



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

May 9th, 2023 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 April 2023 Minutes
3. Public Comments
4. Correspondence/Communication
5. ACFL Plan Update
6. Department Reports
7. 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

April 11th, 2023

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

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

Meeting held by Zoom and in person at City Hall

Called to order at 6:00pm

Minutes: March minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

Public Comments:

None

Correspondence and Communication:

JoAnn shared an update from the Forest Board. They held the first public comment session on the Forest Plan. It is anticipated that the Plan will be reviewed by section.

Parks 2024 Budget:

Jonn sent out the staff capital project priorities to the Board for review prior to the meeting. Items on the list included the Heart Lake Master Plan, Storvik Park and the SHIP trail repair. Discussion ensued about the steps needed for each project as well as needs, funding and permitting. The Board would like to go to the Council to present a statement about securing funding for the Parks Department and projects that they would like to see completed. The Board expressed approval and agreement with the staff list and feels the agreement will hold weight with Council and the community in the public process.

Staff Reports:

Karl shared that the Aging Mastery class is full, with registration at 24. Also, the Senior Center Foundation Gala, being held in May, sold out tickets in 3 hours! Karl hopes to have bids for the recreation area in the front of the building prior to the Gala so an update can be provided for fundraising. The latest bake sale raised about \$1500!

Dustin reported that the A-Town will be out next week. Also next week will be the first individual puzzle competition. This has proven to be a very popular event.

Jonnn shared that the Community Youth Center committee is meeting about twice a month to review concepts and ideas. The clean up on T Avenue has shifted people into our parks and other areas, but all campers at Washington Park are paid in full.

Nicole reported that little league has started. She also spoke about the new field rental form. This will be for organizers that want to hold “for-profit” events at the fields.

Bob reported that the skate park project bids are due on April 13th by 1:30pm. The pump track is included in the design. Also, the restroom for Washington Park has been ordered.

Other Business:

Jonnn shared a thank you to everyone in the community for the support in getting the Trestle rebuilt and back open.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm

Respectfully Submitted by: Darby Jordan

Parks and Recreation Update May 2023

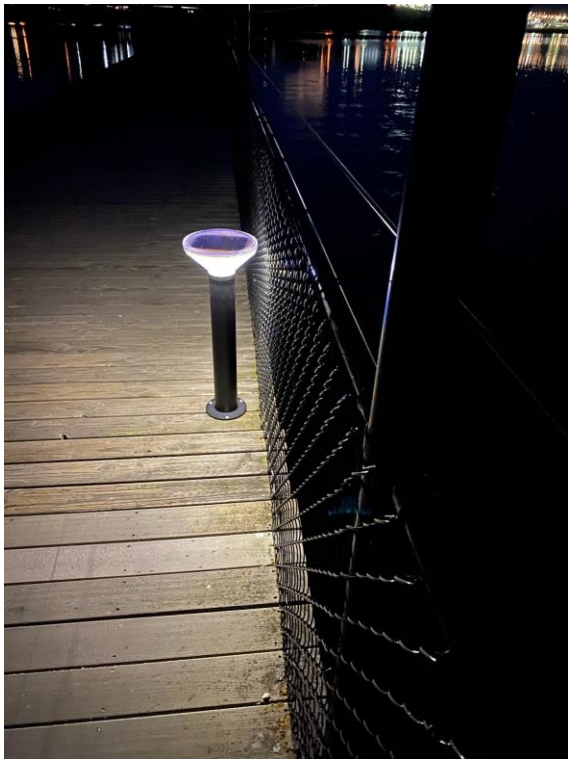
Parks Manager Update: Nicole Johnston

Washington Park Update- Parks crew is getting ready for the busy months that are ahead of us. We had a Boy Scout troop come out to the park and help clean out all the firepits and that was very helpful. I met with Brandon from the Streets Department and we are wanting to work together with them to have Streets overlay a few areas on the loop road where the road is really bad with potholes. In the fall we are planning to have them repave the sidewalk and the entrance to the upper restrooms.

