



ANACORTES PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

**P.O. BOX 547, ANACORTES, WA 98221
(360) 293-1918 / (360) 293-1928**

Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission

Preliminary Agenda

City Hall – 904 6th Street

August 11, 2020

MEETING CANCELED DUE TO COVID-19

If reasonable accommodation due to a disability are needed, please contact Mac Jackson

at least 48 hours prior to the meeting date (360-299-1961)

Parks and Recreation Update August 2020

Parks Maintenance Administration
Highlights for the Parks Commission
August 2020 Meeting

Getting outside continues to be a popular activity in the world of COVID19, and our team here at APRD continues to care for the visitors, the facilities and the lands they all come together on in a very professional manner. The diverse skill set of our Parks Maintenance Team, along with the willingness to take on a wide range of tasks impresses me every day. Our guests enjoy the results of this, and despite all of the challenges of the last few months, we remain open and hopeful. Of course, there are certain limitations to what we can provide. One area of deep frustration for many is the fact that our playgrounds are not yet open. This is a Phase III action, and we are currently a long ways from getting there. We ask patience and understanding, and for our visitors to really focus on the greater good of keeping one another healthy through one particular practice that most of us have a lot of control over; how we live our lives each day.

Six feet apart and a mask on when that distance is compromised. We currently are only requiring that masks be worn in our communal restroom facilities at the Washington Park Campground, the Tommy Thompson Parkway and Volunteer Park. We of course ask that everyone do the right thing and wear a mask in any shared space, indoors or out. Working together to make ourselves healthier is very, very possible.

The campground at Washington Park remains open, though the Group Camp, Group Picnic and covered beach picnic facilities remain closed for now. Loop Road hours have been back to normal for some time. We do receive input that folks wish for greater social distancing and more mask wearing on the Loop Road, but we need that everywhere. We are in the process of communicating these needs with greater effectiveness. Campground and boat launch parking revenues are pretty solid right now. We will have some numbers for you in the near future.

Groups of 5 or less may enjoy our ballfields, sport courts and other park amenities throughout our system. The skate park brings its unique set of challenges on a daily basis, but we continue to reach out to the regulars there, making every effort to keep that facility open. Cap Sante has become a regional beacon of family photos and curbside dining, even more so than in the past. We know the numbers are big up there, as they are big everywhere.

We managed to get through the 4th of July in one piece. While fireworks sales were experiencing record numbers, it was the neighborhoods hosting the shows, and almost no issues in our parks and woods.

I continue to work mostly from my home office, and spend a great deal of time in the field. There are many new members of all recreational user groups, and I have had the chance to meet several of them; providing information and other occasionally more challenging guest services.

Jon and I have been working with the Rotary Club as they continue to develop a plan to propose to the Parks Commission regarding their legacy Cap Sante trail project. I am hoping to meet on site with Planning staff next week to learn more about possible permitting requirements.

Parks & Recreation continues to be a key strand in the sometimes very thin thread holding society together. We take Stay Home / Stay Healthy very seriously, and continue to work hard for our local citizens, so they may enjoy the riches of the Anacortes parks and forest lands. This great blessing of ours brings with it great challenges, as regional visitors and beyond continue to come and enjoy what we get to call home. Your APRD team will continue to do its best every day, and I am fortunate to be on the roster.

Be Well,
Robert W. Vaux
July 30, 2020

Recreation Staff Report:

Overall: Things have been a little slow recreation programs however not necessarily slow for Dustin and Travis. Essentially working two jobs, planning for potential recreation programs and helping our parks maintenance crew. But both of us are happy to help out where needed and contribute to the APRD Team.

Survivor Camp: Travis was able to hold an in-person camp the week of July 20-23 at WA Park. He operated the camp under Phase 2 guidelines for youth day camps. It went well and kids had a good time. We have another Survivor Camp scheduled for mid-August.

Skyhawks Sport Camps: We have contracted with Skyhawks Sport Camps to facilitate numerous sport camps throughout the summer. They are still planning to run the camps in our area under Phase 2 guidelines. Provided the minimum number of registrants are retained.

Canceled Programs: Unfortunately, there are a number of other programs we have had to cancel during the summer because we needed to be in Phase 3 in order to facilitate them. Those programs were: Youth/Adult Sailing Classes, Youth Art Camps, Challenger Soccer Camp, and Adult Co-ed Softball League.

