DATE: Wednesday, February 19, 2025

TIME: 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

LOCATION: This is a hybrid meeting. It will be held in-person at the Eagle's Nest Community Center (1195 Fairgrounds

Road, Bremerton) and on Zoom.

Zoom link will be posted on the <u>home page</u> of Kitsap County Parks website on the day of the meeting. The link is the bottom right-hand side under the heading: **Upcoming Parks Advisory Board Meeting**.

Pre-Meeting: Virtual meeting format, information, and instructions

- I. Welcome & Introductions
- II. Adoption of the January 15, 2025 meeting minutes
- III. Public Comment (3-minute limit/person)

Public comments are welcome at this time. If you have questions or are seeking information from the Parks Department, please contact us at parks@kitsap.gov so that your inquiry may be directed to the appropriate Parks Department staff for a response.

Board

- IV. Special Presentations/Reports
 - a. Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan Alex Wisniewski
- V. PAB Workplan Alex Wisniewski, Board
- VI. Sub-Committee Assignments
 - a. Prior to choosing sub-committees to work on, Board should reflect on these questions:
 - i. Are the sub-committees working as currently defined and structured?
 - ii. Are any changes to the sub-committees needed?
- VII. Parks Report
 - a. Director's Report Alex Wisniewski, Alex Hardy, Irene Weber, Bre Ganne
- VIII. Sub-Committee Reports
 - a. None
- IX. District Representative Reports
- X. Public Comment (3-minute limit/person)
- XI. Adjournment

2025 Sub Committee Assignments

Sub Committee	Туре	Focus Area	PAB Members	Parks Staff (may vary by topic)
Finance & Budget	Standing (per by laws)	 Operating Budget Funding Opportunities		Parks Director
Capital Projects & Parks	Standing (per by laws)	Capital Projects ProgramM&O Program		Parks Planner M&O Supervisor
Community Outreach & Visitor Services	Ad Hoc	 Events and Rentals Program Marketing Volunteer Program Youth Engagement 		Marketing & Events Supervisor Natural Resources Supervisor
Planning & Property	Ad Hoc	Planning Program Park		Parks Planner Natural Resources Supervisor

2025 Agenda Items and Sub-Committee Meetings

Month	Task or Agenda Item	Board or Sub-Committee Assignment
January	Board Chair and Vice Chair Elections	Board (completed in October 2024)
	PAB Annual Workplan	Board
	Sub-Committee Assignments	Board
	Events Year in Review	Board
February	PROS Plan	Board
	PAB Annual Workplan	Board
	Sub-Committee Assignments	Board
March	PROS Plan	Board
April		
May		
June	Annual Operations Budget Review	Finance & Budget
July	Annual Operations Budget Review	Board
August		
September	Nominating Sub-Committee (appointed by Chair)	Chair
October	Annual Capital Improvement Plan Review	Capital Projects & Parks
November	Annual Capital Improvement Plan Review	Board
December		

DRAFT January 15, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

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

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION | Linda Be

Linda Berry Maraist motioned to adopt November 20, 2024, meeting minutes.

Jon Pearson seconded the motion.

No corrections. Minutes approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Hank Anderson Express interest and support for an eventual connection between Green Mountain State Forest and Kitsap County Newberry Hill Heritage Park. Is aware of pre-discussions between the two entities. Supports non-motorized recreation to the extent possible.
- KC Paton | Kitsap Aircraft Remote Control Society
 - Extended gratitude from the KARCS club members who attended the Kitsap County Veteran's Day celebration at the Kitsap Pavilion.
 - EAA KACRS Young Eagles build is assembled and ready to fly in March.
- Sam Huff | West Sound Disc Golf Association annual year in review for the Kitsap Fairgrounds Disc Golf Park. In 2024 WSDGA volunteers logged 300 hours to maintain the Fairgrounds disc golf park with a focus on trail brushing, storm debris clean-up, disc golf equipment maintenance, updating way-finding signs, and trash collection. Fund raising efforts for 17 years has brought \$15,000 for materials and equipment for the park. With plans to continue fund raising in the future Three primary agenda items for 2025
 - Develop a plan to mitigate areas of the park that have been impacted by disc golf, such as areas of soil compaction and trail erosion.
 - Continue to collaborate with Kitsap County Parks for the future needs of the disc golf park and general disc gold area improvements.
 - o Continue to update the T signs and trail maps of the disc golf area.

