

SUMMARY MINUTES

BENTON COUNTY PARK BOARD

July 12, 2011, 6:30 p.m.
Kennewick Justice Center
Kennewick, WA

Board Members Present

Bert Lake, Chair
Donna Raines, Secretary/Treasurer
Skip Gest, Member
Hank Sauer, Member
Michael Crowder, Member
Diana Powell, Member
Richard Nordness, Member

Benton County Employees Present

Adam Fyall
Cami McKenzie

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

Chair Bert Lake called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Ron Davidson led the Pledge of Allegiance, and roll call was taken with all members present.

Approval of Agenda

The following item was added to the agenda: discussion regarding Marilyn Hyde.

The agenda was approved as amended.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of May 2011 and June 2011 were approved as presented.

Chair Report

Mr. Lake updated the Board on the following:

- Meeting w/Rattlesnake Ridge Riders regarding "mounting assist". He said he would bring back a final proposal for approval from the Board.

- Meeting w/Burkhart regarding Horse Heaven Rim Trail postponed.
- Hover Parking Lot - a different configuration was being suggested for ease of turning around a horse trailer.
- Joint meeting w/TCSA on Thursday, August 11 at 6:30;
- HDR Engineering/Corps of Engineers meeting - he requested Adam update the Board.

Staff Report

Adam discussed the Corps of Engineers project at Two Rivers to update the new board members. He said project for the Corps was for habitat improvement and the County's two main objectives for the boat launch were safety and preservation. It needed a local sponsor at 25% and the County had to agree on the cost before moving forward.

Adam updated his written report as follows:

- Joint Park Board Meeting to be hosted by Benton County at Two Rivers Park
- Hover Park - still working through issues
- Rattlesnake Restroom - slated to be delivered in August (now in production)
- Horn Rapids Park - cherry harvest update (looking into camp host for following year)
- Badger Mountain - Friends of Badger submitted another grant to improve the parking lot and entrance signs
- Tapteal Water Trail
- West Richland Parks Plan

Publicity Update

Skip Gest said they working on the map, pictures, and text but a description of the Parks was needed.

Capital/Priority Projects

The Board discussed the proposed priority projects:

- Vista Park - playground

- Two Rivers - restroom, boat launch, parking area, pier replacement, nature area connectivity, playground
- Hover Park - end of road project
- Horse Heaven Vista - dirt removal, property line survey, entrance and interpretive signs
- Horn Rapids Park - compound improvements (2nd phase), on-line camping reservations, roads, access, master plan, water trail portage; horse camp
- Higgins Field (to be discussed later)
- Badger Mountain - signs/trails; Dallas Road parking lot
- Kennewick Trail Interlock (Two Rivers to Sacajawea)
- Highway Signage

Certificate of Appreciation

Donna Raines suggested the Board present Marilyn Hyde with a certificate of appreciation and the Board agreed.

Park Board Liaisons Discussion

Bert Lake discussed his concern about the liaisons attending other meetings and giving updates and suggested if the other park boards wanted to know what was going on with Benton County, they should attend the meetings.

Hank Sauer said he disagreed and if the Kennewick Parks Board requested information, he talked about what was happening in Benton County. Donna Raines also agreed and said that West Richland had a lot of questions and so she informed them.

Adam said he was assigned as a liaison to the Tapteal Greenway for the City of Richland's Park Commission, but not for the County. He said he discusses the obvious interfaces (Badger Mountain) and other items that were of mutual interest to Benton County and the City.

Diana Powell said as a prior member of the Richland Parks Board that Mr. Fyall's information on joint interest projects was very helpful and it would be a disservice to discontinue. She said the information going both ways served a dual purpose and was good public relations.

The Board agreed to leave the process in place without making any changes.

Higgins Field

The Board reviewed the priority projects for Higgins Field. The Board agreed it would look at safety issues first, including fire protection and upgrading the ingress/egress.

Adjournment

The guests and board members gave closing comments and the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Benton County Park Board will be a joint meeting with TCSA on Thursday, August 11, 2011 at Horn Rapids Park.