

SUMMARY MINUTES

BENTON COUNTY PARK BOARD

November 12, 2013, 6:30 p.m.
Benton County Justice Center
Kennewick, WA

Board Members Present

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

Benton County Employees

Adam Fyall
Cami McKenzie

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 amended with the addition of a discussion on the model airplane site water system.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of October, 2013 were approved as submitted.

Staff Report Update

Adam Fyall updated his written report as follows:

- He said he planned to have a fairly heavy agenda next month so they should plan for that;
- Chair Nordness said he would call Hank Sauer to invite him to the December potluck and discuss the reading of the Polar Express;
- Sheriff work crew - might start getting some help from them in the parks.

Committee Reports

- Brochure - Adam said he would receive the final proof from Carol Darley shortly and it was ready to move forward

Badger Mountain Plan - November Review

Adam said he spent the morning in Spokane going over the plan with the contractor. He said there was a page on the county web site dedicated to this project with a description and links to some of the material. Additionally, there was an 8-page bundle (public participation guide) that was a comprehensive breakdown on what they were doing with the plan that was also available on the web page.

Adam indicated they were circulating a flyer that announced two upcoming meetings. The agenda was almost finalized for the first meeting on November 21 at Bethel Church; he said they would focus on all issues that were not trail specific. After the presentation there would be two workshop issues: an individual exercise to talk about themes important to users and a group activity for users that discussed expectations and hopes for the park and who was responsible for doing what.

He said the second meeting was scheduled for December 12 and would be a trail summit or trails workshop and would focus on structural issues, placement, engineering, construction and maintenance. He said there would be at least three individuals with some expertise on the subject coming to assist with this workshop to tackle trail building and trail maintenance issues.

There was a discussion about allowing the public to come up with trail names since there was going to be a new major trail on the south side. Donna suggested involving schools in a contest; Adam indicated he would like to open it up to the widest audience.

The Board discussed advertising for the planning meetings and the following ideas were discussed:

- Article in the Tri-City Herald;
- Partners and Friends of Badger getting the word out;
- The consultant had a list they would be sending information out to;
- The Tri-City Journal of Business Newsletter;
- Neighbors or homeowners association; flyers at the new Yokes Market and Badger Mountain Park.

Hover Park Issue

Adam said he was working on the Hover Park access/Toothaker Road issue with Frontier Title and hoped to have an answer next month.

Park Reviews - Two Rivers, Wallula Gap, Horse Heaven Vista/Vista Park

Adam discussed the white papers he previously put together on these parks and said he would continue this process; he had four more to complete and said he planned to put these on the website as well for the public. The Board agreed.

Model Airplane Site - Water System

Clark Hymas discussed a situation they were having with the water system at the park. He said they worked with Kennewick Industrial Equipment and put in a plan to replace the pump and they now had a great pump but it revealed problems with the well. He said it wasn't pumping water or maintaining the proper pressure and they didn't have enough water to water the grass.

He said they talked to two different drillers and the well needed to be drilled down but there were concerns about cave-ins. He said the estimated cost was about \$4,500 to \$5,500 to take care of it.

Adam said they would have to go through the bidding process and it would qualify as a capital improvement project. Bert said they talked about having them do some "work in kind" to pay for the cost, however, they already put money into the pump and he was not in favor of that.

Diana commented that the group had grown and worked very hard to bring events that exposed the parks and brought money into the cities. Additionally, they put in money and volunteer hours and this was a relatively small amount of money to help them out.

MOTION: Diana moved to approve Adam to go out to bid for drilling a well. Additionally, the Board could revisit the issue once they received a dollar amount. The Motion was seconded.

Discussion

Michael asked Clark if he could send him the report on what they had received so far. He said he was willing explore it and see what the cost was.

Robin asked Clark if he was pretty sure the water was there, but just a matter of getting it out. Clark said it appeared to be a matter of getting flow back into the casing.

Upon vote, the motion carried.

Comments from Guests

Mickie Chamness said they had work parties earlier in the month; salvaged some plants from PNNL and planted sage brush and native grass seed on the burned area on Badger. She then updated the Board on the burned area and progress of growth and recovery.

Linda Smith said she was already gearing up for chili food and asked about new electrical outlets in Meacham Hall; Adam indicated they should already be installed. She discussed an editorial on opening up the DOE portions of Rattlesnake Mountain and said it was a good article except equestrians were not mentioned.

John Hauptmann said they were still getting good public participation at the shooting range; additionally, they were doing some upgrades to pistol bay and trying to get someone to champion the road upgrade to the high power range. Also, he said they were purchasing a defibrillator and if it didn't get stolen, they would look at putting in a few more.

Clark Hymas said they were reseeding and helping move dirt at the shooting range.

Vicky Clark said she had been working with Sharon on the Red Mountain trail and also working on parking for trail heads; additionally, they were planning upcoming work parties.

Poll of the Board/Adjournment

The 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 second Tuesday in December at the Kennewick Justice Center with the annual Christmas potluck to begin at 6:00 p.m.