



ANACORTES PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT
P.O. BOX 547, ANACORTES, WA 98221
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Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission

October 11th, 2022 at 6pm

**This meeting will be held BOTH virtually and
in person at the Parks Conference Room
(904 6th Street)**

Access to the meeting via Zoom through this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85776295672>

Preliminary Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Approve September 2022 Minutes
3. Public Comments
4. Correspondence/Communication
5. Sand Volleyball
6. Trestle Update
7. Department Reports
8. Other Business

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).

ANACORTES PARKS & RECREATION

Advisory Commission

Meeting Minutes

*Sarah Nichols, Chairperson
Jo Ann York-Gilmore
Brad Adams
Christine Hansen
Alex Hernandez*

Meeting Minutes for Anacortes Parks Commission

Sept 13th, 2022

Board members present: JoAnn York-Gilmore, Christine Hansen, Alex Hernandez, Brad Adams

Staff present: Bob Vaux, Jonn Lunsford, Dustin South, Karl Wolfswinkle

Guests: Aaron Bryant, Ron Litzinger, Jack Darton

Meeting held by Zoom and in person at City Hall

Called to order at 6:03pm

Minutes: August minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

Public Comments: none

Correspondence and Communication:

Jonn reported on Parks Foundation meeting. They spoke about a variety of topics including the trestle fire, skate park project, the new restroom planned for Washington park, the cell tower and lease on Mt Erie and the W 2nd trail project.

JoAnn reported on the Forest Advisory Board meeting. They spoke about the dams, staff is still waiting for the DOE report, the water quality of the lake in the forest lands are all at safe recreational levels, Heart lake was treated for the milfoil and yellow flag iris, and trail #118 had some work and improvements done.

Disc Golf Tournament:

Aaron Bryant was in attendance to speak about a tournament being held in November, the Saturday before Thanksgiving. This is the third year of the event and is quite popular. The disc golf community is asking for exclusive use of the course for the tournament. There will be a maximum of 36 players. The event will have advertising and signage in the area, additional signage was suggested to warn walkers on the trail about the increase in flying discs. The staff and Board expressed support of the exclusive use. Cap Sante trails will remain open during this event.

Rotary Club Presentation:

Ron and Jack were in attendance to present ideas for adding a viewpoint to Cap Sante. This is the second phase of their Centennial Celebration as a club. The first phase is the trail just completed that

leads from the park at the bottom of Cap Sante to the top parking lot. The goal of the viewpoint is to create more usable public space and add to the variety of what the park offers. This project would also add ADA accessibility. They presented three unique designs that highlight the views of Mt Baker and meet the suggestions of park staff. The next steps are to present this to city staff and council members, then open for public comment and then a final design. The estimate created by the landscape architects and club was approximately \$550,000. They currently have \$200,000 towards the project as well as a \$100,000 matching challenge presented. They plan to ask for community fundraising, apply for grants and corporate gifting.

Concerns were raised about the current minimal amount of parking at the top. Suggestions were made to increase signage at 4th and T, work with the port to allow for more parking near the park, encourage parking at the bottom and using the trail to access the top. The Rotary has plans to print brochures for the Chamber and Marina to distribute to help minimize drivers and encourage walking. It was brought up that this is not the only place that has minimal parking. Others include Mt Erie, Burrows lookout on the loop, and the disc golf course.

The Board expressed support for the stone and soil options presented.

Staff Reports:

There were no questions on the staff written reports.

Jonn gave an update on the Tommy Thompson trestle fire. It burned on August 30th, destroying about 77 linear feet. Structural engineers will come this week to determine the extent of the damage. He expects Council to declare an emergency which legally allows for the elimination of the bidding process. Some of the same contractors and builders that helped with the previous fire have already reached out to volunteer again. Donations are being accepted through the Parks Foundation.

Dustin mentioned that the A-Town publication should be hitting mailboxes this week!

