

SUMMARY MINUTES

BENTON COUNTY PARK BOARD

February 10, 2015, 6:30 p.m.
Benton County Justice Center
Kennewick, WA

Board Members Present

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

Benton County Employees

Adam Fyall
Cami McKenzie

Board Members Absent

Robin Emmingham, 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 & Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of January 2015 were approved as submitted.

Chair Report

Chair Richard Nordness reported on the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new south trail at Badger Mountain and said there was good attendance.

Staff Report Update

Adam updated his written report as follows:

- Rattlensnake Ridge Riders - sealed the floor at Meacham Hall; they noticed woodpecker damage. Adam said he would be looking for ideas to take care of that problem.
- Vista Park - Adam provided information for the Board to review; Chair Nordness said he would see about meeting with a Kennewick City Councilman who said a resident had recently complained to him. Adam said the Risk Manager recommended removing the antiquated playground equipment and Adam said they should also do something with the junipers.

The Board agreed to send a one page letter to the neighbors to encourage comments and receive information to discuss at the next meeting. Donna Raines suggested asking the paper to print a historical piece on the park. Diana Ruff said the Board should be clear they were not ready to spend any money on the park. Michael Crowder also suggested they look at an assessment of the trees (to include all Benton County parks) to look at conditions, disease, and pruning needs.

- Priorities - Adam said he would review the priority projects and bring an update to the next meeting.

Badger Mountain - New South Trail Name

The Board discussed options for the new south side trail at Badger Mountain.

Michael Crowder said the "Orchard Trail" was his preference and he liked the option of naming the system the "Jim Langdon Trail System".

John Becker said he was a daily user and it was already called the South Trail or the Orchard Trail and he agreed with the "Orchard Trail".

Bert Lake said that eventually the south side orchard would be gone and he wanted to honor Jim Langdon as a trail, not a system.

Richard Nordness said he was in agreement with honoring Mr. Langdon on the trail.

Donna Raines asked about the founders of Badger Mountain and said she wanted to see them recognized, although agreed Mr. Langdon's name needed to be there. She suggested a bronze plaque honoring the founding members.

Michael reiterated that everyone was calling it the "Orchard Trail" and naming the overall system after Langdon would be appropriate.

Mr. Fyall discussed the idea of Robin Emmingham to honor park patrons or volunteers with the "Langdon Service Award".

Diana Ruff said she came in liking "Orchard" for the trail name and a name for the trail network to honor Mr. Langdon. However, maybe the Board didn't want to narrow down the network at this time but should honor Mr. Langdon now by naming the trail after him.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded to name the south side trail as the "Langdon Trail" and to not name the trail system as this point. Upon vote, the motion carried with one opposition.

The Board agreed it wanted a plaque for the 10-year anniversary honoring the founding members.

Guest Comments/Poll of the Board/Adjournment

The guests and Board members gave closing comments.

With no further business to report, the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:00 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be the first Tuesday in March at the Kennewick Justice Center.