

SUMMARY MINUTES

BENTON COUNTY PARK BOARD

Tuesday, August 9, 6:00 p.m.
Horn Rapids Park
Benton City, WA

Board Members Present

Robin Emmingham, Chair
Michael Crowder, Member
Donna Raines, Member
Richard Nordness, Member

Benton County Employees

Adam Fyall
Cami McKenzie
Commissioner Jim Beaver

Board Members Absent

John Becker, Vice Chair
Diana Ruff, Secretary/Treasurer
Yessica Rosas, Member

Social/Potluck

The members and guests met for a social/pot luck at 6:00 p.m.

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

Chair Robin Emmingham 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

A discussion regarding the tree planting dedication for Marilyn Hyde was added. The agenda was approved as amended.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of July, 2016 were approved as submitted.

Chair Report

Chair Robin Emmingham commented that he hoped to make changes at Hover Park so that responsible people visited the park.

Staff Report Update

- Creation Fest - 1st year was great; last year was rough with no dedicated person at Two Rivers; this year had a phone meeting and a last minute meeting; it was a little shaky at first but got on track
 - Issues - music complaints, camping on the peninsula, burned grass areas from tarps, BBQ's
 - Trying to be a good neighbor since it was only one time per year; need to work on impacts and if it continued to improve then it should continued
 - Discussion regarding noise ordinances in parks

Horn Rapids Park - Campground Fees

Adam indicated that Shyanne researched camping fees in the region and Horn Rapids RV rate was on the lower end at \$20/night. The RV rate had not been adjusted since they opened and they were going to stop collecting the shower fee so he wanted to know if the Board was agreeable to increasing the rate to \$25/night.

There was a discussion regarding the coin operated showers and the failing mechanisms, vandalism, and concerns about the water being left on. They discussed installing auto shut off faucets and the fact the shower stalls were configured that they needed to be shut off in order for a person to get dressed in the stall without getting wet.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded to increase the RV fees in 2017 from \$20 to \$25/night and to leave the other rates the same. Upon vote, the motion carried.

Tree Planting Dedication - Marilyn Oliver Hyde

The Board discussed scheduling the tree planting dedication in October and Donna Raines was appointed in charge of the event.

Wanawish Dam Issues

Michael Crowder discussed the issue of garbage and sanitary concerns from individuals staying the night and fishing from the platforms.

The Board discussed the idea of a port-a-potty and Michael said he would be the

liaison to the Wanawish if the Board agreed. The Board agreed having a port-a-potty a few months out of the year would be a good idea.

Horn Rapids Park Discussion

Mark Finkbeiner made the following comments:

- Camping was great; there was always someone camping
- On average the amount of campers had doubled
- Received one phone call per hour, sometimes two inquiring about the camping
- More work at the park; more mature trees; sprinkler issues; weeds; traffic barriers
- Busy in the winter time as much as summer projects
- Increase in use (possibly due to signs on the highway/word of mouth)

Adam discussed the foot bridge stability, highway access, volunteer projects, re-banking of trails, upstream water trail access, and park cleanup and that he would be asking to reinstate the temporary worker in the summer. Additionally, he commented on getting wi-fi in the park and restoring two of the four former access points.

Public Comment/Poll of the Board

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 September at the Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Range - Shotgun Range Clubhouse.