Kitsap Fairgrounds Disc Golf Park had 33,000 rounds of golf played in 2024, which is a 30-35% increase from 2023.

Players are present in the park 7 days a week and are a surveillance tool and deterrent to vandalism and homeless encampments.

PAB member Dawn Dockter expressed thanks to Park User Group representatives for their reports and the commitment the groups have to their "part of the park.

PAB member Linda Berry Maraist announced the departure of Eric Baker. Eric worked for the Kitsap County Board of Commissioners office for 34 years. And acknowledged his contributions and impact to the Parks Department and County wide.

Also announced the final transaction of the Kitsap Forest and Bay Conservation project. Parks acquired 467 acres with the assistance of conservation futures.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS-

• Introduction to new Parks Planner – Carmen Smith. Carmen

5min recess for review of Directors Report

PAB WORKPLAN -

• Parks Director provided overview of the Parks Advisory Board 2024 Workplan. This is time for the annual review of all workplans County-wide.

- Big ticket items include PROS Plan, Park Code updates, event policy updates, PAB bylaws update, and Community and Youth Engagement.
- o PAB member discussed workplan items and priorities-
 - Additional bullet under Community and Youth Engagement to review stewardship operations and assist County in developing plans to work with stewards.
 - Tier 1 PROS Plan, Event Policy Updates, Foresty Policy, PAB Bylaws and Park Code
 - Tier 2 Natural Resource positions being funded from forestry budget.
 - Decision to update workplan and bring to February PAB meeting for vote.

SUBCOMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS -

- Requested for PAB members feedback on assignments.
- Two of the subcommittees are required by the bylaws -
 - 1. Finance & Budget,
 - 2. Capital Projects & Parks
- Other subcommittees are ad hoc and can be changed.
- Chair recommends Community Outreach & Visitors Services and Planning & Property remain
- Parks Director shared that the PAB North vacancy has been filled and will be officially filled as of January 27th. South position remains vacant.
- Decision to have subcommittees remain in place as is, until February meeting. Then reorganize as needed.

PARKS REPORTS

- Director announced as of January 1, 2025, Grady Martin and Amy Smalley are no longer serving on the Parks Advisory board. County commissioners sent along certificates of appreciation award in recognition for their generous contribution of time and talents on the Parks Advisory Board.
- Announced the acquisition of an additional 11 acres to the Island Lake Park.
- Final transfer of Eglon parcels at any moment.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Eagles Nest new HVAC system installation is complete.
- Port gamble Forest Heritage Park North gateway parking lot
 - Design work completed
 - Permit and SEPA review phase
 - SEPA determination has been appealed. Will move to the Hearing Examiner office.
 - Project competition was targeted for summer 2025 but will be delayed due to appeal.
- Events Program Annual report provided for 2024 Year in review Facility Rentals
- M&O Program Recognition to M&O staff for the work and efforts to maintain the vast number of facilities and parks properties.
- Parks Program collaboration during holiday season Parks and Events maintenance staff came together to accomplish some much-needed deep to rental equipment at the Fairgrounds.
- Natural Resources Program
 - o Recent departure of two Natural Resources staff Sierra Kross and Victoria Lehto
- PROS PLAN timeline Public Presentations in February

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS -

NONE

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS -

- Port Gamble Stewards and Kitsap Trails Association did the Native Plant demonstration in December.
- Issues with trash and drainage at new PGFHP parking lot
 - Public Works is addressing the drainage issues
 - Parks M&O staff are working on the pothole issue

PUBLIC COMMENT

Joe Lubischer-

- Supports Linda's position and continued effort to remove and get a proper source of funding for all of parks staff
- One and half years ago, Commissioners were presented a legal opinion regarding parks plans.
 That opinion was that park plans are land use plans under the Growth Management Act, and they must be approved in the context of the GMA. To his knowledge, this has not been done on any of the parks plans.
- Two years ago, he pointed out the deficiencies of the PG land use plan, regarding the wetlands and buffers and riparian management zones and that issue still stands

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION |

Jon Pearson moved to adjourn the meeting.

