

SUMMARY MINUTES

BENTON COUNTY PARK BOARD

Tuesday, June 7, 2016, 6:00 p.m.
Two Rivers Park
Finley, WA

Board Members Present

Richard Nordness, Chair
John Becker, Vice Chair
Diana Ruff, Secretary/Treasurer
Donna Raines, Member
Michael Crowder, Member
Robin Emmingham, Member

Benton County Employees

Adam Fyall
Cami McKenzie
Commissioner Jim Beaver
Rich Hillmer

Board Members Absent

Yessica Rosas, Member

Social/Potluck

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

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

Chair Richard Nordness called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call was taken.

Review & Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of April, 2016 were approved as submitted.

Chair Report

Chair Nordness said he enjoyed coming to Two Rivers Park and seeing the "Glynn Wheeler Drive" sign reminding him of Mr. Wheeler's 31 years of service on the Park Board.

Staff Report Update

Adam Fyall updated his written report and briefly discussed the following:

- New employee (Community Programs & Public Relations Coordinator) would be assisting Adam
- Priority Projects
 - Finishing up Candy Mountain purchase
 - Parking Lot - Higgins Field - complete
 - Higgins Field - Well Drilling - waiting for 3rd quote
 - Now focusing on Boat Dock and Boardwalk
- West Gate - Badger Mountain improvements
- Horse Heaven Cemetery - added a head stone donated by a family
- Horse Heaven Vista - vandalism
 - There was a discussion on vandalism (Adam indicated it was rare) and where to invest time and money
- Vista Park - sod will be delivered next Thursday; then dedication event

Committee Reports

Kennewick Parks & Recreation Liaison

Diana Ruff reported the following:

- Farmers Market had moved from Southridge back to downtown Kennewick
- Kennewick members shared in the auditing of each of the parks
- Actively seeking ideas from citizens on remaining 10 acres in Southridge

Election of Officers

John Becker indicated his willing to continue to serve as Vice-Chair. With no other nominations, John Becker was unanimously approved to the office of Vice-Chair.

Diana Ruff indicated her willingness to continue to serve as Secretary/Treasurer. With no other nominations, Diana Ruff was unanimously approved to the office of Secretary/Treasurer.

Richard Nordness said he believed he had served two terms as Chair and Robin Emmingham indicated his willingness to serve.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded to nominate Robin Emmingham as Chair. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Candy Mountain

Update

- Purchases, donations and easement to cross the property were complete
- 8 parcels purchased; all money transferred and now Benton County owned the property
- Next - grant money cannot be reimbursed to Friends of Badger - money will be reimbursed to Benton County for parking lot and other projects
- Want to recognize the large donors CH2MHill and Bechtel
- Summit Parcel - long term desire to purchase
- Safety of crossing Dallas Road - unknown at this time how to be addressed
- Want to have trail maintenance policy in place prior to opening; talked about different groups having responsibility for portions of the trail
- Would need to have a future discussion on naming of the trails

Park Name Recommendation

MOTION: It was moved and seconded to forward a recommendation to the Commissioners to name the park "Candy Mountain Preserve". Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Two Rivers Park Update

It was noted that Two Rivers was a very busy park for one person to maintain. Rich Hillmer said he was very excited about getting the new mower as the Toro was breaking nearly every day. He talked about the amount of trash that accumulated at the park and on Mondays he spent the better part of the day picking up trash and 2-3 hours on other days. Rich indicated he was happy with the new playground area and it was very popular.

Public Comment

Clark Hymas said they raised over \$6,000 at the 5th Annual Wings for Wishes event.

Dick McGrew thanked the County for the new parking lot at Higgins Field and mentioned the Float/Fly event at Two Rivers Park and future events.

Anne Reed, 40 Something Cowgirls, talked about wanting to ride and develop Hover Park. She said that several of their members wanted to volunteer and wanted to get it back to a point where it was safe and a priority for the Park Board.

Cathy Ricard, 40 Something Cowgirls, also expressed her desire to upgrade Hover Park.

Jo Sheeley, 40 Something Cowgirls, said she lived on Hover Road for 23 years and they were there hoping that by speaking out the Park Board would consider doing something at Hover Park.

Diane Pinkham said she also lived on Hover Road and talked about the horses and motorcycles that road in the area and that there were not any speed limits posted.

Cindy Faith, member of Purple Sage Riders and 40 Something Cowgirls, talked about having work parties at Hover Park and that she wanted to see everybody co-exist but didn't know if it could be done in small areas.

Llorene Bezanson, Purple Sage Riders, spoke about her desire to improve Hover Park.

Vicki Clark, Purple Sage Riders, said she too wanted to see Hover Park developed.

George Hager, TCSA, talked about past and upcoming events and said they were trying to move along the well project by getting that 3rd quote.

Poll of the Board/Adjournment

The park board members gave closing comments and adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m. to tour the new playground.

The next regular meeting will be the first Tuesday in July at the Kennewick Justice Center.