



ANACORTES PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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

**Anacortes Community Forest Lands Advisory
Board**

**December 1, 2022
6pm**

**In person and virtual meeting options.
In Person: City Hall, Main Floor Conference Room
Zoom Meeting Link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88308344363>

Preliminary Agenda

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Approve November 2022 Minutes**
- 3. Transition Fidalgo ACFL Monitoring Program Annual Report**
- 4. Public Comments** *for any item not on the agenda*
- 5. ACFL Dams Update**
- 6. Friends of the Forest Update**
- 7. Parks Commission Report**

8. **ACFL Trail Committee**
 - **Equestrian Member/selection protocol**

9. **Staff Reports**

10. **Other Business**

Adjourn

Minutes of the Meeting: November 3, 2022

Board members present: Brian Wetcher, JoAnn York-Gilmore, Kit Gerwels, Tabb Stringer

Staff present: Bob Vaux, Steve Phillips, Darby Jordan

Guests: Asa Dean, Nathan Schwarck, Steve Charvat

Meeting held in person and via Zoom and called to order at 6:01PM

Minutes: October minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

Board Member Update:

Bob shared that with Nick Stowe stepping down from the Forest Board, the applications in the Talent Bank were reviewed, as well as new submissions that came in. Tabb reached out to a friend and asked him to apply. It is expected that the November 14th council meeting will include Board appointments for several positions. Bob introduced Nathan as the anticipated nominee. Nathan shared that he has been a resident of Anacortes since 1995, living all over the island. He has worked at Shannon Point Marine Center since 1999. Nathan enjoys biking and used to ride motorcycles. Nathan brings a broad knowledge base to the Board with his professional science background and personal enthusiasm for the ACFL.

Public Comments:

Steve Charvat joined the meeting remotely. He is a new homeowner with land adjacent to the Forest Lands. He just wanted to get a feel for what the Board does.

Pacific Northwest Trail Signage:

This trail runs from Glacier to Forks and currently includes a portion of the ACFL as the published route. Asa and Bob met with representatives of the PNT

regarding placing signs and kiosks to help direct hikers. These signs were presented at the meeting and the Board expressed support for the placement. A concern was voiced about the additional traffic on the trails, but at this time the estimated number of people completing the entire hike is about 70 each year.

ACFL Dams Update:

This project is still ongoing, but Bob was notified that the Dept of Ecology has deemed the City of Anacortes eligible for the FY22 High Hazard Potential Dam (HHPD) Rehabilitation Grant program. This is FEMA money administered by the State. The COA is working with a consultant on a planning grant. We are still waiting on the report on the dam status and recommendations.

A meeting was held with the Public Works department to share information as this is a project under their scope. The dam was originally constructed by Public Works to allow water to be pumped from Campbell Lake to Whistle Lake as a water source for the city.

Friends of the Forest Update:

Asa shared that the annual benefit fundraiser will be held on November 12th at the Transit Shed and this is the main focus at this time. It will be held in person but also allow for an online auction option.

Asa stated that their after-school programs are up and running, as well as the classroom programs. The community hikes are slowing down due to the change in weather.

Parks Commission Report:

Due to a change in the schedule for the Forest Board, there is no update on the Parks Commission at this time.

ACFL Trail Committee Report:

Bob reported that Geri Rubin has been the equestrian representative on the trail committee for decades and she is asking that we put the word out to find a replacement for her. She states that she just does not get out and ride as much but would be happy staying on as the social media contact. Bob will research whether this person is required to live in City limits or not.

Staff Reports:

Steve reported that trail #132 had closure bollards uprooted and thrown into a stream. He has replaced them, but closing a trail typically takes time and repeated efforts.

Bob shared an update from Rec Coordinator Travis Anderson about the project of a small boat launch at Little Cranberry Lake: "Lydia from Geoengineers has reviewed the initial drawings for a floating kayak chute and lake access steps. Geoengineers have been contracted to prepare a critical areas report and help with the mitigation process. Parks staff has created a draft for a habitat

restoration and water access plan to focus human and canine traffic on a resilient structure, rather than the vulnerable shoreline; and revegetate the shoreline to repair the damage to the shoreline. Staff is working to update initial drawings before moving forward with permitting or public input.” Jonn and Travis are working on this project and they will attend a future meeting to update the Board on this.

Bob reported that the annual Dallas Klope Mt Erie run had about 40 participants on October 29th. Unfortunately, the summit was full of remote control car users. These cars are designed to be off road, and off trail, which is against the rules. Parks staff will again try to reach out to that user group in order to find a way forward, working with both the Parks Commission and Forest Board.

Other Business:

Brian asked about the tree survey conducted by Transition Fidalgo and the hope of getting an update as we are nearly at year end. Bob will reach out and get that information to include in the packet for next month and have them attend and report about their findings.

Adjourn at 7:21pm

Respectfully Submitted by Darby Jordan

November 2022 Report from the Assistant Director's Desk

ROTARY & CAP SANTE PARKS KIOSKS

Th Oct 27 Met on site with Bret and Adam from the Museum, along with Jack from the Rotary Club. We had a very close to final draft example to look at in the field. Adam Farnsworth's work really looks good. I appreciate how hard these three fellas have been working on this project, along with Jackie Ferry from the Samish Indian Nation. This diverse team is coming up with some great images that will enhance the park users' experience for many years to come.

