

SUMMARY MINUTES

BENTON COUNTY PARK BOARD

May 13, 2014, 6:30 p.m.
Benton County Justice Center
Kennewick, WA

Board Members Present

Richard Nordness, Chair
Bert Lake, Vice-Chair
Diana Ruff, Secretary/Treasurer
Donna Raines, Member
Robin Emmingham
John Becker, Member

Benton County Employees

Adam Fyall

Board Members Absent

Michael Crowder, Member

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

Chair Richard Nordness called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call was taken.

Review of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of April, 2014 were approved as submitted.

Staff Report

Adam augmented the Staff Report, which had been provided to Board members ahead of the meeting in writing.

Committee Reports

Robin Emmingham gave a report for the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee for Nature Trail Extension, thanking the Board for its support and mentioned that the

appropriate application had been sent to the Corps to begin review of the project.

Donna Raines gave a report for the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee for the Nature Trail Trailhead, recapping recent developments that she had been working on with Adam.

Parks Projects Review & Priorities

The main business item of the evening was a review of Parks Department projects - past, present, and proposed. Adam provided paperwork with narratives about different projects for the Board to discuss. A rough schedule that would culminate at the August meeting was devised, whereby the Board would collect proposals (by June), then begin to digest, review, and prioritize them. This would be an agenda item for each of the next three meetings. Adam went through each of the projects in the packet, eliciting some comments and conversation.

Diana Ruff suggested that she work with the City of Richland to learn more about playground remodeling (per TRP). She also suggested that Adam solicit proposals from the Parks Partners.

Citing the Two Rivers Nature Trail Extension and Trailhead projects, John Becker suggested that projects would probably advance better if they had champions from the Board to advocate for them and perhaps chair ad-hoc project subcommittees.

Bert Lake and Linda Smith noted that it was not clear in the Horse Camp how much overnight camping costs were or how to pay. Adam agreed and said they would give some attention to that matter.

Mr. Fyall mentioned that he had pulled several items - mostly plans, old photos and signs from the storage archive, and had those things set up on nearby tables for anyone who would like to look at them after the meeting as sort of an "open house".

Comments from Guests/Poll of the Board

Clark Hymas (TCMAA) detailed the situation with the new well and subsequent hook-up to the Higgins Field irrigation system. He thanked the Board and staff for their assistance, and called the project a resounding success.

John Hauptmann (TCSA) provided a brief activities update, and suggested that the Board emphasize infrastructure projects in their project prioritization, noting that it was good to have at least one infrastructure project in the works at all times, particularly considering the long-term nature these projects sometimes have.

Linda Smith (RRR) thanked the Board for its continued support.

Each of the members welcomed John Becker to the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Archive Open House

Some people stayed around for about 20 minutes for the "open house", with most of the interest being in old master plans for Hover Park.