

## SUMMARY MINUTES

### BENTON COUNTY PARK BOARD

February 12, 2008, 5:00 p.m.  
Benton County Justice Center  
Kennewick, WA

#### Board Members Present

Bert Lake, Chair  
Skip Gest, Vice Chair  
Hank Sauer, Secretary/Treasurer  
Rick Kilgore, Member  
Donna Raines, Member

#### Benton County Employees

Adam Fyall  
Commissioner Claude Oliver  
Cami McKenzie

#### Board Members Absent - Excused

Kathye Kilgore, Member  
Marilyn Hyde, Member

#### Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair Bert Lake called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and roll call was taken.

#### Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of January 2008 were approved.

#### Commissioner Report

Commissioner Oliver presented a copy of a letter to Bill Stokes regarding the animal park concept at the Fairgrounds for the Park Board to review.

#### Committee Reports

Chair Bert Lake stated there would not be any other oral reports given to the Board and that written reports were submitted with the board packets.

## **Kinnaman Plaza**

It was proposed to the Board to create a plaque to commemorate the new spectator plaza at Higgins Field in honor of J.R. Kinnaman.

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded to name the spectator plaza at Higgins Field as "Kinnaman Plaza". Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

## **Horse Heaven Hills Irrigation Concept**

Mr. Fyall presented a letter from the Park Board to the County Commissioners in support of the Horse Heaven Hills irrigation concept.

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded to sign the letter in support of the Horse Heaven Hills irrigation concept. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

## **Comprehensive Parks Plan Workshop**

Gideon Schreiber, Studio Cascade reviewed the February 2008 draft of the Benton County Comprehensive Parks Plan with the Park Board.

The workshop included discussion of the following areas:

- Public Process and Questionnaire - 250 people responded to the questionnaire; it will be used as a tool for decision making into the future
- GMA requirements and Recreation/Conservation Office requirements; timeliness for grants
- Discrepancy of recorded and GIS acres. Mr. Fyall said he was comfortable using the GIS acres and noting the discrepancies
- Suggested changes, bigger maps, ice age floods, and the adoption process
- Policy discussion regarding languages to be included on marketing and/or signage. The Board agreed the issue of "language" could be addressed separately from the Parks Plan, either on a case-by-case or as a policy
- Level of services and park types

The Board agreed to continue the workshop until after the presentation on the Plymouth Park proposal.

## **Plymouth Park Proposal**

Sandy Taylor of Plymouth said their group was working to implement a new park in Plymouth. She indicated they were in the process of filing for 501c3 status and local companies were willing to donate funds to develop the park. She said there was property available for sale and the owner was willing to sell it for \$20,000 per acre, for a total of \$40,000.

Additionally, Ms. Taylor stated the property had a well with water rights and the park could be irrigated with its own water. She said they did not plan to construct bathrooms, but would put in portable potties for soccer games. They hoped to build a small building with a roof, soccer field, playground, and basketball court.

Ms. Taylor said she was requesting the County purchase and own the land and lease the property to the Plymouth entity, with an agreement for long-term maintenance.

Mr. Lake asked if anyone was willing to participate in the purchase price. Ms. Taylor said she would review that issue further. Additionally, the Board discussed the possibility of forming a Park District that would fund the park through a local tax. Ms. Taylor indicated the residents had all expressed opposition to any tax and the possibility of a new tax would devastate the progress she had made.

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded to send a letter to the Plymouth Park Committee expressing the Park Board's understanding of the concept and continued interest in working with the Plymouth community on a more formal proposal, contingent upon the Plymouth entity demonstrating their ability to provide long-term maintenance for the park. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

## **Comprehensive Parks Plan Workshop - Continued**

- Park Specific Assessments
- Access to Wallula Gap; The Board agreed to continue to investigate legal access to Wallula Gap

## **Adjournment**

The Board members and guests gave closing comments and the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, March 11, 2008 at the Benton County Justice Center.