New Mt. Erie Road Gate- We are excited that this last month the Parks crew was able to install a gate at the bottom of the Mt. Erie Road. Thanks to Steve for all his hard work to see this project through. This will be super handy when we need to close the road an emergency or when road conditions are extreme.



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Tommy Thompson Parkway- In the photo you can see the new solar light bollard that Brian installed on the trestle. As soon as we receive the rest of them we will install a light bollard every 10ft or so.

SHIP Harbor Boardwalk Update- On April 19th Geo Engineers sent down a field engineer to do 4 tests of the dynamic cone penetration test (DCPTs) along the channel. They are going to collect all the data then provide foundation report recommendations based on the DCPT data. Looking forward to the results of the data that was collected and what recommendations/suggestions they have for us to re-build the boardwalk.

New Door: I know a new door might not always be newsworthy, but this one I think is worth mentioning. The AHS Fastpitch team has a small locker room that is located between Daniels Field and MDD Field. It was created some years ago by a father of a player. There has been a few break-ins these past few years mostly because the door could not shut or lock properly. Finally, we were able to get a new stainless-steel door where the team can keep items safe and also use the locker room. I know the AHS Fastpitch coach was super appreciative, and the team was excited to make that space their own.



Daniel Field Light Poles- Although we have recently replaced many of the light bulbs on Daniels Field, we were made aware that the light poles 1 and 2 need new underground wire and conduit. We are working with the Fiber Department and Veca Electric to come up with a plan to replace this during the first week of May.

Seasonal Staff Update- Bob and I had a few interviews with potential seasonal staff. We are happy to share that we have most positions filled this summer. We are still looking for two ACFL seasonal staff who want to work weekends and help us monitor the lakes.

Community Garden & Pollinator Garden – The Community Garden had 12 gardeners show up to the work party on April 22. The shed was cleaned out and the old bins were dismantled. The Garden emphasizing that the gardeners need to compost things from their garden and not use the pile outside the fence.

Compost, Compost, Compost. A few volunteers from an organization called the Daughters of the Revolution are creating a pollinator garden behind the Depot. We gave them permission to use the flower beds that are located on the plaza for their garden.

Arbor Day Celebration- On Friday, April 28th we celebrated Arbor Day at Causland Park where we planted a Dawn Redwood tree. Thanks to the San Juan Montessori School, the Mayor and the Anacortes Children's Librarian's for being a part of this special celebration.



Assistant Director's Report: Bob Vaux

WASHINGTON PARK RESTROOM PROJECT

Reviewed project with Planning. We have cleared any critical area or shoreline review.

Also met with Jonn, Nicole, Brian and Sky to review specific choices for the CXT unit we are hoping to drop into place out there (4th)

Finalized the order with CXT for one of their Cortez units (13th). Time now to circle back to Project Civil Engineer, HLN Engineering and put the bid specs together for install. Also, working with COA Engineering and Waste Water Treatment folks on proper pump station plan for the unit.

BEN ROOT SKATE PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

We held the bid opening on the 13th, receiving three, all well above the submitted estimates for the project. Director Lunsford and I are reaching out to the Anacortes Skate Park Improvement Project and Fidalgo Trail Riders, making them aware of the situation, and exploring possible funding options. Everyone working on this project remains optimistic we can achieve fundraising goals without eliminating elements from the plan.

HEART LAKE OPENING DAY

Thanks to ACFL Steve, along with Braydn and Myles from our Parks Team, for covering HL on opening weekend. The quieting trend we have seen over the years continues. Happy to see folks enjoying the lake and family.

