

Meeting Minutes for Anacortes Parks Commission

Oct 11th, 2022

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

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

Guests: Brian Wetcher

Meeting held by Zoom and in person at City Hall

Called to order at 6:01pm

Minutes: September minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

Public Comments: none

Correspondence and Communication:

Bob reported that the Forest Board meeting is delayed this month until Oct 13th.

Jonn shared that the Parks Foundation did not meet.

Sand Volleyball:

Brian Wetcher was in attendance to speak about a proposal to convert the unused shuffle board and horse shoe area at Storvik park to a sand volleyball space. With the space measurements, it would accommodate two courts without removing the trees in the area. The courts could be used for sand volleyball, sand soccer and foot volleyball. In the past, there have been suggestions of bocci ball, pump track, community center or child care. There was previous interest in sand volleyball that was stalled due to Covid. Discussion continued. The Board expressed support for hearing more details and cost estimates. Brian will coordinate with Bruce McDougall and create an updated plan to bring back to the board.

Trestle Update:

Jonn reported that he has met with a few contractors who helped with the rebuild last time-Nels Strandberg and Andy Culbertson, as well as a new fencing company. The permits are in process with local, state and federal agencies. There are many different entities involved-Coast Guard, Army Corp, WDFW and the City. There may be an opportunity to remove some of the unused pilings during demolition. Materials are being ordered as many of them are delayed due to supply chain issues. There was not as much burned as last time according to preliminary evaluations. There is no estimate of cost at this time, but when that cost becomes clear, there are community groups ready to help with fundraising.

Staff Reports:

Nicole reported that with all of the sunshine we are still having, the numbers are high at the park for both day use and camping.

Bob reported that some of the neighbors to the Clearidge pickleball courts have reached out about the noise from the courts. He has invited them to come to the Parks Board meeting. There will be a closure of the Guemes Channel Trail next week to do some tree trimming. Bob also reported that community fundraising will start soon for the skatepark and pump track.

Jonnn stated that the trestle rebuild is the main project at this time.

Karl reported that the Senior College will be offering a class on October 19th titled Art and the Brain. The Orcas Island Senior Center representative came to tour the ASAC and was impressed with our space and variety of program offerings. Karl attended a Skagit Valley meeting of local senior centers and was able to tour the Sedro Woolley center.

Dustin reported it is all soccer all the time right now! The Recreation department also has the Dallas Klook Mt Erie run on October 29th at 9am, and the Haunted Forest the same day at 6pm. Alex inquired about switching the run to a Sunday so that the soccer coaches and parents could participate. Dustin will pole the regular participant runners.

Other Business:

Brian asked if the MJB property has proposed any open park space in their plan. Jonnn replied that the City has not been given any proposal yet.

Meeting adjourned at 6:49pm