Dawn Dockter seconded the motion.

Motioned carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING | ATTENDANCE

ARRO ADVISORT BOARD WILLT	INO ATTENDANOL	
PAB MEMBERS	STAFF	PUBLIC (In Person)
Larry Walker – South	Alex Wisniewski - Director	
Lisa Hurt - North	Alex Hardy – Events and Marketing Supervisor	Online public attendee names not
Dawn Dockter - South	Irene Weber – Natural Resources Supervisor	captured
Linda Berry Maraist - North	Camern Smith – Parks Planner	Hank Anderson – KPMS
Jon Pearson – Central	Chuck Cuzzetto – Public Relations & Communications Coordinator	Sam Huff – West Sound DGA
	Dee Tuttle – Office Support Specialist	Dylan Jacot – West Sound DGA
		Jackie Gfeller – West sound DGA
		KC Patton - KARCS
		David Onstad – KEC
		Emma Onstad – Dawn Dockter



PARKS ADVISORY BOARD 2025 WORK PLAN

Meeting Days, Time, and Location: 3rd Wednesday of every month, 6:00pm, Eagle's Nest (Fairgrounds)

Advisory Group Staff: Alex Wisniewski

Advisory Group 2025 Chair/Co-Chairs: Larry Waler (Chair), Dawn Dockter (Vice Chair)

Advisory Group Purpose/Mission Statement: To provide timely advice to the (Parks) Director and the Board of County Commissioners of their findings and recommendations regarding acquisition, development, and the administration of various park properties (Kitsap County Code 10.12.035).

2025 Goal	Status	Priority Level	Comments/Coordination (Individual or Sub-Committee
	TI	IER 1: HIGH PRIORITY	
 PROS Plan. Participate in update of the department's Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan. Review 2018 PROS Plan and track areas that require addition, edits, or expansion. Port Gamble and Coulter Creek Framework recommendations to be reviewed as part of the updated PROS Plan. Park Code. Review and provide 	In-process	High	 Project will be facilitated by a hired consultant. Parks Planner will manage consultant contract. Planning & Property subcommittee and/or entire PAB will have multiple touchpoints during project to provide feedback and recommendations. PROS Plan to be evaluated for consistency with Kitsap County's Comprehensive Plan. PROS Plan to be approved by Board of County Commissioners. PROS Plan targeted to be completed in April 2024. Park Code update will be facilitated by Parks
recommendations to proposed updates to the department's Park Code.			 Park Code update will be facilitated by Farks Department and Prosecutor's Office. Planning & Property subcommittee and/or entire PAB will have multiple touchpoints during project to provide feedback and recommendations. Park Code update to be reviewed by Kitsap County Prosecutor's Office and Risk Management departments. Park Code update to be approved by Board of County Commissioners.

	2025 Goal	Status	Priority Level	Comments/Coordination (Individual or Sub-Committee
3.	Event Policy Update. Review and provide recommendations to proposed updates to event policies.		High	 Event Policy update will be facilitated by Marketing and Events Supervisor. Community Outreach & Visitor Services subcommittee and/or entire PAB will have multiple touchpoints during project to provide feedback and recommendations. Event policies update to be reviewed by Kitsap County Prosecutor's Office and Risk Management departments. Event policies update to be approved by Board of County Commissioners.
		TIER	2: MODERATE PRIORIT	Y
1.	PAB By-Laws Update. Review and provide recommendations to proposed updates to PAB By-Laws.		Moderate	 PAB By-Laws update will be facilitated by Parks Director. Entire PAB will have multiple touchpoints during project to provide feedback and recommendations. PAB By-Laws update to be reviewed by Kitsap County Legal and Risk Management departments. PAB By-Laws update to be approved by Board of County Commissioners.
2.	Community and Youth Engagement. Develop opportunities and partnerships to increase use and engagement in Kitsap County Parks. a. Topic of Interest: Assist department with development of volunteer and steward work planning		Moderate	 Developing community and youth engagement strategies and opportunities to be facilitated by Public Relations and Communications Coordinator with assistance from Program Supervisors. Other Parks staff to participate based on overlap with program area (i.e., Natural Resources, M&O, Events, etc.) Community Outreach & Visitor Services subcommittee and/or entire PAB will have multiple touchpoints during project to provide feedback and recommendations.

