



PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

December 14, 2022, Meeting Minutes

- PRESENT:** Maggi Kriger, John Blethen, Asa Deane, Ray Dellecker, Jeannie Gilbert, Jed Holmes, Michael Kutcher, Zarah Manju, Jessica Sankey, and Steve Walker.
- ABSENT:** Thor Beck, Lucky Blue, and Skip Williams (Council Rep.)
- STAFF:** Steve Donnelly, Peter Gill, Steve Janiszewski, Nicole Oliver, Laine Potter, Caryn Regimbal, Ryan Robie, and Lauren Woodmansee
- VISITORS:** Todd Elsworth, and Neil Schaner

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 am by Chair, Maggi Kriger.

- I. **AGENDA REVIEW:**
The Maplewood McLeod Masterplan was moved from new business to old business.
- II. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**
Laine Potter announced that on December 12, 2023, City Council voted to approve the Greenways Strategic Plan. The Storybrook Park master plan and renaming was approved by City Council. Nicole Oliver announced that the Park District voted to continue their levy through 2023.
- III. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**
There were no public comments.
- IV. **NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES:**
A motion was made to approve the meeting minutes. Motion passed.
- V. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - a. **Election of Officers:**
A motion was made to re-nominate Maggi Kriger as Chair. Motion passed. A motion was made to re-nominate Michael Kutcher as Vice-Chair. Motion passed.
- VI. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - a. **Introduction of New Park Stewardship Supervisor:**
Steve Janiszewski introduced the group to the new Park Stewardship Supervisor, Steve Donnelly. Steve Donnelly presented a brief summary of the Parks Stewardship Program and all of the future tasks required in this new role.
 - b. **Interpretive Sign Approval and Outdoor Classroom Update:**
Todd Elsworth, the Executive Director of Recreation Northwest, provided specific updates regarding the overview for the Outdoor Classroom at Fairhaven Park. He presented the final draft of the graphics for the Native Plant and Invasive Species sign at Hundred Acre Wood. A motion

was made to approve the proposed graphics, subject to staff review.
Motion passed.

VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

a. Arroyo Bridge Update:

A full hydrologic analysis was conducted on the entire creek near the Arroyo Bridge and the study found that there were no competing flows or negative impacts on the habitat. The hydrologic analysis results were submitted to the Whatcom County Fish & Wildlife in November 2022. The Parks & Recreation department is currently awaiting a response from their department before continuing the current bridge repairs.

b. Civic Study Report Update:

Nicole provided an update to the group regarding the land analysis and planning study that was conducted at the Civic Complex. The completed survey provided very useful information including no deed restrictions. The complete critical areas delineation and phase one report should be finalized by the end of January 2023.

c. Preliminary 2023 Construction Schedule:

Nicole Oliver gave a brief overview of the 2023 construction schedule for upcoming projects, including many projects from 2022 that rolled over due to various COVID related delays.

VIII. MEMBERSHIP:

a. Board Reports: Next Steps:

Ray Dellecker volunteered to assist John Blethen with the Greenways Advisory Committee. Steve Walker will represent the Arts Commission. Zarah Manju will represent Big Rock Garden Park and will contact Ryan Robie, Parks Volunteer Program Coordinator, for more information. Jed Holmes will assist with the Lake Padden Golfers Committee.

b. Field Trips:

There are no upcoming field trips.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The committee adjourned to Executive Session at 9:21am. The meeting was called back to order at 9:34am. A motion was made to approve the purchase and sale of parcel #1. Motion passed.

X. ADJOURNMENT: The December 14, 2022, Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting was adjourned by consent at 9:36 am.