

SUMMARY MINUTES

BENTON COUNTY PARK BOARD

May 10, 2011, 6:00 p.m.
Two Rivers Park
Finley, WA

Board Members Present

Bert Lake, Chair
Marilyn Hyde, Vice-Chair
Donna Raines, Secretary/Treasurer
Skip Gest, Member
Hank Sauer, Member

Benton County Employees Present

Adam Fyall
Cami McKenzie
Dennis Rockwell
Richard Hillmer
Commissioner Jim Beaver
Commissioner Shon Small

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 agenda was approved as submitted.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of April 2011 were approved as presented.

Chair Report

Mr. Lake updated the Board on the following:

- Interview process for new Two Rivers Park Ranger
- Process for soliciting applicants for vacant Park Board positions; may be flexible if a few come in after May 13 deadline

Staff Report

Adam updated his written report and discussed the following:

- Park Board Vacancies: received two applications
- Meeting at Higgins Field with 10 members present to discuss airfield issues
- Friends of Badger: working on a \$10,000 REI grant
- New Great Horned Owl at Horn Rapids Park

City of Kennewick Liaison

Hank Sauer reported they did not have a meeting this month but geocaching was on the next agenda.

Geocaching Presentation

Laurel Strand, City of Richland, said the idea was to use a GPS unit based on coordinates to find a hidden cache. She discussed the proposed Geocache policy and said it was very desirable to have collaboration of entities. Ms. Strand indicated the proposed policy was agreed to by the cities of Richland, Kennewick and Pasco and they wanted to add Benton County as a partner as well.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded to accept the draft Geocache Policy and participate in the local program. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Two Rivers Discussion

Adam Fyall discussed the following issues relating to Two Rivers Park:

- Disc golf - new tee signs/future upgrade of the Club House area
- Construction of pump house; now sheltered and secure
- Boat Launch challenges; currently Corps of Engineers and HDR were looking at ways to improve the launch in conjunction with habitat improvements at Shot Rock Island
- Open up the natural area to hikers and improve the trail

Additionally, Mr. Fyall thanked Dennis Rockwell for his 30 years of service to Benton County and discussed a few of his accomplishments:

- Flagpole
- Compound/headquarter improvements
- Pumphouse improvements
- Tree inventory and irrigation system mapping
- Boat launch
- Swim/life vest program
- Disc Golf Course
- 201 bird sightings in the park

Mr. Fyall also welcomed new employee Richard Hillmer to Two Rivers Park.

Mr. Rockwell discussed his career at Benton County and read a thank you letter to the Park Board.

August Park Board Meeting

The August Park Board meeting was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 11 as a joint meeting with Tri-City Shooting Association at Meacham Hall.

Badger Mountain Challenge

Sharon Grant said there were 500+ participants in the Badger Mountain Challenge with net proceeds of approximately \$6,000 to Friends of Badger. She also said they were working with owners on Candy Mountain about purchasing some land.

Chair Lake said the event was a Park Board permitted function, therefore, requested that Friends of Badger Mountain make every effort next time to secure land owners' permission to cross private property, particularly on the Horse Heaven Rim.

Adjournment

The guests and board members gave closing comments and the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Benton County Park Board will be on Tuesday, June 14, 2011 at the Kennewick Justice Center.