

KITSAP COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD

April 17, 2024

MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM by the Parks Advisory Board Chair, Larry Walker. Guidelines of the hybrid Advisory Board Meeting were read.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES | ACTION: Amy Lawrence motioned to adopt March 20, 2024, meeting minutes. Dawn Dockter seconded the motion. Minutes approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Joe Lubischer – Several issues regarding Mountain Bike Events at PGFHP.
 - Bikes don't yield.
 - User conflict problems need to be addressed.
 - Multi-use Trails concept is flawed.
 - County Law says bikes are limited to 10mph.
 - Situation is likely to get worse with the increase of bike usage at Park.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS-

- Parks and Open Space Plan- Survey #3: CIP Projects and Priorities. Alex Wisniewski, Parks Director, presented an overview of the purpose and components of the PROS Plan and shared results from the third survey. The third survey focused on Priorities based on themes from information collected from the previous surveys. A high-level review of the responses to the nine questions in third survey.

PARKS REPORTS

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Highlighted Parks efforts to move forward with a FAQ page as requested by PAB. A new section will be added to the current FAQ & Rules webpage on the Parks website to capture questions & answers, and comments.
 - Question regarding Point No Point parking at WDFW. Do Park users use the road to walk to the park? Yes, direction signs are posted to direct walkers to walk the road to the park.

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

- PGFHP stewards met on April 3rd. Topics discussed were:
 - Events – Bio Blitz and Gamble Graveler
 - Stottlemeyer Trailhead parking lot
 - Updates on volunteer training
 - Questions regarding County reimbursement
 - Signage
 - How was outreach handled for fund raising. Linda shared brochures used in the past.
- Question about gate keys (access) at PGFHP. Unauthorized car got stuck near Millies Trail. Sherriff Dept responded and determined that the car accessed the park by driving around a locked gate on Bond Road that is not on Park property.
- Banner Forest Stewardship work parties continue to remove English Ivy and Scotch Broom.
- Previous Public Comment regarding speed limits on Olalla Valley Road. This concern has been forward to Public Works to be addressed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Carol Price – issues with PAB meeting volume. Not able to hear speakers when attending online or when attending in-person. Presentation text on screen is small and not readable from public seating. What is the definition of Heritage Parks? Will Egdon become a Heritage Park?

Is Port Gamble Forest a Heritage Park or a special interest park devoted to mountain bikers?
Where is the consideration for wildlife and habitat in the plans regarding Heritage Parks?
Protests the “closing down” of PGFHP on April 20 for those who are not mountain bikers.
Who do these Parks belong to? If they don’t belong to the community. Do they belong to a group of mountain bikers?

Other safety issues not involving illegal activity. Traffic is an example. Another issue is pedestrian safety entering the park.

Consider aesthetics when building bridges.

How can I be included in the Parks conversations?

- Joe Lubischer –
 - Proposes more money be allocated for ecological assessments for Park development projects. Wet land delineations are needed.
 - During the March PAB meeting, Parks Department comment that these meetings are not for Q&A, feels discouraging toward Public Comments.
- Marion Allen-
 - Appreciates PAB volunteers.
 - Happy to hear that the PROS Plan responses are highlighting the public’s desire to protect wetlands and open spaces in this County.
 - More funding is needed for County Parks.
 - Hansville Greenway wetlands are protected. Why are wetlands not protected at PGFHP?
 - Concerns regarding the upcoming event at PGFHP.
 - Machines in the park traveling above legal speed limit is dangerous.
 - No Parks personnel at the event to ensure rule compliance.
 - Event fee is \$25 is not acceptable.

Questions and comments from PAB-

- Previous comment regarding bridge design. What is the difference between the bridges? Who installed the new bridge?
Natural Resources Program is working on the bridge design, which must comply with WDFW permit requirements and regulations. Bridge design must meet engineering standards and that is dependent on the type of stream and if it is fish bearing or not. Intended usage and risk evaluation are included in the decision.
- Coulter Creek wet land assessment – original assessment was very thorough and determined the buffers set to protect the natural environment.
- What is the definition of a Heritage Park?
- Supports Public Comment regarding the public comment regarding the public’s desire to be involved in Parks discussions.
- Subcommittees should meet more often.
 - Subcommittees are Ad-Hoc meetings at Parks request when future long-term plans are in the development process. This does not occur often. Parks staff time is more often focused on day-to-day operations.
- Supports after meeting discussions.
- Original definition of Heritage Parks is different from definition in PROS Plan.
 - PROS Plan update will include an updated Classification System. This includes the definition of Heritage Parks. This will be presented to the PAB and others for review.
- Can PAB members attend the Parks Staff meetings?
 - Generally, staff meetings are not open to the Public. There are certain opportunities based on subject matter. PAB members have been invited to sit on hiring-boards and included in certain staff discussions.
 - Suggestion to bring the committees together when the PROS Plan is finalized to review the goals and objects.

Adjournment | **ACTION:** *Linda Berry-Maraist moved to adjourn the meeting. Amy Lawrence seconded the motion. Motioned carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47PM.*

PARKS ADVISORY BOARD ATTENDANCE

PAB MEMBERS	STAFF	PUBLIC (In Person)
Larry Walker -Chair	Alex Wisniewski	Online public attendee names not captured
Lisa Hurt - Vice-Chair	Alex Hardy	
Amy Lawrence	Irene Weber	
Linda Berry-Maraist	Brian Hauschel	KC Patton
Grady Martin	Dee Tuttle	Joe Lubischer
Dawn Dockter		Carol Price
Jon Pearson		