Other Business:

Next month, Brian Wetcher will be a guest and would like to discuss the possibility of sand volleyball at Storvik park.

Meeting adjourned at 7:04pm

Respectfully submitted by Darby Jordan

Parks and Recreation Update October 2022:

Thompson Trestle Repair Update: Staff is submitting permits to the appropriate federal, state and local agencies in early October. If the permits are approved in November, then we can start the demolition work we need to do to clean up the site.

We are simultaneously working on a structural analysis of the burned section of the trestle. These drawings should be completed by the end of October. They will help us understand how we can repair the site and the costs associated with it. The City Council passed an emergency declaration so we can

now work with contractors and begin to order materials as we consult with our structural engineers. If we can order materials now, it may help us avoid supply chain delays.

Staff is also working line up potential contractors to do the work as soon as permits and drawings are completed and supplies have arrived. Supplies may not be on hand until late December or January which is why we are ordering what we can as early as possible.

While we do not have all the costs estimates at this time, the Anacortes Parks Foundation has generously set up a donation portal at the website: www.anacortesparksfoundation.org

SK8 PARK!

Aug 19/ Had a great Zoom Room session with the Grindline Team and our very own Fidalgo Trail Riders. The two groups shared work based upon the Pump Track charrette from earlier in the summer. The design coming together should be a real crowd pleaser. We are looking forward to sharing this good work soon.

Sept 8/ FTR signs off on some very cool pump track renderings from Grindline. Private side Project Lead Rachel also very supportive. Time to start working on Construction Documents.

Sept 14/ Rachel, Parks staff and Grindline team put together a rough schedule to get us to bid documents. If all goes well, we should be going out to bid shortly after the new year.

OPEN STREETS

Aug 19/ Wrapped up my prep work with Warren Tessler. Very special thanks to Parks Manager Johnston for covering for me on event day. Allowed my wife and I to deliver my youngest to college and celebrate her 21st birthday in the process.

ACFL PATROL

Aug 20/ I joined Devanne for the afternoon in Steve's absence and had a new encounter: rogue wedding at Whistle Lake's family beach. Devanne spotted the group setting up about 30 chairs in the morning for a 6PM ceremony. They had transported the chairs in with the help of a struggling riding lawn mower. Early indicators were not good. Devanne put me in touch with the bride, and rather than ruin her day, which policy certainly justified and in fact dictated, I did my best to work with her and the rest of the group. The short story is that it all worked out. I was very clear with this party that this kind of event would never have gained permission from the City, and please communicate this with anyone who compliments them on what a beautiful wedding venue they found.

The rest of the day was pretty standard fare.

Sept 5/ spent some afternoon patrol time at Whistle so Devanne could take lunch. Ended up ending the summer with a solid alcohol contact, and a few miscellaneous typical situations. We topped out at about 30 vehicles on this Labor Day. Thrilled to have the fall winding its way in.

VACATION

Special thanks to Director Lunsford and Parks Manager Johnston for covering for me while I enjoyed time off Aug 21-29. Also took Sept 15-16, as well as Sept 22-26.

TRESTLE BURNS AGAIN

8/30 My first day back. I find it difficult to put words together on this time travel tragedy.

9/21 Met on site with Andy Culbertson/Culbertson Marine. He is one of many talented and generous community members helping us explore options on the trestle repair front.

TREES

Sept 1/ Visited three homes adjacent to the North Heart Lake Unit. Each had a unique tree(s) situation. Working on some hazard mitigation plans with Planning.

Sept 8/ ACFL Steve and I met with homeowner adjacent to the LC access road. She had a couple of limbs she would like to have removed. We agreed to the project. Homeowner will schedule and pay for the work.

Sept 13/ Parks Manager Johnston, ACFL Steve and I removed a hazard tree from the TTPW, as reported by condo residents across the path.

FOREST ADVISORY BOARD

We all enjoyed meeting Ellie Kravets, the new staffer at the FoF. Fairly routine meeting otherwise.

