

SUMMARY MINUTES

BENTON COUNTY PARK BOARD

March 13, 2012, 6:30 p.m.
Benton County Justice Center
Kennewick, WA

Board Members Present

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

Benton County Employees

Adam Fyall
Cami McKenzie
Commissioner Jim Beaver

Board Members Absent

Diana Ruff, Member

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

Chair Bert Lake 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 amended to include a discussion on priority projects.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of February 2012 were approved.

Chair Report

Chair Bert Lake updated the Board on the following issues:

- The Mount Assist at Horn Rapids Park horse camp was now complete and installed.

- He had been working with the Model Airplane Association on the draft comprehensive plan and it would be presented to the Park Board.
- Working with new TCSA members on familiarity of the range.
- Meeting with the Corps of Engineers and HDR Engineering regarding the Two Rivers Habitat Rehabilitation/Boat Launch project.

Adam specifically discussed the grant and said there was pressure on the Corps to mitigate changes to the river caused from the dams and its goal was "habitat rehabilitation". The costs to the County to participate in the project would be 25% of capital costs under the 1135 Program.

Commissioner Beaver commented that the Board needed to weigh the priority of its projects with the amount of funds available. Hank Sauer said if the Park Board opted to set aside money, it didn't want to be asked why it wasn't spending money, which it had been criticized for in the past. Commissioner Beaver said that is why it was important to update the Commissioners on Park Board priorities.

Staff Report

Adam updated the Board on the following issues:

- Park Board Funds -The Board of Commissioners would be holding a public hearing to appropriate funds in the Park Development Revenue account to the expenditure account so it could continue with 2012 projects.
- Adam thanked R.J. Lott in the Planning Department for giving some of his time to the Park Board (he was working on a possible advisory board for the Fairgrounds, similar to the Park Board).
- Horn Rapids Park - someone had set up targets in the park and was apparently shooting across the river into the park. He said the targets were removed and he would be meeting with the Sheriff regarding a solution and was leaning toward something 'non-confrontational'.

Chili Feed

Linda Smith reported they had a low turnout for the chili feed and probably broke even, but felt that weather was a factor this year.

Priority Projects

Adam requested the Board renew its priority projects for him to work on once the funding was available. The Board agreed on the following projects:

1. Fencing for the compound at Horn Rapids Parks
2. Badger Mountain Master Plan
3. Higgins Field runway project
4. Order and plant spring trees

Hank Sauer requested Mr. Fyall send a thank you letter to the City of Richland for their help in evaluating grass and tree options for Higgins Field.

Adjournment

The guests and board members gave closing comments and the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:00 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be the second Tuesday in April 2012.