

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Final Minutes

Monday, June 15, 2006

Skagit Valley Playfields Picnic Shelter

Mount Vernon, WA 98273

6:30 p.m.

6:30 – 6:35 p.m. Roll Call of General Meeting

**Present**

Colleen Fisher, Chair  
Kevin Loy  
John Semrau  
Peter Swanson  
Liz McNett Crowl

**Absent**

Keith Magee  
Lloyd Brown, Vice  
Jeri Krampetz  
Nathan Salseina

**Staff**

Robert Vaux  
Brian Adams  
Patrik Dylan  
Lauren Woodmansee  
Tawni Helms

**Guests**

Chuck Mell, SPF  
Kevin Mendoza

Agenda for meeting approved  
March 9 minutes unanimously approved

**Public Comment:** Kevin Mendoza

*Bob:* Reet Funding request \$150 K to local SC school districts towards track. Work now for REET funds go towards in house project. Governing body used to consist of local mayor, real estate board members. body no longer exists.

*Kevin M.:* Propose building a field 40x80 with a couple of pens & storage facility near Sherman Anderson working with the little league. His volunteer group has been working hard to develop sponsorship. The projected cost 75K. Working on donations-hoping for county support of 25% - project is for county & city. Signage for yearly maintenance. Would like to start as soon as this summer – Drained \$30,000 – improve Sherman Anderson –Expand on new infield improvements

*John:* Who would own/manage property? Where is the location?

*Kevin M.:* City Parks Department would handle scheduling. Going to make access to field. Southeast corner is ideal but not practical. A location that has been considered is

at Cleveland Park which is a County Park. If not available the SE corner location still works.

*Peter Swanson:* County is currently not holding up its obligation . The County needs to gain more access to the field Skagit Valley Dreamfield. It is primarily used and controlled by the College. SVC team primary user at Dreamfield for College and the HS has primary use at Sherman Anderson during the season.

*Bob:* We have some struggles with use of the fields but the County is in partnership with the college for the facility.

*Peter:* I would like to meet with Mr. Knutson to revisit the use agreement. Peter formally advocated for Kevin's request for funding.

*Colleen:* Are there other location options? What about the Fairgrounds?

*John:* What is the construction window?

*Kevin:* after August

*Bob-* Has the permitting process begun?

*Kevin L.:* SUV facility in Sedro-Woolley is used 12 mos. The need and use is always in season – maintenance is minimal. Great facility in use year round.

*Kevin M.:* City of Mount Vernon funding not sure.

*John:* When are REET funds released?

*Bob:* Funding released during budget process in July – It may be later this year due to new citizens advisory group report due after 7/4/06

All money allocated to current projects in 2006

Peter moved to support \$20,000. Kevin Loy seconded.

Colleen asked for more information regarding project. Liz asked for clarification on proposal. John stated that outside County funded projects have gotten us burned.

*Bob:* County can possibly donate/contribute property to project- great project – 60-65k for 40x80 structure, lights etc 75k

*John:-* More information regarding other funding from other partners is needed.

*Peter S.:-* Amended motion that the county contributes if/when the City and School District agree to pay/contribute.

*Liz-* Requested that the discussion be tabled until the next meeting and when we have a better idea of the potential commitments from the City and the School district.

*John-* proposed/suggested Peter S work on the project- to develop letter/draft formal proposal document for review by the advisory board.

*Bob-* In addition the advisory board needs to figure out where to pull funds from.

*Peter* agreed to work with Kevin to get more information.

*John* made a motion to table motion- Liz seconded motion

### **Parks Foundation Update**

*Chuck M* represented the Parks Foundation and presented on the Starbucks partnership which has earned \$4600 through the Make Your Mark Program. Starbucks team was listed on website- Relay for Life. Starbucks volunteers will be working with Clearlake Triathlon. 1 event per qtr. Will be here at SVP. Adopt a Park/trail & Make Your Mark programs will be on Sept 23. Cascade Trail getting great work done for their Adopt A Trail project on the trail. The Custer field tile project has sold 5 tiles but interest is now growing.

Shell Refinery Donation \$1800 for Bench project.

The Foundation board is working on a formal Business plan. Initial projects will be looking at developing trail signs & mapping for the parks. The next foundation meeting is scheduled for 7/11 at 6:30.

### **Indoor Rec Center Phase II**

The BoCC unanimously approved moving forward with Recreation Center projec . By way of putting out an Request For Proposal for an architectural drawing. Bob is working with Roger Howard to develop the language of how to get this project moving forward. Bob will be doing a formal update to Crec mMembers.

Bob is also working closely with Jeff Morris who has showed interest in the project. He set up a meeting with CTED to explore possible funding options. This meeting clarified that the majority of their funding is for non profit programs.

The Parks staff continue to present at service clubs. We're still looking at REET funds- to help this project. Contrastly, anything else we do with REET will impact Recreation project. Aquatics continue to be considered in this project and the YMCA has taken on a more visible role in clarifying their goals.

Next meeting to be determined.

*John-* will there be a concentrated effort to push forward during next legislative session?

*Bob-* yes, we need to strike while the iron is hot.

*Lauren-* votech article if not supported by Burlington- MV. If it does not move forward will Dave Q make this a priority or a focus?

*Bob-* If you look at what Olympia spends on projects there is more money for both.

## **Staff Reports:**

### **Brian/Projects:**

FEMA update  
HMSP paving- scramble to get there.

Big scramble for the boat launch. Behind the gun for the August construction window. Tawni and Brian will meet with Janice tomorrow.

John suggestion- when HMSP park is not full, take registration for 1 night

Brian- yes we can work on that

Art benches going into parks, info going regarding the cost/artist info

CLB- improvements done- new playground

NSRA trails finishing up

Shelter will be done soon-drawings done

Shelter w/B

SBL- pay station to go in soon \$16.00/annual

Should increase revenue by 20%

Campground revenues are going up and bucking the trends compared to other campgrounds. Full hookups sell out.

Need to do electrical upgrades at SVP

### **Recreation**

Lauren gave report on summer recreation activities

Summer interns going

4 mariners tickets available

MV invitation

Private trips going

Leisure guide is out

Plugging away at the hundreds of activities

Seahawks tickets were secured for the Fall!

### **Bob/Parks:**

David Skrinde is back starts 7/3/06

## **Board discussion:**

*Colleen-* parks meetings have not had consistent dates. Is it really necessary to meet every other month? Time change?

*John-* Meet monthly but first include agenda to determine need to meet.

Peter S- suggested meeting every other month. For the off month send staff reports, etc via email list serve.

It was agreed that the board would meet on all ODD month meeting dates. Time will remain at 6:30 p.m.

*John-* Would like to see more planning for our trails. Comp plan watered down our trails priorities. Should consider a trails coalition.

*Liz-* Non motorized group would like to come up with solid trails coalition- encouraging connectivity, we need to solidify a plan. Potential for line, SF funding. If we hear a solid plan. Priorities. No motorized piece and trails coalition to draw in community.

*John-* would like to consider working on our nonmotorized transportation trail plan in Skagit county. There remains a lot of loose ends. We haven't done justice for the Cascade trail. We need to have planned parking areas and manage the people using the facilities before it becomes unmanageable.

*Liz-* How do we connect the dots?

*Bob-* now that we have a comp plan that includes the facility (cascade trail) we can start moving in that direction. Potentially connect the dots by getting a staff member and advisory member to start coalescing.

*Liz-* it will take a while to identify and prioritize the pieces

*John-* how to initiate the process

*Liz-* non motorized group can convene a committee

*Bob-* Establish two great spines across the county

Meeting adjourned 8:50