2025 Goal	Status	Priority Level	Comments/Coordination (Individual or Sub-Committee
3. Forest Restoration Policy Update. Review and provide recommendations to proposed updates to policy.		Moderate	 Forest Restoration Policy update will be facilitated by Natural Resources Supervisor and Forester. Planning and Property subcommittee and/or entire PAB will have multiple touchpoints during project to provide feedback and recommendations. Forest Restoration policy update to be reviewed by Kitsap County Prosecutor's Office and Risk Management departments. Forest Restoration policy update to be approved by Board of County Commissioners.
Staff Funding. Advocate to move staff funding out of Forestry budget.		Moderate	 PAB sent a letter to Board of County Commissioners in 2024 advocating to move the Natural Resources Supervisor and Forester positions out of the Forestry budget. Finance and Budget subcommittee to review this during 2026 budget development process.
		TIER 3: LOW PRIORITY	

GOALS ON HOLD			
Goal	Status	Priority	Comments
			-

COMPLETED			
			-

Parks Department



1195 NW Fairgrounds Road, Bremerton, WA 98311 Mailing address: 614 Division, MS-1, Port Orchard, WA 98366 Phone (360) 337-5350 • Fax (360) 337-5385 www.kitsapgov.com/parks

Alex Wisniewski, Director

Director's Report

Date: 2/19/2025

To: Parks Advisory Board

From: Alex Wisniewski, Parks Director

Capital Projects Program

Point No Point Park Beach and Shoreline Repair

The Public Works Capital Facilities Division (PW-CFD) has assumed project management. Parks remains the 'owner' of the project, but PW-CFD is providing oversight of the contracts, bidding, and construction. Some of the permits with the regulatory agencies (State of Washington's Department of Fish and Wildlife and Department of Ecology, US Army Corps of Engineers, US Coast Guard, and Kitsap County's Department of Community Development) have been approved, others remain under review.

Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park - North Gateway Parking Lot

The project has entered the permitting phase and is currently underway. A DNS was issued on November 15, 2024 for SEPA but it was appealed on December 4, 2024. A pre-hearing meeting was held on January 16, 2025 to plan out the appeal hearing details; the hearing is scheduled for March 20 and anticipated to only require one day for arguments. An exact timeline when the decision will be made by the Hearing Examiner is unknown. The original timeline for the parking lot project included going to bid in January with construction to conclude by mid-2025. The SEPA appeal is anticipated to delay the timeline by 3-4 months.

Marketing and Events Program

Events By the Numbers and Events Calendar

Data on the number of reservations at each of the Parks Facilities is attached; please see *Attachment A.*

- Outward-facing events calendar: <u>Kitsap County Parks Event Calendar</u> (<u>kitsapgov.com</u>)
- Online reservations and payment portal: <u>Kitsap County Parks > Home</u> (<u>recdesk.com</u>)

March Public Events			
Event	Date	Location	
The Found Market	February 28 – March 1	Pavilion @ Fairgrounds and Events Center	