Youth Soccer League Update: It is looking less likely we will be able to have a league this year. Skagit Valley Youth Soccer Association voted a couple weeks ago to cancel the County League season (which a portion of our players participate in.) Under the current Phase 2 and 3 restrictions we do not see a way that we could have games played. However, we are looking at ways to get kids out in very small groups so they can kick a soccer ball around and get some exercise.

Other Projects/Programs/Events: The Depot Restroom project is progressing along and we are almost ready to go out to bid for the pre-site construction. There have been a lot of moving/shifting parts with the project. But in the end, it should be a facility which complements the Depot Plaza very well.

Fall programs. We are currently looking at ways to adapt some of our more popular fall recreation programs after the DOH recommended canceling large events/gatherings through the end of the year. Look for more information to follow.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Dustin South, Recreation Manager
Travis Anderson, Recreation Coordinator

Crew has been VERY busy doing the everyday parks maintenance routine- small mow, big mow, trimming, checking irrigation and doing sanitation.

With no organized baseball or softball this summer we have not spent as much time keeping Volunteer Field or Rotary field infields in top shape. We will look to spend some time here in August to stay on top of the weeds that are taking over the infields. I have had very little request for using the fields. We still have the 5 person limit on a field signs posted at our fields.

Playgrounds are still CLOSED. This has been a BIG challenge to keep the caution tape on the playgrounds. Storvik Park has to be re-wrapped almost daily.

SIGNS we are going to be putting more of them up at our parks and popular trail heads. Encouraging people to wear a mask and to properly social distance. On our upper restrooms at the camp ground, Volunteer Park and at the 22nd street restrooms there are signs that say mask are **REQUIRED**.

Grand View Cemetery Expansion Conditional Use Permit was approved by city council on the July 20th meeting. So we are looking into reviewing the CUP and moving forward with the next step. No major changes or comments from the City Council were made. The next step is to meet with Planning/ Contract Specialist and to reach out to Tuttle Engineering to go over our site plans. The goal by the end of this year would be to remove the asphalt road, remove all the trees that are slated to come down for the expansion, clear and grade the area, add soil and then hydro seed.

Cemetery in general has been busy with services. Most of the parks crew has helped with either prepping or working a services.

The planter boxes on the top of Commercial Ave have a few more flowers in them thanks to **D Ave Nursey**. They gave us a great discount on plants. Looking forward to watch those boxes explode with color.

During these times I have been **VERY** impressed with our community and the many **VOLUNTEERS** that continue to reach out to me to help with weeding. We have the Sunrise Rotary Club helping with Causland Park almost every Tuesday morning. A lady who lives near Tursi Park who has helped weed the flower beds weekly, at the Senior Center there is a woman who is helping water and keep the front of the facility looking good. At the Triangle Park I have two volunteers who are trying to keep on top of those weeds and potentially spread some bark. Coming up in September I have a church group who is wanting to help spread bark and work on the weeds in the back of the Senior Center

Seasonal Staff has been doing a great job. This August we are anticipating some of them will be leaving to head back to college if

