

**SUMMARY MINUTES**

**BENTON COUNTY PARK BOARD**

April 10, 2018, 6:30 p.m.  
Benton County Justice Center  
Kennewick, WA

**Board Members Present**

Robin Emmingham, Chair  
Diana Ruff, Secretary/Treasurer  
Donna Raines, Member  
Richard Nordness, Member  
Laauli Faamausili, Member  
Yessica Rosas, Member

**Benton County Employees**

Adam Fyall  
Cami McKenzie

**Board Members Absent**

John Becker, Vice-Chair

**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**

The agenda was approved.

**Approval of Minutes**

The Minutes of February 2018 were approved as submitted.

**Staff Report Update**

Adam added to his written report, briefly discussing the following:

- Rotary was donating trees; Adam was trying to find a home for 70 trees

Possible locations - Trailhead Park; Two Rivers Park - empty grove at East end; Shooting Range

- Candy Mountain Trailhead - FOB was interested in donating a garbage can so Adam was willing to give it a try

## Park Board 2018 Schedule

### Regular Meeting Schedule

There was a discussion about modifying the meetings to every other month since there was a light agenda through the spring and early summer. Adam said he wanted to have substantive meetings for policy and projects and more opportunity to have a full board so the meetings would have more purpose. He also suggested they might want to explore more officer meetings or liaison to other groups or committee assignments.

There was not a decision made on this subject. Adam and Robin agreed to meet at least a week before the May meeting to discuss a proposed agenda and the need for a meeting.

### Candy Mountain Neighborhood Meeting

Donna Raines, Diana Ruff and Robin Emmingham agreed to meet with Adam on April 29 for a neighborhood meeting and report back to the Board. Adam said he would confirm the date and time with the neighbors.

### Boat Launch Dedication

Adam said the contractor was still waiting for delivery of final materials and wanted to wait until he had further information before scheduling a dedication. A possible date and time suggested was the end of May at noon.

### Hover Park

Adam said the interim master plan was now 10 years old. They were moving ahead with a parking lot and the wasteway project, but the Board still needed to discuss the off-road vehicles. There was a discussion about forming a committee to study

the existing plan and recommend updates. Adam and Robin said they would discuss this and bring back a proposal at the next meeting.

### **County Parks Ordinance & Horse Heaven Cemetery Ordinance Updates**

Adam said it was time to review whether the current ordinances reflected how the Parks operated. Diana Ruff volunteered to review the ordinances and policies and bring back a recommendation.

### **Badger Mountain Management & Master Plan Update**

Adam said that he would be meeting with Shyanne to review the calendar and layout of the plan and they would be packaging it up for review. He estimated they would need two more workshops to complete the master plan.

### **Comments from Guests/Poll of the Board/Adjournment**

Dan Chappel said they decided to have a 2019 Chili Feed. He commented that Meacham Building was showing some signs of woodpeckers or starlings; he also said he would be involved in the Celebration of Life for Sam Meacham to be held at the Meacham Building.

Linda Smith said they still didn't know the details of the 2019 Chili Feed but they were proceeding ahead.

Jo Sheeley discussed dumping that was happening at Hover Park and concern about continued shooting in the area. She said she lived out there most of her life and she hoped something would get done soon and commented that they were just as important as the other groups or neighbors on Candy Mountain and was disappointed with the progress.

Mickie Chamness commented on the successful grass planting at Candy Mountain; additionally, talked about a Lichen Biology event that would be held at Badger Mountain in September.

Vicki Clark thanked the Board for moving ahead on the master plans and looked forward to improvements at Hover Park.

Mark Verwest said their agreement with Benton County required them to inform the Park Board when they would be starting projects. He said they received a grant and hoped to be start on construction of the Rose Iris expansion. Additionally, he discussed upcoming events, including the return of First Shots. Other improvements they were looking at included road improvements (gate to the top and chip seal) and putting in a 10-lane 50-yard range (not on the master plan). He said they would be applying for grants on these projects and were also requesting the Board's financial assistance on the road improvement.

Donna Raines asked the Board if it would sign a letter to the legislature in support of not reducing the capital maintenance budget for State Parks.

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded to have the Chair sign the letter to the U.S. Forest Service regarding the capital maintenance budget for State Parks. Upon vote, the motion carried.

Diana Ruff said she checked out the bypass trail at Candy Mountain and it looked good.

Yessica Rosas said she was interested in visiting the cemetery and maybe the Park Board should meet out there in October.

Dick Nordness said he was hopeful that having a Hover Park committee would assist in moving it along.

Robin Emmingham said he was committed to doing something at Hover Park.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be held on the second Tuesday in May at the Justice Center.