing the roof of the old Good Foods Building. We will be taking the bid documents for the new Fair roof and repurpose/re-scope it for the new roof.~~

~~**NSRA:** The waterline and septic system are in. We have provided SW Rotary with the design for signage and the signs are currently being constructed offsite. We met with a CXT rep this week and will place an order in November. The permit was approved. The bathroom is being scheduled for a March of 2020 delivery.~~

~~The loop trail which will utilize the old connections from the hospital to the Farmstead is officially open. The Skagit Trail Builders have been partnering with us on the trails with help from volunteers, including students and staff from the Job Corp. The new trail will give visitors access to the campus before looping back to the park. The new 34' bridge has been completed at a cost of just under 15k!~~

Skagit Fairgrounds:

~~A new roof (funded from a USDA grant) will be completed before the end of the year. There is discussion about moving the Fair but there has been many other times over the past 135 years that the Fair was going to change locations. The advisory board will assist in looking at alternative locations for placement of the Fair_____.~~

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~~**-Adjourn-**~~

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~~**Next Meetings: December 19 at 4:30 pm at Skagit**~~