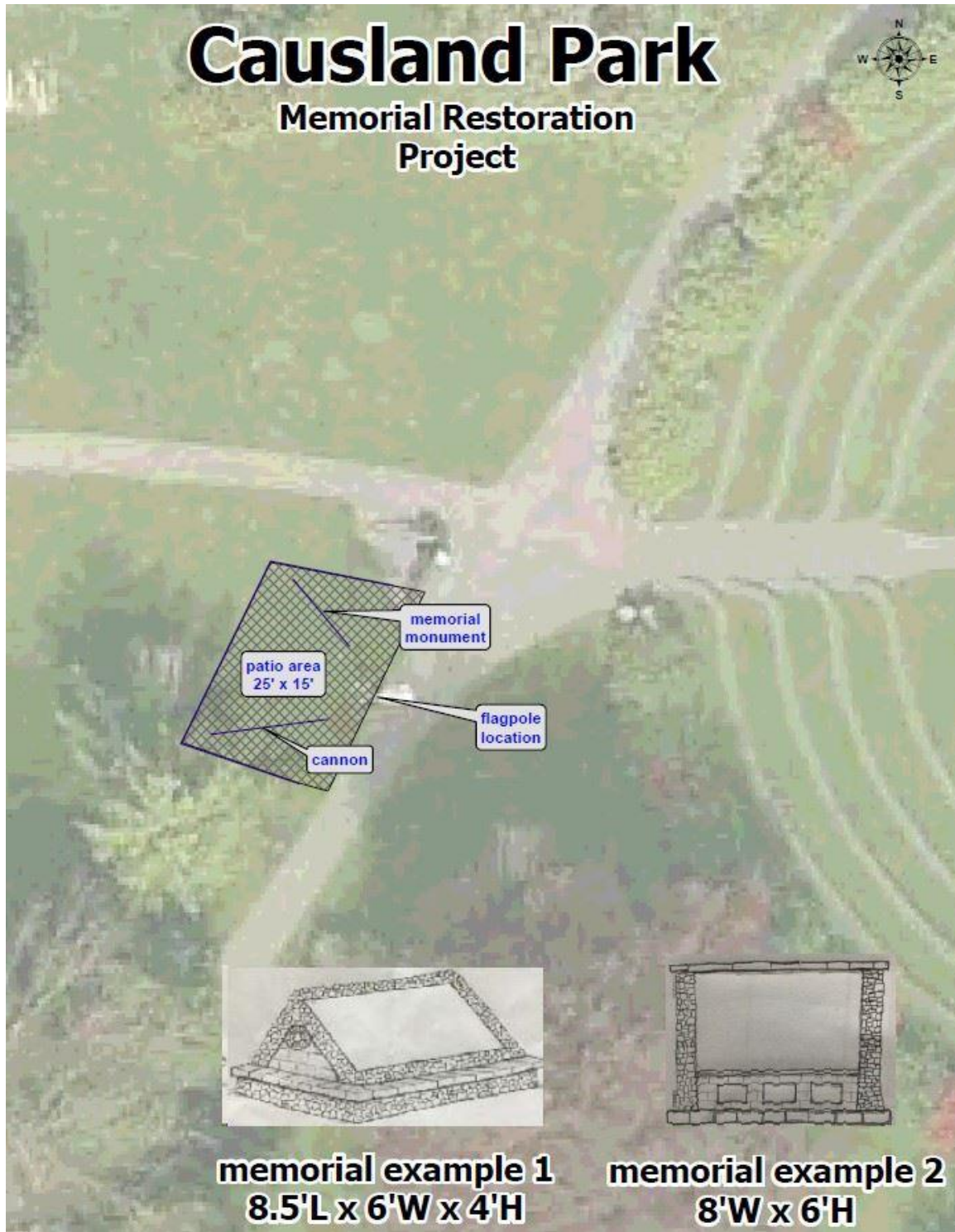
they can.

Nicole Johnston
Parks Manager

City Staff is working with the Mayor and Superintendent Irish on ways the City can support the School District as they move to a fully remote learning model this fall. The Library, Parks and Recreation and Museum are all collaborating on this.

Please see the potential designs and layout for the Causland Park Memorial Wall inserted below. We would be happy to receive your feedback on our wall design concepts.

Causland Park Memorial Wall Designs



This past spring the veteran's memorial wall at the center of Causland Park was damaged while Parks staff was doing maintenance work around it. The wall lacked anchoring bolts or rebar to make a safe repair feasible so the wall was removed. This is regrettable, but it was done because the wall was unstable. The plaques on the wall were removed and are safely stored at the Anacortes Museum. Museum staff created a page honoring the veteran's listed on the plaques that can be viewed on our website.

The Parks and Recreation staff have two possible designs for the new wall that are in keeping with the park's historic nature. A community group has also come forward to help with restoring the cannon in the park as it is showing signs of rust. You can see the attached sketches show a new plaza centered around the flag pole and both wall designs try to emulate the historic rock work visible in the park's original construction. Due to COVID-19 considerations we have not been able to have an in-person meeting of our Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission to publicly discuss our replacement plans or to take public comment.

We have also attached the Senior Activity Center Newsletter for you to read to see what's going on there even during the shutdown. Thanks to Lea DeVere for doing such an excellent job.



