

Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting

Thursday, April 21, 2022

9am via TEAMS Virtual/In Person

Call to Order at 9:05 am

Attendance:

Parks & Rec Commission Members Present: Cy Field, Tex Blankenburg, Margaret Payne, Heather Drew Oaksen, Bill McGowan, Meghan Alexander

Absent: Johannes Krieger

Staff Present: Brandon Cadwell, Jennifer Allen, Angelica Hadeen, Toby Haskett

Staff Absent: Carlene Balcomb-Bartok, Joe Ingman, Luke Praschak, Nick Jones

County Council Liaison Present: Christine Minney

Approval of Agenda-Agenda approved as presented

Approval of Amending Agenda by adding Changing PR&C Terms & inquiring on Vice Chair Position- Amendment was approved.

Approval of Meeting Minutes (February 17th, 2022) Motion made by Margaret, seconded by Heather
Introduction of new members Bill McGowan and Meghan Alexander

Chair's Message: Tex Blankenburg, no message

Public Access: None

Correspondence: None.

Council Liaison message: The Climate and Sustainability 11 seats were approved by County Council. LTAC reviews are complete and most all applicants received funds. On Friday April 22, the County Council will have a special meeting with USDA on rural development programs and services. Rick Larsen is to be present.

The Great Island Clean Up is Saturday April 23.

Director's Report: Brandon reported that the Parks staff is wrapping up projects at the fairgrounds before Matt leaves on May 6th. In 2020 the Levy Lid Lift passed, due to COVID-19 the Levy funds were not fully spent each year, the Parks Dept. is currently using the funds to renovate several Park bathrooms and a few other projects.

New Business:

David St. George: David retired from the Parks Dept. It is with a great sadness to report that David passed this month. In memory of David donations can be made in lieu of flowers to Cornell University's Ornithology Dept. The Parks Dept. donated to Cornell University's Ornithology Dept and plans on a native planting in the fall as memoriam to David.

Climate and Sustainability Liaison: New commission with County Council. Its purpose is to ensure coordination and communication across departments in relation to the county's actions with Environmental Stewardship. The commission is looking for a PR&C member to join and meet quarterly. Heather Drew Oaksen offered to be the PR&C climate liaison. Motion made by Margaret, seconded by Cy Fields. Motion: Passed

Eastsound Village Green Fee Exemption: Partnership with Orca Center for summer music series. Orcas Center films the music events and provides the Parks Dept. with a copy to use at virtual Fair.

Motion to approve fee exemption made by Margaret, seconded by Heather. Motion: Passed

Lopez Village Skate Park: The Skate Park is near the end of the manufacturers warranty. Brandon met with Joe Ingman, the Director of the Lopez Community Center, and Lopez Island Family Resource to discuss the future of the Skate Park. The Skate Park is currently becoming a Risk Management issue due to boards in the Skate Park are lifting with screws exposed. The Parks Dept. has tried multiple times to reach out to the manufacturer of the boards with no response from the manufacturer. The discussion was whether to maintain the existing wood frame or to seek out a more permanent Skate Park like the Skate Park at the SJC Fairgrounds. To give the Parks Dept. a better idea of the next steps with the Skate Park. It was suggested to involve the Lopez Community in the discussion about the future of the Skate Park by creating a survey and holding public meetings to get feedback from the Lopez Community.

Hiring Update: Summer Season Hiring is almost complete; the Parks should be fully staffed this season. The Parks Dept. will soon be looking for Fair Aides for Fair week.

LTAC Projects Funded:

- Consultants for the SJC PTNA plan
- Strategic Plan (long term operations plan)
- Renovation of the Lopez Village Restrooms
- Renovation of the Fairgrounds main Restrooms and RV Restrooms
- Vault Toilet at Eagle Cove

Field Uniforms: Found a local uniform provider on Lopez. Joe Ingman and Gabe Conway will be test fitting shirts, pants, and outerwear.

Orcas Island Lion's Club Project: Jim Biddick is looking for either a maintenance project or building project. The discussion was to clarify with the Orcas Lion's Club on whether they want to donate money or time, what would the Club like to do? Brandon will follow up with the club.

Orcas Island Farmer's Market Contract: The coordinator for the OI Farmer's Market contacted the Parks Dept. about Farmer's Market starting in May. The coordinator was notified that the Parks will go back to charging the standard fee for Eastsound Village Green in 2022.

Fairgrounds Assistance: Various Parks staff will assist with completing Fairground projects before Matt's departure May 6th.

Itinio Expansion: The Parks Dept. is going to upgrade to new features on their reservation software. The department would like to combine Park camping and Fair building rentals on one site.

Squaw Bay Rd Rename: Shaw Citizens reached out to property owners on voting for a new road name, Reef Net Bay Rd, or Grand Rd. 13 out of 14 voted for renaming Squaw Bay Rd to Reef Net Bay Rd.

Great Island Clean Up: The Great Island Clean Up is Saturday April 23.

Vice Chair Position: It was discussion to hold off appointing a new vice chair position until January 2023. Brandon will fill in when needed.

Changing PR&C Terms: There was a discussion about changing the current PR&C terms from 6 years to 3 years. Brandon is going to research the Terms with other commissions.

Old Business:

-Eastsound Village Green Bench Donation: Brandon met with Reagan and discussed getting a Public Art Permit for the bench. The Permit will need to be filed annually by a family member, if the permit is not filed then the family is responsible for removing the bench. The placement of the bench will be next to the water fountain/playground under a tree. Motion on the approval of a Public Art Permit for memorial bench made by Margaret, seconded by Heather. Motion: Passed.

Announcements: A request that the PR&C start networking for the PTNA plan.

Adjourn: at 10:55, Motion to adjourn by Tex, seconded by Cy.

Next meeting May 2022 Location: Orcas Island

Respectfully Submitted, Angelica Hadeen