



BENTON COUNTY PARK BOARD
MEETING MINUTES

December 8, 2020, 6:00 p.m.
Benton County Justice Center
Kennewick, WA 99336

Meeting provided by Video (via Zoom)

Board Members Present

Laauli Faamausili, Chair-joined @ 7 pm
Dave McNeal, Vice Chair
Karla Brown, Secretary
Robin Emmingham, Member
Yessica Rosas, Member
Richard Nordness, Member
Diana Ruff, Member-joined @ 6:26 pm

Benton County Employees

Adam Fyall
Robert Blain
Peggy Brown

Board Members Absent

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

Board Vice Chair, Dave McNeal, called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Review & Approval of Agenda

The December 8th agenda was approved as submitted.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of November 10, 2020 were approved as submitted.

Monthly Reports to the Board

Chair's Report

There was no report at this time.

Committee/Subcommittee Reports

There were no reports at this time.

Staff Report Update

Adam mentioned that Park Board meetings will continue to be held via zoom until further notice. He, also, mentioned that Shyanne Palmus is back, and she will help with the Park Board Newsletter and social media. Adam would also like to see the subcommittee for the Hover Park Project meet on-site with Knudson Engineering to discuss plan/design for the project. The tentative date is set for the 1st/2nd week of Jan. 2021.

Business

▪ Parks Website:

- Discussion of revamping the Parks website was discussed. It was mentioned that the current site is out-of-date and hard to navigate, not very user friendly. Benton County employee, Shyanne Palmus, will be the lead on changing the website.
- Forming a subcommittee to work with Shyanne on the website was also mentioned.
- Placing a comment/news bulletin section at the entry of the website was discussed briefly.
- Adam and Shyanne will work through initial updates, then request that the Board further evaluate.

▪ Columbia Camp & Horse Heaven Cemetery:

- Adam mentioned that there isn't a lot of documentation available on this historical area. He would like the Board to reach out to the community to see what history could be found out about this site, maybe getting the Eagle Scouts involved as a research project they could do. He, also, mentioned having Shyanne get the idea out to the public on social media.

▪ Horn Rapids Park/Wanawish Area:

- The irrigation system was discussed by Robert Blain. He mentioned that the

project will be more complex than first indicated. Need at least 1,000' of pipe to connect the irrigation system which will run through the park.

- The Wanawish area is a challenge due to not a lot of feedback from the general public. It was mentioned to have the subcommittee continue to work on this project, as well as, the WSDOT reshaping the trenches along the roadway to hinder motorized usage of the park.

- **Park Board Meetings 2021:**

- Adam supplied a tentative schedule for park board meetings for 2021. For the first couple of months, meetings will still be held via Zoom. Also, the start time for the meeting has been moved from 6:30 pm to 6:00 pm. If the Board decides that it wants to continue with this schedule change, the Bylaws will need to be amended.

Public Comments/Poll of the Board/Adjournment

The public comment.

George Hager mentioned the shooting range put in for a grant to pave Rose Iris lot and put in two new ranges.

Cindy Faith, Purple Sage Riders, mentioned that a spring clean-up is planned at Hover.

Mickie Chamness mentioned that on Nov. 1st 550 sagebrush plants were planted near the shooting range. She, also, mentioned the Wild Flower walks are planned for the spring.

The Board had closing comments.

Robin Emmingham was glad to see everyone made it to the meeting.

Yessica Rosas was glad to see everyone at the meeting including the park partners.

Karla Brown appreciated the time change for the meeting.

Dave McNeal glad to see everyone at the meeting.

Richard Nordness mentioned that the 2021 Chili Feed has been cancelled.

Diana Ruff mentioned that Badger is gorgeous this time of year. She encouraged the members to take a hike up Badger. She, also, expressed appreciation for the park partners attending the meeting.

Laauli Faamausili wanted to thank everyone for being accommodating.

Adam mentioned a winter project list. He polled the board on putting up traffic barriers and fixing the fencing at Two Rivers. He, also, mentioned paddle boards and kayakers are having an impact on the park. It was, also, mentioned that maybe focus on making safe access to the water rather than enhancing the barriers. Enacting a long-term plan was briefly mentioned.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:21 pm.

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