HAUNTED LOOP ROAD

Sa Oct 29 Spent my time at this event on the parking team. 50+ incredibly talented staff and volunteers hosted 500+ guests and did their best to scare them silly. By all accounts, it was a very successful evening.

BEN ROOT SKATE PARK

T Nov 1 Director Lunsford, Justin Symonds from Engineering and I began the review process of the 50% construction drawings from Grindline for the skate park and pump track. Justin and I also met on site with Brian Tottenham to talk about drainage issues, both surface and storm, as well as other site details.

W 9 Justin, Jonn and I met online with the Grindline Team to confirm the good work of the 50% CD, and to move on to the 90% phase. Grindline looking to get those to us on Mon 11/21, getting us back on schedule.

Am now working on the many facets of the potential move of the TTPW restroom, south and adjacent to skate park. Because this rr was funded by an RCO grant, the move has a few complicated layers.

WHISTLE LAKE DAM

W 2 Dir. Lunsford and I met with Public Works and Legal staff, updating all on the dam safety grant process being managed by DOE. New PW Director H. Hash is new to this issue, and we were able to brief him on the big picture, as well as answer specific questions.

M 7 Attended City Council Public Works Committee meeting. Good discussion with staff and elected officials about the future of this dam. Public Works will continue as lead on the maintenance project. Parks will work in support of this.

WEST 2ND CONNECTOR TRAIL

Th 3 Dir. Lunsford, Foreperson Tottenham and I visited the TransPac yard at the Port's Marine Terminal. We sized up some decking options for the raised trail being constructed at Superior Systems. Should be a great solution for critical area challenges to trail connections. Once again, TransPac is an extraordinarily community minded partner.

DISC GOLF COURSE

T 8 Spent a couple of hours on the course with local club enthusiasts, exploring short term maintenance options and long-term improvement plans. At some point we will most likely be coming to the Parks Commission to discuss same.

TREES

T 8 Visited a home on W. 12th. Did the initial COA recon on tree versus fence situation. Supplied Legal with the data I collected.

FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH...

...Th 3: attended Parks Crew Tailgate Safety meeting...then transitioned into smaller group for regular Washington Park policy review meeting. These were put on hold over the summer, so we are looking forward to getting back to it...was great getting to meet and greet potential new addition to the Forest Advisory Board Nathan Schwarck at the Nov 3 FAB meeting...Took Personal Leave: Nov 4, 14, 15, 17 & Veteran's Day Holiday on the 11th...good discussion of the West End park situation at the Nov 8 Parks Commission meeting. The issue is scheduled to be taken up by the City Council on their Dec 12 Agenda...joined ACFL Steve in the SW Cranberry Unit on Nov 9 to do some volunteer work party recon and prep...attended 11/17 ABPAC meeting. Good trestle repair and local ped bike map discussions and work...11/17 great Council Parks Committee meeting. Lots of good budget discussion...

Faithfully Submitted,

Bob Vaux
November 21, 2022

ACFL Maintenance Report NOVEMBER – 2022 by Steve Phillips

November 18, 2022

Maintenance Activities

10/27– repaired a culvert at the intersection of trail 136 and Little Cranberry Lake Road. High winds made for good timing to complete online defensive driving training in the office. Joined Nicole Johnston, Parks Manager, in examining two issues reported to City regarding trees and shrubs.

10/28 – hiked Trail 216 with Dustin South and chainsaw in preparation for Dallas Kloke run. Patched hole in roof (temporarily) of Whistle Lake outhouse. It had been punctured by the limb of a blown down alder. Re-fastened trail 237 sign, as it had apparently been bent away from its mounting surface in an attempt to steal it?

11/1 – collaborated with Brian and Braydn of Parks to complete the ground work portion of a project at West Second St.

11/3 – performed tree risk assessment of a maple at Storvik Park.

11/4 – Water is flowing across all maintenance-dependent structures in the ACFL as of today. I performed various activities today to prepare for heavy rain at the 32nd Street Beaver Deceiver, the Mitten Pond beaver deceiver, the Little Cranberry Lake spillway, and the culvert extending under Trail 10 at Big Beaver Pond. I also dragged two logs away from the log boom at Little Cranberry Lake.

11/6 – Gale-force winds caused about 15 blowdowns that I have been addressing when time allows. The mountain-bike based trail clearing volunteer corps has been assisting in cutting these out and informing me when work is completed.

11/7 – 8 – sick days =(

11/10 – helped Nicole hang wreaths downtown.

11/9-10 – blowdowns and drainage improvement on trails; rounds for the rest of the week.

11/14 – completed November bicycle impact monitoring trail visits with Asa.

11/15 – Repaired roof at Whistle Lake outhouse with shingles and roofing cement (see photos below).

11/15-16 – With the help of Braydn from Parks, I pruned downtown street trees on Commercial as well as at the Library and Depot.

11/17 – I used our Tractor-driven blower to clear Erie Mountain Road and the paved portion of Little Cranberry Lake Road.

11/18 – spent more time on blowdowns and rounds; online chainsaw safety training.

