

**Mason County Parks and Trails
Advisory Board Meeting
June 2, 2022
MCRA Administration Office
411 N 5th St.
Shelton, WA 98584
5:00 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE

- **Meeting Called to Order:** 5:07 PM
- **Present:** Andrew Kinney, Jeanne Robinson, Mendy Harlow, Shawn Fontana, John Taylor, Diane Zoren.
- **Guests:** Bill Long, Constance Ibsen.
- **Zoom:** Phil Wolff, Teri King.

- **Approval of Minutes:** April 28 meeting minutes were approved unanimously.
- **Agenda:** The agenda for the June 2 meeting were approved unanimously.

- **Public Comment:** (Up to 5 minutes available per person for citizens to address the Parks and Trails Advisory Board.)

- Bill Long attended the meeting as a representative for SUN dogs (safe, unleashed, natural) to talk about the need of a dog park at Foothills Park. There are only 2 dog parks in Mason County, one at Kneeland Park and one at the Salmon Center in north Mason. The plan would be to divide the dog park into separate areas for big and small dogs. 600 feet of chain link fencing will be needed as well as 3 gates and 2 maintenance gates. If the grant application to PetCo is approved the funds would be used to enhance the area with benches and possibly a shelter. Volunteers would monitor the area. John said he will brief the Board of County Commissioners on Monday, June 6.

- **Business Items:**

RCO Grants: John spoke about the RCO technical presentation. The slide presentation took 20 minutes and only 12 minutes are allowed. Bob Droll's office is revising before the actual presentation on June 8, at 11:00 a.m. Both grants will be presented at the same time. RCO will give feedback in about 4 weeks.

Truman Glick Park: Jeanne visited Truman Glick Park and noted some issues she found on her visit. She was concerned about the ivy covering trees and said it can cause branches to come down. This was a safety issue. Ivy needs to be controlled. She had a handout for the members on Invasive species. She also noted that one of the picnic tables was missing a table top and the BBQ in the shelter was rusty and in poor shape. The plastic garbage can in the shelter should be replaced with a metal one. She walked some of the trails and noted that signage for the trails needs improving. There is a downed orange fence that needs to be removed. She mentioned that the park hosts keep the restrooms looking good and the play area and picnic areas were nice.

John said the BBQ should not be in a covered area as it was a fire hazard. He asked members to make note of any issues they find in other parks and to let him know in writing.

Diane said she and John meet with park staff each month to review park issues. She mentioned there is not enough staff to cover all parks.

Parks Plan: There was a discussion about a long term plan for each park and that should be consolidated into a parks masterplan. The agenda will be expanded to include a list of key issues and resolutions each month. Carl Olson will bring the REET 2022 priority list to the next meeting.

Mendy asked the citizens in attendance for Letters of Support. Letters will be accepted until August. The Letter of Support template is online. She is also meeting with the Editor of the Shelton Journal next Tue to talk about highlighting a park each month in the paper.

Public Comment: (Up to 5 minutes available per person for citizens to address the Parks and Trails Advisory Board.)

Constance Ibsen spoke about updating some of the park policies such as volunteer policy and Friends of the Park policy. She mentioned that there is a problem with youth at Union Park and graffiti problems. She asked if the County co-ordinate with the Sheriff's office on these matters. Diane said we did not have a policy like that but the graffiti was removed the next day and a light has been installed.

Constance said a camera was needed. She also asked that the Board of County Commissioners have dedicated funding for parks maintenance. Diane explained that parks does get some funding from REET but a lot of that goes to utilities and the Commissioners have agreed 5 million dollars for match funding for the grants. John has already told the Commissioners that maintenance funding was needed. He said we have to show the Board of County Commissioners why we need more funding and what the parks are committed to.

Phil Wolff offered his experience to assist with grant applications, slide presentations etc. He thought cameras were a good idea. That people need to see they are on camera.

Teri King suggested that graffiti be reported to the School Resource Officer as they monitor gang graffiti.

- **Correspondence/Good of the Order:** None
- **Meeting Adjourned:** adjourned at 6:01 p.m.
- **Next Meeting:** The next scheduled Parks Advisory Board Meeting will be at 5:00 p.m. July 28, 2022 at 411 N 5th Street, Shelton, 98584.