Arena Wars Fighting Series	March 1	Presidents Hall @ Fairgrounds and Events Center
Big Top Gun Show	March 8-9	Presidents Hall @ Fairgrounds and Events Center
Puget Sound Awana Games	March 8	Pavilion @ Fairgrounds and Events Center
Semancik Scholarship Crab Feed	March 8	Presidents Hall @ Fairgrounds and Events Center
Military Appreciation Day	March 15	Pavilion @ Fairgrounds and Events Center
Peninsula Dog Fanciers Club All Breed Show	March 22-23	Fairgrounds and Events Center
Peninsula Birth and Baby Expo	March 29	Pavilion @ Fairgrounds and Events Center
Kitsap Fair & Stampede Barn Dance and Miss Fair and Stampede Pageant	March 29	Presidents Hall @ Fairgrounds and Events Center

BoCC-Sponsored Events

Event	Status	2025 Attendance
Martin Luther King Jr. Day	January 20, 2025	300
Military Appreciation Day	March 15, 2025	
FARM Days	May 19-20, 2025	
Veterans Day Ceremony	November 11, 2025	

The Commissioner's Office and Parks are partnering on the implementation of 2024 Board-directed changes to the County's event support practices. Changes will be communicated to event organizers in early 2025 in close collaboration with Board members. Implementation of the changes will not take place until 2026.

Maintenance & Operations Program

Snow and Ice Removal

During the week-long snow event, staff reported directly to the Fairgrounds for safety and rapid response. Snow equipment stationed at the Fairgrounds allowed quick removal of snow and de-icing to provide safe access for staff, users, and events. This is a change in practice from reporting to Wildcat Lake Park year-round and was well received by staff who wished to avoid Seabeck Highway and Newberry Hill during snow events.

Workspace Organization

Staff has been sorting and cleaning workspaces at the Fairgrounds, Wildcat Lake Park, and satellite sites. Outdated or defunct equipment, supplies and paint that was in long term storage has been surplused, recycled, or removed. An old mechanic shop at the Fairgrounds, previously used for storage, has been rejuvenated, enabling an on-site equipment servicing location at the Fairgrounds, increasing efficiency by reducing downtime.

Cross-Training Maintenance Staff

Maintenance workers are being cross-trained to assist both the volunteers, trails, and events teams, by covering vacancies and staff on leave. Their presence at the Fairgrounds has facilitated the quick setup of larger events, providing essential support to the events team.

Parks Department



1195 NW Fairgrounds Road, Bremerton, WA 98311 Mailing address: 614 Division, MS-1, Port Orchard, WA 98366 Phone (360) 337-5350 • Fax (360) 337-5385 www.kitsapgov.com/parks

Alex Wisniewski, Director

Eglon

Staff installed new park rules signs, including "No Motorized Vehicles" and "No Hunting" signs.

Signage

Numerous new signs have been ordered and are currently being installed in across the park system. These include trail maps for kiosks, "No Dogs on Athletic Fields," "Do Not Block the Gate," and "Authorized Employees Only" signs to ensure safety in staff-only spaces.

Natural Resources Program

Research in Parks

Natural Resource staff help coordinate research performed in Parks by academic researchers and state agencies. These projects are re-assessed annually to ensure there are adequate permits, insurance, impact assessments, and to ensure researchers have access to their study areas. Currently, the following research is happening:

- Entomological collection project performed by researchers associated with University of Nebraska and Washington State University.
- European green crab surveys being performed by University of Washington Sea
 Grant researchers and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) staff.
- A collaborative project between Kitsap County PW Stormwater and WDFW investigating biodiversity in stormwater ponds.

Volunteers, Stewards, and Trails

Featured Project:

Washington Trails Association (WTA) crews are installing 2 turnpikes (a trail structure consisting of a wooden frame, infilled with rock and gravel) to improve trail conditions in Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park on the Stottlemeyer parking lot connector trail and Coyote Trail. Overtime, natural surface trails can develop low spots that hold water during rain events. This leads to trail users circumventing the ponded areas, resulting in widening trails, trail braiding, and loss of native vegetation. The installation of turnpikes at these low points elevates the trail surface and allows water to percolate through and flow underneath, creating a more sustainable trail footprint.

