



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

April 9th, 2024 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 March 2024 Minutes
3. Public Comments
4. Correspondence/Communication
5. Storvik Park Recap
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*

Washington Park- At Washington Park we have done some planting where we had to remove trees for the new sewer line for the restroom project. We have opened up the new restrooms that we are calling “Sunset Beach Restrooms” and we installed the Lot B pay station. We are actively working on a shelter to cover the pay station. Thanks to Brian for taking the lead on the Pay station install and to Steve and Braydn for building the fence around the new restrooms.



Ballfields- High School baseball/fastpitch is in full swing. Thanks to our seasonal staff Reese for helping get all the ballfields ready for teams. The Ewing Field Day at Volunteer Field was a success. We had a few people from the Anacortes School District and Sedro Wooley in attendance as well. We got to see a demo on a remote control field painter and the crew learned a few tricks that can carry over with maintenance at Grand View Cemetery when it comes to removing a wet patch of grass. SABA and the City have created a contract for SABA to run concessions during AHS games. They will plan to open for business on Tuesday, April 9th.



Grand View Cemetery- The Cemetery office demo was complete as on Friday, March 22nd. Staff met with the rep from Heritage Building to talk about final design and layout of the new office. Crew is going to make plans to pour the foundation for the office that is only 10x 14 and also think through what additional parking and landscape we want to add. The



plan is to have the foundation done and the office delivered by the end of April. We are replacing 5 dead trees in GVW at the end of the month. Thanks to Steve for taking on this project. We started the removal of the juniper out in front of the cemetery on Hillcrest Drive. Nichola has worked hard on creating that gradual slope and has thrown down some grass seed for now. We will continue to remove the second half of the juniper, but will wait on a later date to do that work.

New Storvik Swing Set- Thanks to the donation from HF Sinclair we able to order swing set that was installed in 2008. The plan for the crew is to demo the current playground structure and then have NW Playground Equipment, Inc install the new swing set before Memorial Day weekend. The swing set will offer the same amount of swings and have a similar layout, but will be made of steel.

Seasonal Staff Update- Bob and I will be interviewing a handful of seasonals on April 12th. Fingers crossed. We are looking to fill the following positions: 2 in the ACFL, 2 on the trim crew, 1 cemetery mower, 1 sanitation/ hanging basket water person, and 4 people to work at Washington Park.

Graffiti- We have definitely seen an uptick in graffiti at the parks and in the restrooms. We continue to report and do our best to clean up the graffiti ASAP.

Work Parties- This month has been full of work parties. First Saturday of every month volunteers from the VFW go to Causland Park and do some weeding and pruning. This last month they went a little heavy on the pruning (*definitely talking to them about that*) but nonetheless we love their efforts to keep Causland Park looking good year round. Anacortes Little League had a work party with AJ on Saturday, March 9th at Ace of Hearts. The club helped clean up the dugouts that were overgrown with blackberries and get the field weed free. Also on March 9th the Fidalgo Trail Riders had a work party with Jamie and Braydn. Moving lots of gravel and giving back to the trails that those riders love to use. On Saturday, March 23rd Steve and Braydn had a Friends of the Forest work party. Jamie said it was a very productive day, despite the rain.

Parks New Electric Truck- The Parks Department is the first to have an electric truck. The Lightning truck is being driven by our Parks Foreperson, Brian. A few other departments have been checking it out and giving it a test drive. Right now Brian uses one of the charging stations up at the maintenance shop to keep charge. Exciting stuff.

Spring is here. Let's Go.

March 2024 Assistant Director's Highlights

Bob Vaux

Submitted: March 25, 2024

BEN ROOT SKATE PARK

Janicki has been unable to get their lights sub-contractor to commit to a delivery date. We are exploring a variety of options.

March 19th and still no lights. The good news is "R" Ave is open so visual contact between the park and the community improves dramatically. Justin/Kristen from Engineering and I working on a retaining wall plan for the NW corner of the pump track. Parks Tottenham the main consultant.

WASHINGTON PARK RESTROOM PROJECT

As of March 1st we are still waiting for metal railings installation. Contractor explains they are working with their sub.

Spent most of the afternoon of Mar 7th at the park, as our contractor was installing the railings. Ever so close to an opening... Installation went well. We are now working on the finishing touches required for safe ADA access.

Parks Crew did a nice job of installing a fence around the restroom site. Soft opening happened March 21st. Ribbon cutting will most likely be late April.

ACFL EBIKE STUDY

Former FoF E.D. Asa Deane and the staffer formerly known as ACFL Steve and I met to review the year's worth of monitoring and documentation those two did Sept. '22 – Aug. '23. We will spend some time preparing the information for the Forest Advisory Board. Will work it into an agenda that is not too heavy with '26 Forest Plan update material.