DISC GOLF COURSE

Sept 2/ Met on site with Kevin Kennedy, one of the local DG club leaders. He is working on the 2nd annual local invitational, and I am exploring some helpful options. I invited him to come and speak to the Parks Commission Sept 13.

HOMELESS CONTACTS

Sept 6/ Parks Manager Johnston and I attempted to contact a fellow entrenched above the Cap Sante disc golf course. His level of agitation prompted us to call APD in. Two officers joined us and made contact. When Nicole leads the PD and Parks staff back there later in the week for clean-up, the fellow was packed up and ready to move on.

FORTS

Sept 6/ Nicole and my next step that morning was just north of Kiwanis Meadows, on what turned out to be School District property. Parks staff pointed us toward a rather substantial "fort", including furniture, hammocks, lots of graffiti, and some wetland impacts. We notified ASD of the situation, and they will handle it from here. Thank you, AJ Yost, for locating this youth hang out area.

HEART LAKE TREATMENT

Approximately 9 acres of the lake was treated for Eurasian milfoil and yellow flag iris on Sept 6th. The details were reviewed with the Forest Advisory Board on Sept 1st. There were and are no recreational restrictions on the lake as a result of the treatment. Thank you Aquatechnex.

SUMMER ACFL VOLUNTEER WORK PARTY

ACFL Steve, Asa and Ellie from the Friends of the Forest and myself did a planning walk thru, prepping for our jointly hosted quarterly work party on Sept 10th. Our primary goal is to finally get #132 closed.

Sept 10/ in addition to the four us, we had 7 folks come out on a questionable air quality Saturday morning. Due to the extreme dry conditions, we left the chainsaws at the shop, and worked with hand tools. #132 was closed at either end, and we got some surfacing done on 106 as well. The first sign stolen from the site occurred over the 17th/18th weekend. We knew the closure would be an uphill battle.

PARKS COMMISSION

Sept meeting highlighted by great Cap Sante east viewpoint proposal presentation by Rotary Club.

WASHINGTON PARK RESTROOM

9/20 site meeting with Quantum Construction design team and city Planning staff. Good discussion as we strive to get this project to bid documents. So far, very straight forward from a regulatory perspective.

W. 2nd CONNECTOR TRAIL

9/27 met on site with Director Lunsford and ACFL Steve. We should be able to start work on this soon. Looking forward to debuting our elevated trail plan, and how it directly benefits wetland functions.

FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

Sept 8/ attended regular Tailgate Safety meeting with the Parks Crew.

Sept 13/ regular meeting with FoF Exec Dir Asa. Good S. Cranberry recon.

Bob Vaux, Assistant Director

Parks Crew this past month has been busy trimming, mowing, fixing irrigation when needed, picking up garbage, cleaning restrooms and cleaning up way too much graffiti around town. Below are a few highlights from the month of September.

Grand View Cemetery Expansion Update-

Final Acceptance was awarded to Trinity Contractors on Sept. 6, 2022. Parks crew worked on installing a curtain drain along the interior road and added more dirt onto the NW corner of the expansion. The curtain drain and the additional dirt in the corner will help manage the water this winter. Attached is a photo of all that beautiful grass in GVW.

Washington Park Update- We made it through labor day and Oyster Run weekend, which is always a victory dance for us all at the park. All the seasonal staff have left us. We cannot thank them enough for all their hard work this summer. On Sunday, Sept. 18, 2022 we hosted the Fueling Education Fun Run. They had a lot of volunteers and cones and everything seemed to go smoothly. This is a fund-raising event for the Anacortes Schools Foundation.

TTP Eco Counter Update- We are finding that despite the TTP having a hard close at the RV park the trail counter is still counting people who are going beyond the hard close.

Field Update-

Volunteer Park was probably the busiest that I have seen it with the start of soccer season on Sept. 17th. Every parking lot for the ballfields was full, 13th street was full on both sides of the street and even along D Ave. Parks crew did a good job making sure the fields were ready for game day. On MDD field New Creations Construction will start work on installing new siding on the back of the fence and painting the back side. Inside the fence they are going to install a new board on the bottom. This work is set to start the last week of September.

