

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

MINUTES

Thursday, November 15, 2001
Hearing Room B
County Administration Building
6:30 p.m. – Regular Meeting

1) Roll Call

Attended:

Curtis Metz

Colleen Fisher

Carroll Dillon

John Semrau

Absent:

Lloyd Brown

Keith Magee

Guests:

Mr. Vogelsang

Staff: Bob Vaux, Patrik Dylan, Earl Dierking, Dennis Lind, Mary Ann Dodge

Chairman John Semrau called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

2) **Approval of Minutes for October Meeting** - Colleen Fisher moved that the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Curtis Metz. All present approved the motion.

3) **Public Comment Period** - None

4) **Staff Reports** – Bob/Earl/Dennis/Patrik

Bob asked if there were specific questions from the written reports.

John had a question from last month regarding Ann Wolford – Resolution 1-99 approved by the Parks Board. He will fax a copy to Bob.

John had another question about the signs at Conway (Resolution #15848 – Camping at Conway). We need a uniform policy across the board and several staff are working on this.

Bob reminded the board that tomorrow he plans to attend the statewide legislative task force (WRPA) meeting to strategize how to find money for Parks and Recreation Departments. Bob also stated that the hearing on Frailey Mountain gun range has been postponed.

Earl updated the board on the HMSP improvement project. Due to high waters wire had to be pulled, but we expect to have all electrical work done by Thanksgiving. Water pipes are anticipated to be placed by mid-December. The Ranger's residence also has some repairs needed including a new hot water heater.

Patrik – Swinomish Boat Launch official kickoff was on Monday and should be complete in 30 – 45 days. The actual work is done this time of year because tides are lower in December and January. The contractor is working quickly due to environmental regulations. Update information will be put on the web site and a press release was sent to newspapers. The docks are open now, but will be closed later.

Earl – the adjacent property owner signed the easement for this work.

5) Current Business

Jim Vogelsang is here tonight to get Patrik's update on the Swinomish project. Swinomish Boat Launch is Open to the Public. Construction does not currently prohibit the use of the boat launch.

2002 Budget Request Review –

Carroll Dillon: eventually cutting services will cause public to realize things cannot go on without funding. Choices will need to be made on what to keep and what to ax.

John: I would recommend that if you need any help with project history or moving forward with the reconveyance, that you call back the SRAC. I always thought that the SRAC priorities should be considered as high as

any of our boards or committees such as COMP PLAN, FAB or PRAB.

Jim Vogelsang: the citizen's only concern is the land reconveyance. They didn't want to saddle the Parks Department with this problem. This concerns the shooting and law-enforcement people. Going back two budget processes – you will see where the money went. Ask parks staff to accept the premise – move forward and get the land conveyance. That is all the public wants. There would be a lot of revenue produced out there.

REET Priorities –

Next meeting – comments and feedback on the REET priorities.

Bob: what makes the most sense is to have some PAB members research with staff to find out what is needed. John will work with Bob on this. We need to get REET money back to the county. A matrix that shows how the REET money has been spent is a good idea.

B. Northern State Recreation Area Charette Update/Next Steps

Bob – large drawings were condensed down for display here tonight. Bryan Bowden of National Parks is writing a written report to go with the new site map. The corps planning group will meet again next week to decide where and how to go from this point forward. We will need Commissioners' OK, then the consultant work, involving the cost for staff, materials, etc.

6) New Business

A. ERA Multi-Use Event Center Report (Patrik)

We are about two-thirds through the budget for this. The conclusion of the first draft is that we concentrate on space for weddings and large meetings/gatherings. Charette results for equestrian/car shows would need much a larger building/space. With remaining Consultant fee, do we have them pursue the original or change their direction and pay more to go with the larger equestrian center idea?

Bob – written feedback would be helpful – then we could put it all together and present it back at the next board meeting.

B. Board Chair/Vice Chair Nominations/Vote

Colleen moved that we open nominations for chair and vice chair. Carroll Dillon seconded the motion. All were in favor of opening nominations. Carroll nominated John and Keith respectively as chairman and vice chair.

C. Board Meeting Schedule

December meeting – 11:30 to 1:30 workshop on the department's project **priorities and limit it to that** on the 20th of December. Then in January we'll meet on the 17th at the regular time.

7) Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Discussion Period

Dennis asked about the Parks Foundation. John said it will happen real soon if it hasn't already. Lou is looking back at previous foundation paperwork. Once the foundation is established we need to apply for the tax-exempt status. The web address is skagitparksfoundation.com

8) Adjournment – at 9:05 p.m.