EARTH DAY AT WHISTLE LAKE

Very special thanks to Anacortes Diving and Supply for bringing out about 20 volunteers to dive WL at the family beach and the cliffs. They recovered quite the haul of trash, and sadly found many more Earth Days' worth to get after in the future. Also thank you to Parks Tottenham for managing this effort.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS TRAINING

Lots of FEMA staff in town 24th-27th for COA EOC training. This essential planning work does take a lot of time, but very valuable for the entire community.

2023 SEASONAL STAFF

Parks Manager Johnston and I interviewed a handful of applicants on the 14th. Met some nice young men who are interested in coming to work for us. Nicole following up with references and in some cases offers. We are still looking to fill out the roster. Still no applicants for the ACFL jobs.

TRAIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Had my first in a series of one-on-one meetings with the ACFL Trail Committee. Motorcycle Rep John Meehan and I had a very real talk about the current state and future of motorized recreation. John is working hard to educate his user group, including the website he has created:

<http://acflmotoriders.org/>

He is very aware of the challenges facing motorized recreation, including our efforts to find what appear to be a couple of small groups of young locals...

ACFL MOTORCYCLE COMPLAINTS

Steve and I continue to spend extra time on the 300's, attempting to catch up with the small group of local riders ignoring our trail policies. I made contact with two lost riders from Snohomish on the 13th and had a very constructive conversation. Asked them to continue their own education on local rider protocol, and to help us get the message out that those ignoring the ACFL trail plan will eventually end up being excluded from it.

It is of course important that all ACFL user groups reach out to their own as no group is without unnecessary impact on our woods.

JIM RICE CIVIC PARK

Director Lunsford, Museum Director Lunsford, Parks Manager Johnston and I met on site to discuss and move plans forward to spruce up the Altair Americus memorial, and improve park flow from west to east, and perhaps even north. We will work on getting some concepts on paper for various necessary points of review (3rd)

DOE PERIODIC DAM INSPECTION REPORTS

Distributed the Whistle Lake report to the Council Parks Committee and the Forest Advisory Board. Will get the Little Cranberry report out soon. Will also get them posted on the COA website soon. Parks and Engineering staff will be meeting to review and discuss. Will update the FAB as appropriate (6th)

DALLAS KLOKE ANNUAL MT. ERIE CLEAN UP

Thanks again to the looking climbing community and beyond, along with a Boy Scout Troop, for making the annual trip up and down the Summit Road as well as the south walls access trails for safety, vegetation and litter projects. Always a nice shot in the arm to meet on site with these

folks and thank them in person. Special thanks to Jim Thompson for keeping the communication flowing, and for updates to City staff (15th)

FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH...

- Reupped First Aid/CPR/BBP credentials (3/31)
 - Attended Parks Crew tailgate safety meeting (6th)
 - Got the Forest Plan update process kicked off at the April Forest Advisory Board meeting. About 30 citizens contributed their thoughts on chapters I & II (6th)
 - Good capital project prioritization discussion at the April Parks Commission meeting. Looks like a top 5 is emerging (11th)
 - Met with Council Member Moulton at her request. Good discussion of Forest Plan update and motorized recreation (18th)
 - Thank you Transition Fidalgo for Roger Fuller's global economy presentation: "The Truffle, the Millipede and the Moth." Very timely and important information (18th)
 - Off on the 21st
 - Good monthly meeting with FoF Asa. Education programs doing great (25th)
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Recreation Manager's and Coordinator's Report: Dustin South and Travis Anderson:

Badminton League: A second season of the program was added for the month of March. The program was held on Mondays and Fridays at the middle school gym. Participants were glad they were able to continue playing during the month.

Youth Volleyball League: The league started this month with practices and game play. Participation has increased since a 7th/8th grade division was added last year. Players get to learn the basic skills of volleyball, as well as teamwork, building self-confidence and work ethic. The league fits well in the spring due to gym space opening at the middle school as winter sports finish up. We continue to utilize a mix of volunteers to coach and our student recreational assistant staff to help with coaching and refereeing.

