

Staff in Attendance: Karl, Jonn, Bob, Nicole & Dustin

Parks Commission in Attendance: Brad, Joann, Sarah & Alex

6pm Call to order

No edits to December minutes

Joann motion to approve minutes and Brad second the motion.

No public comments

Correspondence/ Communication:

Jonn shared that the Parks Foundation met and they are excited about GCT and the Little Cranberry project and will continue to be primary supporters of that project.

JoAnn shared that the Forest Board is excited to hear Jonn come and talk to them in February about the Little Cranberry Project. The Forest Board is working on the next steps for updating the Forest Plan. In March the board will revisit the plan.

2024 Projects:

Jonn updated that the City Council wants an EIS (Environment Impact Statement) for the GCT project. This will cost the City \$400,000 to have this impact statement done. The focus of this study will be from the Washington State Ferry to town. Bob shared that the EIS gets all the science on the table to help move along on the project. The EIS will be the gateway to the GCT project moving along. The Planning Department is the Project Manager on the GCT. Council and Mayor strongly support moving forward with the project.

Another project is Storvik Park and what to do in the unutilized area of the park where the horse shoe pits were. Parks will have to come up with a plan for that space, have a public meeting and follow all the steps required. The hope is to start planning for the Storvik Project this winter.

Jonn will be going to City Council for the Skatepark Project and ask to use \$360,000 in REET to cover the cost of the project.

This is a grant year with RCO (Recreation and Conservation Office) and we are looking to go for grants for the West Side Park and the Heart Lake Master Plan.

Department Reports:

Dustin shared that Boys Basketball wrapped up. Girls is starting this week. Travis has left and the Recreation Coordinator job has been posted and will be open for 3 weeks or so. Next week Dustin has more puzzle competitions and is starting to think about summer planning. Dustin gave a recap of the Wonderland Walk event and thanked all Parks people who were involved.

Great turn out on Friday night. Joann was super excited about the cookies used for the smores. Blue Santa event was a success with a total of 75 people . Dustin thanked Karl for the recommendation.

Bob shared that the Washington Park restroom project is happening and all is going well. They had to take down 18 to 20 trees to make room for the sewer line. First flush will be at the end of January. Bob shared that Jamie Burroughs the new ACFL Parks Maintenance crew member is doing great. Bob will be spending time working on the Forest Plan. The Skatepark lights have still not arrived and our legal department is involved now helping move the process along to get those lights, nonetheless the community is loving the skatepark and we have received a lot of positive reviews.

Karl shared that he was happy with the number of people who were at the center today, despite the weather. The center is offering a CPR class for the volunteers tomorrow. He is keeping an eye on the weather and will do what is needed to keep the center open or close if not safe for volunteers and visitors to attend. Karl is getting used to having Lea gone and learning new parts of her job. He really appreciated Darby doing the newsletter this last month. The Senior Center Coordinator job has been posted. Looking to fill this position ASAP. The Senior Center has a retreat coming up and Eric Johnson is the new President of the Foundation. Karl is looking forward to working with him.

Nicole shared the parks crew has spent time cleaning up behind the Preston. The crew is working to winterize that space. Future plans for that area are still up in the air, but we would like to prep the ground and throw grass seed down this spring. The cemetery office project is at the top of Nicole's list. Looking to replace the office with a Heritage Portable Building. Planning for seasonal staff already. The goal is to post the summer jobs in early February.

Jonn is working on the Trestle research that is going to happen. Jonn shared that PSE is still needing to install the camera. The Rotary Club went to City Council for the View Point Project and the city council pulled them off the funding they were hoping to receive from LTAC. The City Council is wanting more information on the project and Rotary and Jonn will plan to go back to Council. Jonn shared that he would also like to include a trail on the East Side of Cap and to do this project in house. The Depot Plaza project also got pulled from the LTAC funding and they also needing more time and information on plans for that south side area. The idea to add more pavers, a stage and temporary tent. Jonn's focus will be hiring the new Recreation Coordinator and the new Senior Center Coordinator.

Questions? No questions were asked.

Alex and Chris will both need to go to council to renew their position on the commission.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:48pm.

Submitted by Nicole Johnston