Volunteer Work Parties in January 2025

- Activity: 19 work parties (19 YTD)
- By the numbers...approximately:
 - 133 participants
 - 559 hours of volunteer work
 - 9.6 acres of restoration work (primarily invasive species treatment)
 - 0.7 miles of trail maintenance

Location	Work performed by volunteers and staff	
Chico Salmon Park	 Invasive species removal 	
	 Restoration planting maintenance 	

Coulter Creek Heritage Park	Invasive species removalTrail maintenance
Illahee Preserve Heritage Park	 Illegal dumping and encampment clean-up Trail maintenance Park patrolling
Newberry Hill Heritage Park	Invasive plant removalTrail maintenancePark patrolling
North Kitsap Heritage Park	 Trail maintenance Boardwalk repair Invasive species removal

Partners worked with this period	Work performed
Mountain Vikes (youth mountain biking club) + D&D mountain Bike Club	Continued maintenance of adopted trail, The Hood, in Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park
West Sound Disc Golf Club	Trail maintenance at Gordon Park disc golf course
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance	Trail maintenance at mountain bike ride park in Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park
Washington Trails Association	Trail maintenance at Wynn Jones and Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park

Planning Program

Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan

The review and approval process for the Draft PROS Plan is scheduled to take place February - July 2025. The draft PROS plan was released on February 10, 2025 for a five-week public comment period. The draft plan was posted to the Parks Department's website and shared with the Parks Advisory Board, Department of Community Development, and the County's DEI manager with more deliveries underway. Additionally, the Parks Department will be hosting a series of three community presentations to share information about the Draft PROS Plan and how to provide comment.



www.kitsapgov.com/parks | 360.337.5350 | parks@co.kitsap.wa.us

Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan

Timeline to Approval

Who	What	When
Board of County Commissioners (BoCC)	Distribute PROS to BoCC	January 27
Parks Advisory Board (PAB)	Distribute PROS to PAB	February 10
Department of Community Development (DCD)	PROS to DCD for compliance review with 2024 Comp Plan	February 10
Public	Draft PROS Public Comment Period	February 10 – March 15 (5 weeks)
Suquamish, Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribes	Draft PROS to Tribes for Review and Comments	February 10 – March 15
Public (North Kitsap Public Meeting)	Present PROS to public for comment period kick-off	February 11
Parks Advisory Board (PAB)	Present PROS to PAB	February 19
Public (South Kitsap Public Meeting)	Present PROS to public for comment period kick-off	February 20
Public (Central Kitsap Community Council)	Present PROS to public for comment period kick-off	March 5
Parks Advisory Board (PAB)	PAB provides comments and a recommendation (or April meeting)	March 19
SCJ Alliance	Update PROS based on PAB and public comments	March 17 – March 28
Department of Community Development (DCD)	PROS to DCD for Non-Project SEPA Determination	March 31
Public	SEPA Determination 14-day public comment period	April 7 – April 20 (2 weeks)
Board of County Commissioners (BoCC)	PROS to BoCC for Review of Public Comments	April 16
Planning Commission	PROS Briefing (15 minutes)	April 15
Planning Commission	Distribute PROS to Planning Commission	May 6
Planning Commission	Present PROS to Planning Commission	May 20
Public	Planning Commission 2-week public comment period	May 20 – June 3 (2 weeks)
Planning Commission	Deliberation on PROS	June 3
Planning Commission	Finding of Fact & Approval	June 3
Board of County Commissioners (BoCC)	PROS to BoCC for Review of Planning Commission Findings	TBD (week of June 9-13)
Board of County Commissioners (BoCC)	PROS to BoCC for Presentation and Open Public Hearing	June 23
Public	Public Comment Period for Public Hearing	June 23 – June 30 (1 week)
Board of County Commissioners (BoCC)	PROS to BoCC for Deliberations	TBD (June 30 – June 4)
Board of County Commissioners (BoCC)	PROS to BoCC for Deliberations	TBD (June 7 – July 11)
Board of County Commissioners (BoCC)	PROS to BoCC for Deliberations	TBD (July 14 – July 18)
Board of County Commissioners (BoCC)	PROS to BoCC to for Approval	July 21
Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO)	PROS to RCO for Approval	TBD (July 28 – August 1)