ACFL

Spending a fair amount of time working with Darby to prepare public comments for FAB consideration. March meeting was a long one, but comments shared and a plan for April meeting set.

Parks Tottenham and I did some Mar 8 recon along 208, 209, 221, 222 and just off Heart Lake Road, east side south of 304 trailhead. More forts and needles, unrelated. Clean up plan in place.

Working with a Vista Lane resident whose 32nd Street Swamp shoreline home is seeing a fair amount of beaver activity. While assisting this resident, a neighbor adds some questions/concerns to the list.

Forest Jamie and I spent some time on a private FPA recon between Heart and Erie. Property lines still well flagged and no action close to the ACFL.

Staff is finding evidence of down trees along Heart Lake Road being bucked up and most likely taken for firewood. We are working with APD on this front.

Put the finishing touches on an ACFL neighbor's hazard alder removal plan. Work should be done by the 22nd.

Working with DOE on our dam management compliance. Catching up on some paperwork requirements. Need to do some upgrades to the LC spillway.

Met with an Orchards resident, interested in enhancing the NGPE. Plat allows for some consideration. In process.

Did some N. Heart Unit recon while I was out that way. Fresh horse tracks. Beautiful day.

Denise, Jamie and I enjoyed our monthly Samish Nation / COA hike. We covered some #100 recent repairs by the Fidalgo Trail Riders, as well as #119.

Met with another concerned ACFL neighbor, re: tall trees near his Lake Erie home. Will be scheduling a hazard risk assessment with Arborist Steve.

Good meeting with FAB members Tabb and JoAnne, re: Forest Plan '26 Update next steps.

DISC GOLF COURSE

Site recon with Director Lunsford. Reviewed some proposed course maintenance that our local club would like to take care of. Appreciate the efforts of these folks. Working on a plan.

STORVIK PARK

Good breakout session at March Parks Commission, re: what to do in the NW corner of the park. Solid citizen participation and input.

Leave taken: Mar 14, 15, 21

Recreation Staff Report:

Puzzle Competition: Wednesday, March 20th was our latest competition. Boxes and Bears, a local business, helped supply puzzles and prizes for this event. The winning time was about 32 minutes for a 500- piece puzzle. Our April competition will be the last one for the Spring then we will take a break for summer. We plan to resume them in October.

After School Arts Program: Art class instructor Lana Hickman, who also taught some summer art classes with us, is currently holding an after-school arts program for kids in grades 1st through 5th on the school district early release day, Wednesdays. This provides a needed opportunity for families.

Egg Dash: Our annual egg hunt took place on Friday, March 22. About 5,000 eggs were spread throughout Storvik Park and kids got to search for them. The event usually goes quickly. Thank you to Mayor Miller, who gave the countdown this year.

Youth Volleyball League: Practices for this annual league started at the end of the month. We have about 70 kids signed up. Many of which this is their first experience playing volleyball. We have special equipment (lighter and oversized volleyballs, etc.) and we lower the nets to help the younger players experience success. The program takes place at the middle school gym on Tuesdays/Thursdays from 4-6pm.

Drop-in Sports: Adult Volleyball takes place at Fidalgo Elementary on Wednesday and Friday evenings. Adult drop-in Basketball takes place on Sunday evenings in the Middle School and Tuesday evenings at Fidalgo Elementary Pickle Ball is on Mondays and Wednesdays at Mt. Erie Elementary. We have just added Youth Drop-in Basketball on Sunday afternoons at the middle school from 2-4 pm that will take place through the spring. To see the latest on the drop-in sports schedule visit: <https://www.anacorteswa.gov/971/Drop-In-Programs>

Spring & Summer A-Town Publication: Scheduled to be mailed out to the community around May 9th & 10th. This issue will be packed with lots of information, including all our summer recreation programs and general information about the city projects. The community appreciates having some much information in one publication.

Other items of interest: We have hired a new Recreation Coordinator, Eli Moore, and he will start on Monday, April 15. We are eager for him to start and help plan for a busy summer. At some point will introduce

Eli to the commission so you can meet him in person. Thank you to retired City of Anacortes employee Russ Pittis for helping with some of our programs while we searched for a new coordinator.

Total Volunteers Hours for March



Drop-in Sports

3 X 11hrs. = 33



Youth Volleyball

3 X 2 hrs. = 6



Egg Dash

1 X 1 hrs. = 1

Total for Month 40

Respectfully Submitted by, Dustin South, Recreation Manager