1701 22nd St. Anacortes, WA 98221
(360) 293-7473 / Fax: (360) 293-7834
Normal hours 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Mon - Fri

Accredited by 
National Institute of
Senior Centers

ASAC is the only nationally accredited
senior center in the state of Washington

NEWSLETTER

August 2020

The Latest from the Anacortes Senior Activity Center

CENTER UPDATES

The Latest News on the Center during the Pandemic

Even though the doors on the Senior Activity Center are closed, we have ways for you to connect with us. We currently have seven virtual classes for you to join and we are planning more starting soon (watch for details in the September newsletter). There is computer assistance available, and you can consult on hearing communications with a local expert. And there a course on advance directives available that you can take online.

You can also still sign up for Meals on Wheels, or call ahead for a frozen meal that you can pick up at the Center. Staff is at the Center to answer when you call Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Fridays. You are welcome to call to ask about community resources or just to say hello.

Sally is enjoying her retirement, but Lea is keeping everything running smoothly. At this time we do not have a clear timeline when the Center will reopen. Staff will continue looking for ways that we can serve the community with virtual programming, free puzzles for you to pick up when we are open, the meals program and more. Take care and stay safe.

-Jonn Lunsford, Director, Parks and Recreation Department

Meals on Wheels and Pickup Meals

The Meals on Wheels program is still operating, and frozen meals are also available for pickup at the Center. Call (360) 293-7473 to let the nutrition staff know that you want to pick up a week's supply of frozen meals. To sign up for Meals on Wheels, call (360) 416-1500.



New metal roof is complete!

ANACORTES SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER

Jonh Lunsford, Director, Parks & Recreation
Lea DeVere, Administrative Assistant

Visit our website at seniorcenter.cityofanacortes.org to find our latest newsletter, calendar and menu.

ASAC Foundation

The Anacortes Senior Activity Center Foundation advises staff and financially supports the Center. It holds 501(c)(3) status. Donations to the Anacortes Senior Activity Center Foundation are tax deductible within the limits of the law. Visit asacfoundation.org.

Michele Pope, President
Kirk Kennedy, Vice President
Dustin Johnson, Secretary
Patty Howe, Treasurer
Pat Buckley, Barbara Cooper,
Colleen Craig, Lin Folsom, Jan Iversen, PK Mead,
Barbara Smart, Nicholas Walsh



Meal Service

\$5 suggested donation for those 60+. Those under 60 must pay \$7. No reservation necessary except special luncheons. Meals on Wheels for homebound seniors: hot meals delivered Monday through Friday; frozen meals available for the weekend. Call Kelli at (360) 416-1500 to register.

Volunteer Opportunities

Join the 150+ volunteers working at the Center. Contact Sally Hill for more information.

Newsletter

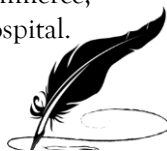
The *Anacortes Senior Activity Center Newsletter* is published monthly and is distributed free at the Senior Activity Center and at a number of locations in town, including the Chamber of Commerce, Library, Senior Housing, and Island Hospital.

Contributors

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Fundraiser to Honor Sally Hill's Retirement

Sally's retirement will be a huge change for all of us who have benefited from her dedicated work over the past 30+ years. We will miss Sally but wish her a happy retirement.

The ASAC Foundation held a recent and ongoing fundraising appeal allowing the supporters of Sally and the Senior Activity Center to honor her with donations. We are thrilled to say that to date we have raised \$12,560. The Foundation will continue to support the ASAC financially, assuring that the Center continues to provide programs and services for the seniors of our community. Please consider contributing to the Sally Hill Retirement Fundraiser by sending a check to ASAC at 1701 22nd Street, Anacortes, WA 98221, or donate through the Foundation website at asacfoundation.org.

We all miss walking through the front door and being greeted by our wonderful receptionists and staff. We miss seeing the faces of people attending classes, eating lunch and visiting friends. It will be a great day when we can all gather safely but until that time, stay safe and stay well.

-Michele Pope, President, ASAC Foundation

Newsletters Available at the Center

There are paper copies of the ASAC newsletter available on the bench outside the front door of the Center. If you have a friend or family member who does not have access to the online version of the newsletter, please pick up a copy for them at the Center. If you would like to take a bunch of newsletters to a group or organization, give us a call at (360) 293-7473 and let us know how many you would like. We will leave them for you at the front door.



