



ANACORTES PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT
P.O. BOX 547, ANACORTES, WA 98221
(360) 293-1918 / (360) 293-1928

Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission

December 13th, 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 November 2022 Minutes
3. Public Comments
4. Correspondence/Communication
5. Trestle Update
6. West End Park 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

November 8th, 2022

Board members present: JoAnn York-Gilmore, Brad Adams, Sarah Nichols, Christine Hansen

Staff present: Bob Vaux, Karl Wolfswinkle

Guests: Sarah Hollahan

Meeting held by Zoom and in person at City Hall

Called to order at 6:05pm

Minutes: October minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

Public Comments:

Sarah Hollahan was present and expressed her thanks for the community garden at 29th Street. There is a small waitlist of new and hopeful gardeners. They are hoping to have more space at a future time. Sarah also mentioned pickleball and how quickly it is growing. She expressed that it is difficult to know when the courts are available. Staff shared that there is the potential for a gym monitor one day a week in the near future, and more help is always needed.

Correspondence and Communication:

JoAnn shared an update from the Forest Board. Representatives from the Pacific Northwest Trail met with staff about putting signs at trailheads to guide hikers through the section of the ACFL that is part of the larger trail system. An update on the Whistle Lake dam was given, the City is eligible to apply for a DOE grant and staff is working with the Public Works department to keep this project moving forward. Friends of the Forest will have their annual benefit on Saturday. The Little Cranberry boat launch is still in the works with Travis Anderson as the contact for this project. There are plans for habitat restoration along with the new boat ramp. Parks staff are trying to contact the remote control cars groups and invite them to come to both the Forest and Parks Boards meetings. Transition Fidalgo will be coming to the December Forest Board meeting to present their report on the ACFL tree survey.

Trestle Update:

Bob reported that the City is estimating it will cost approximately \$250,000 to repair the damage. The contractors who helped with the rebuild last time-Nels Strandberg and Andy Culbertson, are ready to

help again. Michelle Pope and the Parks Foundation are handling the fundraising. The permits are in process with local, state and federal agencies. Materials are being ordered and there are not many delays at this time.

West End Park:

Bob reported that the City owns 2 pieces of property near Anacopper and Little Cranberry. The previous plan for these lots was to sell one in order to finance the building of a park on the other lot. There has been some interest from Habitat for Humanity on the land in order to build homes. The discussion will continue at a future Council meeting.

Staff Reports:

Karl reported for Dustin that soccer had a great season with record numbers. There is a gym monitor in place for one night per week for pickle ball. The Haunted Forest went fantastic! The recreation department is gearing up for basketball season.

Karl reported on his own activities. The Senior Center is preparing for a busy holiday season. They hosted the middle school challenge classes, providing a panel for question and answer about life lessons. Island View students will be at the center to help decorate. After the new year, there will be a class offered for fiction writers.

Bob reported for Jonn that the main project continues to be the trestle.

Bob reported for Nicole that the team is spending time at the cemetery in preparation for Veteran's Day. They are also working on winterizing all irrigation and doing some upgrades to the Washington Park shop so there will be heat this winter.

Bob gave his own report about the restroom project at Washington Park. With the budget and timeline, the option chosen is a CXT building like what is at the Depot and Storvik Park. This will be financed through LTAC and REET funds as well as the Parks Foundation. There are hopes to have the unit open by July 1st. Grindline is working on completing the drawings for the skate park and staff is hoping to get this out to bid after the first of the year.

The City budget is still in process for 2023.

Other Business:

None

Meeting adjourned at 7:05pm

Respectfully submitted by Darby Jordan

Parks and Recreation Update December 2022:

Nicole Johnston- Parks Manager:



Grand View Cemetery Update- The crew has done a fantastic job cleaning up the leaves and the many chestnuts. Special shout out to both Brian and Nichola who have been putting in extra time at the cemetery this past month. The curtain drain install from last month is working great. Nichola installed some new NO DOG signs this past month, hopefully this will be a friendly reminder that no dogs are allowed at the cemetery.

Ballfield Update- We are working with Coast to Coast Turf who will install the new turf mound on MDD field. The

crew was able to successfully demo that Big Brown Mound and prepare the area for the new turf. Coast to Coast is hopeful to come to do the work the week of Dec. 5th. They will also improve the turf around 1st base on Daniels field. These turf repairs are being fully funded by a private donation.



Leaves and Chestnuts- The crew continues throughout this past month to work hard to clean up the leaves at the parks and various facilities. Many thanks to the Street Department for working with the crew to clean up the chestnuts at the cemetery.

Washington Park- Camping and boat lot activity has been slow, however we did have 12 campers over the Thanksgiving weekend. We have been making some much needed improvements to the office. Brian and Sky were super thrifty shoppers and were able to find a good deal on foam boards and some vinyl

windows. The crew installed the new insulation and the windows. With the new heater that Mac was able to get us that office space is going to be warm in no time. Parks crew will start getting the park ready for the Wonderland Walk event that is Dec. 9th & 10th. Most parks staff will be working in the parking lot over the course of the event and making sure all vendors have enough power and fires.

Miscellaneous Updates-

- Our very own Sky Guthrie spent some time this past month training many city employee's on how to safely use the forklift.
- The crew has successfully winterized all irrigation at our parks and facilities.
- Parks helped with the hanging of the holiday wreaths downtown.



-Ultimate Frisbee group will start playing on the outfield of Daniels Field on Tuesday nights throughout the winter months, until they get access to return to Rice Field.

-We have seen an uptick of needles at the town restrooms, either just inside or outside the facility. A request to the Police Department has been made to check on these facilities. All town restroom hours have shifted to the winter hours of 6am-4pm.

Bring on the snow. Parks crew is ready!

Bob Vaux: Assistant Director:

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...

Recreation and other programming:

Wonderland Walk: December 9th and 10th @ Washington Park. This is our biggest event of the season. We have over a dozen community groups, school choirs and our own staff that light up the campground and give the locals a free event to enjoy the season.

Night at the North Pole: This is a new event for families to do some crafts, take a picture with Santa and walk away with a small gift from the elves. It is sold out as you can imagine. The Senior Activity Center is the location for this on December 13 and 14.

Fieldhouse Free Time: This came from a request to have an indoor place for families with children under 3 to gather and have unstructured play time. There are soccer balls, basketballs and lots of room to run around. The Fieldhouse at Volunteer Park is the location on Tuesday mornings.

Thompson Trail Trestle Fundraiser: December 6th we hosted a fundraiser for the Thompson Trail Trestle at City Hall. Our goal is to raise \$250,000 and so far we have raised over

\$160,000 thanks to very generous donations. The Kiwanis Club of Anacortes donated \$30,000. The Samish Indian Nation gave \$25,000. Marathon Petroleum and HF Sinclair Corporation each gave \$25,000. The Skagit County Board of Commissioners gave us \$10,000 towards the repair. Numerous individuals have also donated. Thanks to the Anacortes Parks Foundation and their work to help us get the Trestle repaired as soon as possible. We have almost all the permits we need in hand now. We have a requirement to notify the public of our activities through one of the permits which will delay our start until the first week of January. We expect that, weather permitting, we can begin our demolition work on the damaged section of the Trestle then.