

SUMMARY MINUTES

BENTON COUNTY PARK BOARD

Tuesday, September 13, 2016, 6:00 p.m.
Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility
Shotgun Clubhouse
Benton City, WA

Board Members Present

John Becker, Vice Chair
Diana Ruff, Secretary/Treasurer
Yessica Rosas, Member
Michael Crowder, Member
Richard Nordness, Member

Benton County Employees

Adam Fyall
Cami McKenzie

Board Members Absent

Robin Emmingham, Chair
Donna Raines, Member

Social/Rattlesnake Mountain Shotgun Range Discussion

The members and guests met for a social at 6:00 p.m.

George Hager discussed the Shotgun Range Facilities and upgrades and talked about growing disciplines, including skeet, sporting clays; use at the facility, TCSA meeting held there this month, range officer appreciation night; nearly 1000 members, plus spousal memberships, proposed silhouette range, and other uses of the facility, including testing. Additionally, there was a discussion on how the Initiative 594 law changed and/or affected the shooting range, including the First Shots event.

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

Vice Chair John Becker called the meeting to order at 6:47 p.m. The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call was taken.

Review & Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as submitted.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of August, 2016 were approved as submitted.

Staff Report

Adam said there was not a written report but he would provide that later in the week. He said he would be making a case to use Nelson Drilling for the well at Rattlesnake Mountain since he was not able to follow up with the low bidder.

Joint Park Boards Recap

Adam said that Benton County hosted the meeting at the Southridge event center and it went well. He gave thanks to Yessica who was the MC and Shyanne and Donna who assisted with setup. He indicated they had a turnout of about 32 people, and Rob Sendak, Executive Director of Washington Water Trails Association, gave the keynote presentation and Adam talked about Benton County and Candy Mountain.

Wi-Fi Discussion - Horn Rapids Park

Adam provided an estimate from Desert Winds and said that Benton REA had indicated it would be too expensive. Mark had commented that not many people asked about wi-fi at the park but this would be something to provide at the park for the visitors and for Mark. However, there were other ways for Mark to get internet access (they were moving his phone to Verizon in January) and Adam still needed to talk about the ongoing monthly cost.

Michael Crowder talked about what Desert Winds did at his ranch with routers and said he believed it was an amenity some people would come to expect. Also, he discussed turning it down in the off season so the cost would be less. After further discussion, Adam said he would continue to pursue the matter and would look at the monthly cost and maybe have it worked out by next spring.

Candy Mountain - Parking Lot

Adam provided drawings of five options for the proposed location and parcels for the parking lot at Candy Mountain. He said four were prepared by Public Works and the fifth was prepared by John Becker; he thanked John and his company for the

survey work and input. He said the plan was to accommodate 4-6 horse trailers at a time, with a 25 foot buffer, and not go any farther to the north; he said he wanted it to be reviewed by different folks and it would be paid for by Friends of Badger Mountain.

Jo Sheeley and Linda Smith indicated they liked option 3 the best and they would pass it along to their groups for review. Linda said she felt they needed 24 feet for the trailer spots; Jo disagreed with Linda and said she felt that 22 feet was enough. Cindy Faith indicated the parking lot for Chamna was like this with horse trailers in the middle.

Michael Crowder said he liked option 2 with the maximum amount of parking since they kept adding parking on to the back of Badger Mountain.

John Becker said they looked at the national guidelines in design for horse trailers and motorhome. Diana expressed concern that if it was not built out, that eventually the horse trailer spots would be taken by vehicles if the other spots were full. There was also a discussion about splitting the parking lots.

Adam said he would send out copies for the groups to review and John said he would make some tweaks on the drawing board. Adam talked about bringing back a design for approval at the October meeting.

Jim Langdon Trail

Adam discussed the formation, details and design of the trail and said it would be nice to have Friends of Badger endorse and have a trail for the Board to approve at the October meeting.

John said he liked the first $\frac{3}{4}$ mile trail design and up top they did their best to keep it under 10% grade. Adam said there might be few spots that were 12 or 13% without doing huge switchbacks. Michael said he wouldn't lose sleep over 12 - 13% because it was pretty steep at the top.

2017 Projects

This discussion was moved to the November and December meetings.

October Hover Meeting

There was a discussion regarding the time to meet at Hover Park. Adam said that 3:00 pm was too tough work wise for people to show up and the idea was to maximize participation. He said this meeting was more about these entrances and how to treat parking, entrances, access control and parking.

Ms. Sheeley commented the Board could not appreciate the full damage done without seeing the park and walking the creek.

Richard suggested board members maybe take a look at the area individually before the date. There was also a discussion about posting and Adam said this might not be the time for a public meeting, but the time for the park board to see what was involved and schedule a public meeting at a later date.

The Board agreed to meet at 5:00 pm at the end of Hover Road.

Public Comments/Poll of the Board

George Hager commented that it was not the duty of a Range Officers to deal with "gun transfers" (as discussed in Initiative 594) but one job was to make sure patrons were safe.

Dick McGrew discussed past and future events and said they installed bars on windows with shutters due to recent break-ins.

Linda Smith said they had a moonlight ride and potluck; also she was happy to see something happening at Hover Park.

Mickie Chamness said the native plant society was interested in Candy Mountain and walking along with them and salvaging plants and seeds before trail work and parking lot construction.

With no further business to report, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

The next meeting will be a site visit at Hover Park on Tuesday, October 4 at 5:00 p.m.