Trim Crew Update – Braydn and trim crew (Kody and Vinod) spent three days down at the WWTP trimming and pruning around the fence line. They did a nice job and hopefully by opening up this space

the facility will have less break-ins. In the month of September they have had two. We also collaborated with the street department and had them come down and use the RC mower along the back fence line.

Nicole Johnston, Parks Manager

Recreation Staff Report:

Youth Soccer League: Both County and City League teams kicked off the season with a couple weeks of practices before their first game. Games for the County League were supposed to start Saturday, September 10 but were canceled due to poor air quality in the valley. So, the first Saturday of games for County and City League teams was on the 17th. A bulk of games are held at Kiwanis Meadows, with games also being held at Smiley's bottom, Storvik Park, and Rice Field at Anacortes High School. Between the City and County Leagues we have over 550 kids (55 teams) participating in soccer this fall. Registration numbers this season rank near most we have had for any sport season. Also, soccer remains to be the most popular youth sport in our community. The increased numbers continue to put stress on already taxed field space. With the addition of school district sports and other community youth sport programs, fields get heavily used this time of year. Thanks to all maintenance crew members for taking care of them and keeping them safe for play.

Pee Wee Soccer: The Pee Wee soccer program ran on Wednesdays at Kiwanis Meadows September 7th-28th. The ever-popular program continues to have good number with over 65 kids ages 4-6 years old participating. The program focuses on teaching the FUNdamentals of soccer. Our student recreational assistants (teenagers) help coach the program.

Whiffle Ball League: You have played as a kid, or maybe in college, well, it comes to a ball field near you. The sport, played very similarly to baseball, can be played with fewer players and on a smaller field. The ability to pitch the ball with crazy movement and using a thinner bat for hitting this game can be exciting and competitive all at once. Games are being held on Sunday evenings and started on September 18; the program concludes on October 23. There are 12 participants currently signed up. The league is being organized and facilitated by recreation division intern, Carlos Sanchez.

Tots in the Park: Another session of toddler play group started in September. This is a great opportunity for little ones who aren't in preschool yet to get some social time with their peers and burn off some excise energy. Parents attend with their child and offer support as needed. This can be a great opportunity for parents/guardians/caregivers to network with others in our community.

Ballroom Dance: Several weeks ago, staff were approached by dance instructor Taylor Winningham about offering some dance classes in the community. Taylor has a wide array of experience teaching different types of dance styles. He began teaching a few classes in a private studio several months ago, however he was very interested in expanding offerings in town and partnering with local organizations to get more people dancing. APRD classes started this month and look for more exciting opportunities to

take part in these types of dance classes in the future; Cha Cha Cha, Salsa, West Coast Swing, Night Club 2-step, East Coast Swing, Waltz, Foxtrot, and Rumba.

Adult Drop-in Sports: Drop-in Adult Volleyball continues to take place at Fidalgo Elementary on Wednesday and Friday evenings. Adult drop-in Basketball takes place on Sunday evening in the Middle School. We are looking at adding a second evening at Fidalgo Elementary on Tuesday nights starting next month.

Fall A-Town Publication: Was officially mailed out to the Anacortes community around September 15th and 16th. This publication primarily focused on City Department updates. The next edition, which is anticipated to be released in late April 2023, will have city department information as well as other information from other community groups/organizations. If you would like to view the current issue it is available online at: <https://issuu.com/cityofanacortes/docs/2022-atown-v1.5.7-final-compressed-for-online>



Total Volunteers Hours for September

City & County League Soccer Coaches

City League	75	X	12 hrs.	=	900
County League	7	X	24 hrs.	=	168
Total for Month					1,068

Respectfully Submitted by,

Dustin South, Recreation Manager

Travis Anderson, Recreation Coordinator