

ANACORTES PARKS & RECREATION

Advisory Commission

Meeting Minutes

Phil Burton, Chairperson
Doug Colglazier
Aaron Rasmussen
Marcia Hunt
Sarah Nichols

March 10, 2009

Members Present: Doug Colglazier, Marcia Hunt, Aaron Rasmussen, Sarah Nichols and Phil Burton.

Staff Present: Gary Robinson, Jonn Lunsford, Dave Oicles, Dustin South, Andy Tubbs and Mary Snyder.

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:03 by chairperson Phil Burton.

Minutes: Minutes from the February meeting were approved as submitted.

Public Comments: None.

Correspondence/Communications:

- Marcia reported on the March Forest Board meeting and discussed was the installation of the West 12th Street trailhead into the Anacortes Community Forest Lands and the use it has been receiving.
- Jonn stated that he has been in contact with the Navy helicopter rescue training and they would like to train on Mt. Erie. The team consists of 5 members that would drop off and pick up, between the months of August and December. It was agreed that this would be a great benefit to all.
- Doug reported that the Park Foundation continues work at Kiwanis Meadows with site work being done for the basketball court and playground. The work is being done with funds made available through the Kiwanis Mt. Erie lease arrangements. The Foundation is planning a news release on accomplishments of projects completed with coordination of private and public funding. The Foundation looks forward to the Heart Lake process and being involved with such.

Special Events Request:

- F.I.D.O. submitted a request for use of Storvik Park on June 13, 2009, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm for their annual Bark in the Park Dog Festival. The event has around 500 attendees and benefits the dog park. **A motion was made to recommend allowance of this special events request for F.I.D.O. Motion was seconded and approved by all.**
- Forrest Fry and Amber Chaney have requested use of Causland Memorial Park on June 14, at 3:30 pm for their wedding ceremony. Number of attendees is between 50-100, with parking be done off-site. **A motion was made to recommend allowance of this special events request for the wedding at Causland Memorial Park by Forrest Fry and Amber Chaney. Motion was seconded and approved by all.**

Department Reports:

- Dustin reported that boy's basketball is finishing it's season on Saturday. The Sunset Loop Relay Race is Saturday at Washington Park. The spring menu will be distributed on or about March 20, with registration beginning on Monday, March 23. Co-ed volleyball and track sign-ups are continuing. There will be a flashlight Easter egg hunt on Friday, April 10 at 8 pm, Storvik Park, for grades 1-6. With clean-up operations being done at Seafarer's Memorial Park, alternate sailing locations are being sought. Sue has developed an assessment of needs for the class.

- Andy reported that the 2009 rate changes for Washington Park are in effect. Rates are formulated March 1 of every year incorporating the consumer price index. Friends of Washington Park have a work party slated for March 18 to clean brush from the loop road. Another work party is scheduled for May 2 to paint the maintenance building. Scouts are working on projects of additional recycling bins and small kiosks at both ends of the loop road. Input was sought on the idea of charging fees for additional cars parked in the campground to generate extra revenue. Discussion ensued on the current fees at Washington Park.
- Dave stated that the trailhead on West 12th is open and being used. A pair of peregrine falcons were spotted near Mt Erie and will be monitored on whether nesting will occur on the mountain.
- Gary reported that the city council has adopted a resolution to officially name the newest park on Pennsylvania Avenue as “John and Doris Tursi” Park. Hydroseeding will be done at the end of the month and a dedication ceremony will be done in late spring/early summer.
- A watering and wash off station is being constructed at Ace of Hearts Creek Park. Rotary Club is working on building a picnic area on the Thompson Trail near 34th Street.
- The Comprehensive Plans are currently being reviewed by the Community Trade and Economic Development group and then will go to city council for review. The Planning Commission will take public comment before being approved by the city council.
- Work continues on the formation of a community garden at city owned property off of 29th Street, behind the bowling alley. A committee member from the park board is being sought for the community garden. Marcia volunteered to assist with this committee. Sarah expressed interest in being involved with the development of a plan for the Heart Lake area.
- Gary stated that the port has contacted him about utilizing some of the mounded property near the entrance to Rotary Cap Sante Park for a turnaround. A picture depicting the changes was circulated and all were in favor of the use.
- Dave Abbott is retiring from the City of Anacortes and it has been decided that the position will not be filled at this time.
- The school district is facing some hard financial times and looking for ways to generate revenue. Commencing next school year, fees will be collected from the city for use of facilities for various sporting events. Discussion ensued over the 30+ years of a working relationship with the school district in shared use of fields and facilities. It is expected that imposed fees will be passed along to participants of various sports and events.
- Trail counters remain on the trails and data will be retrieved and brought to next month’s meeting to reflect usage in the forestlands and Thompson Trail.

Geocaching Policy Review: The policy presented for geocaching would be for both the Anacortes Forest Lands and Anacortes Parks. It was noted that all applications submitted would require Gary’s approval. All members will review the policies and discuss such at next month’s meeting.

Kiwanis Waterfront Park: Gary circulated pictures of the current layout of Kiwanis Waterfront Park and proposed improvements to landscaping, trails and a grassy area. Current volunteers at the park will be notified prior to any work commencing. Gary will check on the connection with the Guemes Channel trail to H Avenue.

Commission Chairperson: Phil was thanked for his many years of chairing the board. **A motion was made to appoint Aaron as the chairperson of the Anacortes Park Commission. Motion was seconded and approved by all.**

Other Business:

- Phil questioned the change in vendors for the dog waste disposal bags and it was explained that the dispensing method was preferred by the new vendor by park staff and the prices were the same.
- Sarah announced that there will be a one year celebration since the completion of Our Town, Our Park at Storvik Park on May 31, 2009 with a casual party. Additional pickets will be available for engraving - \$30 for an individual and \$100 for a business. Additional information can be found at the Our Town, Our Park website at: www.ourtownourpark.org

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45.

The ***NEXT REGULAR MEETING*** will be held on ***Tuesday, April 14, 2009 – 6:00 PM*** in the Council Chambers at City Hall—6th & Q Avenue, Anacortes WA.

Respectfully submitted by,

Mary A. Snyder

APPROVED: 4/14/2009