



BENTON COUNTY PARK BOARD
SUMMARY MINUTES

December 10, 2019, 6:00 p.m.
Benton County Justice Center
Kennewick, WA

Board Members Present

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

Benton County Employees

Adam Fyall
Cami McKenzie

Social/Potluck

The members and guests met for a social/pot luck at 6:00 p.m. and guest Hank Sauer read the "Polar Express".

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

Diana Ruff called the meeting to order at 6:40 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 October and November 2019 were approved.

Staff Report Update

Adam added to his written report as follows:

- Hank Sauer had been a Park Board member for 20 years - reference for the newest Park Board members
- Motorhome dumped at Two Rivers Park (with no engine); working on a solution to get it removed
- Horse Heaven Cemetery - Shyanne was gathering history on the pioneer cemetery located in Benton County
- New Admin Building - to be completed in 2021; Park Board meetings will be held there instead of Justice Center

By-Laws & Policy Manual

Adam presented the final version of the By-Laws and Policy Manual for adoption by the Board. Diana stated she would abstain and leave the room during the discussion, as she would potentially benefit from the section "extended absences".

MOTION: It was moved and seconded to adopt the By-Laws and Policy Manual as presented. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously, with Diana Ruff abstaining.

Leave of Absence

Diana Ruff requested approval to formally take a leave of absence for one year as she would be living abroad for that period of time.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded to grant Diana Ruff a one year leave of absence. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

2019 Review

- Staffing Changes - Facilities Lead Maintenance Worker - integrated with Parks and Fairgrounds
- Administrative - By-Laws/Policy Manual Revisions
- Communications - Newsletter/Facebook; Candy Mtn was the most popular post
- Priority Projects
 - Friends of Badger - trail work

- Dallas Road - widened road/connector
- PR 669
- Candy Mountain - interpretive loop signs/weed attack
- Higgins Field - water system certified

2020 Preview

- Construction - Maintenance Storage Building at Badger - awarded contract
- Candy Mountain - weed abatement program
- Horse Heaven Cemetery - never formally certified; Shyanne was working with the Benton County Historical Society and family
- Horse Heaven Vista - maintenance challenges - trying to formulate a plan
- Hover Park - completion of parking lot/access
- Horn Rapids Park - camp host trial
- Horn Rapids Park - sun splash area/river access cleanup
- Shooting Facility - paving project; maybe include compound at Horn Rapids Park and/or Higgins Field
- Two Rivers Park - boardwalk; tee pad
 - Member Robin Emmingham requested the restroom at Two Rivers Park be included
- Horn Rapids Park - committee to review use of trailer
- Yessica Rosas - reminded the Board it still needed to decide on a way to remember Donna Raines

Hover Park

Adam said he received a call from someone requesting an area at Hover Park be designated as "clothing optional".

Robin Emmingham stated the partners were at the core structure of activities at the parks and said if someone came with a plan to manage a project, it was something the Park Board could look at. If it did not, then he did not consider it a serious request unless it had a structure and plan.

Public Comment/Poll of the Board/Adjournment

The public and board members gave closing comments.

Specifically, Jo Sheeley asked the Board to consider closing Hover Park down at Sunset as a way to deter activities that mostly happened after dark.

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 January at the Justice Center.