



BENTON COUNTY PARK BOARD
SUMMARY MINUTES

September 16, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
Benton County Justice Center
Kennewick, WA

Board Members Present

Diana Ruff, Chair
Laauli Faamausili, Vice-Chair
Yessica Rosas, Member
Richard Nordness, Member
Karla Brown, Member
Dave McNeal, Member

Benton County Employees

Adam Fyall
Cami McKenzie

Board Members Absent

Robin Emmingham, Member

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

Diana Ruff 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 submitted.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of July 2019 were approved.

Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Range - Rose-Iris Range Parking Lot Paving

Adam said the grant money for the Canyon Road project would not be available for several more months so the paving project was being moved to the spring and the Rose-Iris portion would be paid for by club funds. He said they hoped to defray costs by having it done at the same time as Canyon Road. This project was not currently in the master plan.

MOTION: Diana Ruff moved to allow the Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Range to take action outside the master plan by paving the parking lot as presented. The motion was seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Project Updates

- Maps Project - Mickie Chamness said the maps project being prepared by the grad student would be published and made publicly available after final changes; it could then be printed and made available at the kiosk.
- Badger Mountain - Skyline Trail Extension - The Friends of Badger were working on another piece of the trail to be able to move across private property owned by their organization. The long-term plan was to donate these 16 acres, possibly to the county, to be part of the continuous trail and part of the preserve. Adam said he walked the land with Mr. Langdon and it was a nice piece of shrub steppe, however, he would let Mr. Comstock tell the story at another meeting.
- Badger Mountain - Wayfinding Signage - The Friends of Badger and the Fun, Fit & Over 50 groups wanted to help with this project. Adam recommended the Board form a subcommittee to review the plan and said he would pull in Shyanne to assist and encouraged the Board members to participate.
- Badger Mountain - Canyon Trail Steps - The City of Richland hired a contractor to fabricate steps. The contractor took out all the steps and started at the top, however ran out of money/steps half-way into the project. The trail has been closed and Adam suggested having the City of Richland come talk to the Park Board.
- Candy Mountain - Dallas Road - In addition to paving the road, they would eventually be lowering the speed limit to 35 mph. The project would widen the road and provide a safer place to cross.

- Candy Mountain - PR 669 - received positive feedback; the County paved part of the public access easement but could not use public funds to improve the private road all the way to the parking lot.
- Candy Mountain - Weeds - there was a team targeting noxious weeds with manual removal and targeted spraying; the weeds were an "annual" so it would take three years or so to eliminate.
- Hover Park - East Side Access - the new neighbors are planning to live out there. There was a public access easement across their property and the owners improved the easement with a non-closed public access from Toothaker to the park.
- Horn Rapids Park - Office Building/Old Residence - they were looking at opportunities on how to use the building. Mark still used it as an office but there was a lot of room available for other uses.
- Rattlesnake Mountain - Canyon Road (+Horn Rapids) - there was an opportunity to combine the projects and save some money; also discussed the possibility of paving Higgins Field road and Horn Rapids driveway.

Diana Ruff asked Adam to provide a budget on how these additional projects fit into the current plan.

Public Comment/Poll of the Board/Adjournment

The public and board members gave closing comments.

Specifically, Diana Ruff indicated she would be leaving in January to live abroad for one year. However, she was hopeful to retain her status as a board member.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:00 p.m. The next meeting will be the second Tuesday in October at the Justice Center.