Ballroom Dance: This month we had the following classes offered. Waltz, West Coast Swing, Rumba, and Salsa. Additionally, we are offering a punch card option, where participants pay for a certain number of visits. This allows them the opportunity to move around between the different types of classes in a month. This month we had some challenges with instructor and facility availability but were able to work through them.

Esports: The program concluded this month with middle school aged participants improving their skills in the game Valorant. Coaching was provided by Vanta Esports. Staff is looking into offering a week-long esports camp this summer for 4th – 6th graders in the game Rocket League.

Puzzlemania Competition: We hosted our first ever individual puzzle competition piggybacking on the success of our team competitions. This competition had individuals see who could complete their 300-piece puzzle in the fastest time. The winning participant's time was a little less than 36 minutes. Prizes were given out to 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place. We had a total of 13 puzzlers, some of which were new, and others had competed in our team events.

Youth Flag Football: The program started up this month with over 140 kids registered. Athletes get to learn new or improve existing skills in this non-contact football program. A great way for kids to get their first experience with the sport.

Adult Drop-in Sports: Drop-in Adult Volleyball continues to take place at Fidalgo Elementary on Wednesday and Friday evenings from 6-9 pm. Adult drop-in Basketball takes place on Sunday evenings in the Middle School and Tuesday evenings at Fidalgo Elementary, times have slightly been adjusted to 5-7 pm (Sundays) and 6-8 pm (Tuesdays). We have multiple options for indoor Pickle Ball at Mt. Erie Elementary Adult Drop-in (18+) Mondays & Wednesdays from 7-9 pm/ Parent & Child Drop-in (10+) on Sundays from 10-11:30 pm. Additionally, staff has been working with Adult Soccer and Ultimate Frisbee groups to provide recreational drop-in play on Rice Field. The school district requested groups work with us for scheduling purposes. To see the latest on the drop-in sports schedule visit:

<https://www.anacorteswa.gov/971/Drop-In-Programs>

Spring & Summer Program Registration: The Spring/Summer A-Town publication was mailed out to residents on Thursday, April 20. Registration for APRD programs opened up the following day at 8:00 a.m. Several of our youth camps were filled by the mornings end on Friday the 21st. Staff has a busy summer planned with a full slate of recreational programs for the community. To view the 2023 Spring/Summer A-Town Publication go to:

<https://www.cityofanacortes.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=1175>

Total Volunteers Hours for April



Drop-in Sports

3 X 16 hrs. = 48



Youth Volleyball League

5 X 12 hrs. = 48

Total for Month	108
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Director's Report: Jonn Lunsford

Q'elech'ilhch Park: The Samish Indian Nation and the City are working on new signage for the park. We expect to have drafts of our signs to review in August with the goal of having them placed by the end of this year.

Thompson Trail Trestle: The rebuild is complete except for the final installation of the solar lighting bollards and the permanent cameras. We have our permit for the lighting installation and are waiting for the arrival of our cameras. The cameras will be operated by the Anacortes Police Department. Our thanks to the Samish Indian Nation for their ongoing cooperation with this project. We are also meeting with the Army Corp of Engineers on May 8 to discuss options for the long term replacement of the trestle.

Little Cranberry Lake: The Anacortes Parks Foundation approached us about a project to restore the shore line around the dam at Little Cranberry Lake and improve access for those with mobility issues. Improving access for those with mobility issues at the dam is part of the ACFL Plan is an ongoing

project at the lake. We have taken steps over the past 20 years to improve access at Little Cranberry by improving the trail over the dam, adding an accessible parking spot, and an observation platform through a state grant.

The request from the Parks Foundation is to improve the dirt kayak and canoe launching spot on the west side of the dam so a person with mobility issues can access the lake with their craft. We are also looking at ways to replant the shoreline damage on the east side of the dam. The City has contracted with a biologist on an environmental review and have met with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife regarding permit questions. Once we have a design we will submit that to the City Planning Department and have public meetings as part of their permit process.