



BENTON COUNTY PARK BOARD
MEETING MINUTES

January 12, 2021, 6:00 p.m.
Benton County Justice Center
Kennewick, WA 99336

Meeting provided by Video (via Zoom)

Board Members Present

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

Benton County Employees

Adam Fyall
Robert Blain
Peggy Brown

Board Members Absent

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

Board Chair, Laauli Faamausili, called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Review & Approval of Agenda

The January 12th agenda was approved as submitted.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of December 8, 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, stated that there have been a lot of requests to use the parks (Horn Rapids) already coming in. An event for RC Unlimited is tentatively scheduled for mid-April at Two Rivers.

Annual Reports to the Board-Round 1

- **Purple Sage Riders:** Cindy Faith reported that the Purple Sage Riders plan on doing a Hover Park clean-up in the Spring. Mary Bennett spoke extensively about the Richland Horse Park @ W.E. Johnson and the 2020 accomplishments to the park. Some of the accomplishments included hazard clean-up, relocated and improved trailhead, day use corrals were added, a rest area for horse and riders, trees/native plants were added, pet waste station, trail maintenance, and signage was installed which included an etched monument sign at the entrance of the park. She mentioned the park's intended use is to make a safe and enjoyable place for horse and rider. Projects for the upcoming 2021 year include putting in a small staging area and building a small obstacle area at the park.
- **Tapteal Greenway:** Dirk Peterson reported that due to Covid-19 there were no recreational events held in 2020. He did report that the group did receive some grant funding from three different sources: REI, park partnership with the City of Richland, and ALEA. Some of the grant funding went towards trail repair at Horn Rapids, native plantings, and educational/outreach videos via Instagram and You Tube.
- **Tri-Cities Shooting Association:** George Hager reported that events and range usage was lost due to Covid-19, however, there are over 2,200 members and were 23k visitors this year which is a decrease of 14%. With the RCO grant with PB assistance range improvements were made including the paved road. Looking to use some of the grant funding for Rim Fire Range and Silhouette Range.

Business

- **Winter Projects Review & Update-Horn Rapids:**
 - Discussion entailed the clean-up of Boomerang, the boat launch, behind Meacham Hall, and the clean-up of the main entrance including changing the signage. Put the signage project on the February meeting.
 - At the campground some of the RV hook-ups need to be repaired or replaced.
 - The river pump needs to be rebuilt and the seal replaced. Also, the curbing needs paint as well as the driveway and parking area needs to be re-striped.
 - The "water separation project" is still being researched. Robert Blain mentioned it may cost more than it's worth to proceed with the project.
- **Winter Projects-Two Rivers:**
 - Continue with roadside clean-up and traffic barriers. Also, clean-up at central parking where the old boat launch is to help with the water access issue for paddle boarders and kayakers maybe adding signage to the area.
 - Recoat the restroom floor and replace the lighting.
 - The curbing needs paint as well as the driveway and parking area needs to be re-striped.
- **Winter Projects-Badger Mountain:**
 - Adjust/replace and add new traffic barriers at Westgate parking area. The Westgate area needs a general clean-up. The Westgate kiosk needs new Lexan installed.
 - Apply a sterilant/herbicide treatment "as needed".
- **Winter Projects-Horse Heaven Cemetery & Horse Heaven Vista:**
 - Apply a sterilant/herbicide treatment "as needed".
- **Winter Projects-Vista Park:**
 - Install a plaque.

Public Comments/Poll of the Board/Adjournment

The public comment.

Mary Bennett wanted to thank everyone especially those that helped on Hover Park. She also thanked the County for the signage at Badger Mt. (Westgate) that reserves the long strip along the property line for horse trailer parking.

Cindy Faith, Purple Sage Riders, wanted to thank everyone for their presentations of the annual reports. She is also excited to get working on the project at Hover Park.

George Hager, TCSA, wanted to thank all the volunteers who helped at the shooting facility this past year.

Dirk Peterson, Tapteal Greenway, is hoping to be able to enjoy some water events in 2021.

The Board had closing comments.

Robin Emmingham asked about the engineering status at Hover Park. He was concerned about the leaves and the lack of clean-up. He hopes that progress at Hover will be made this year.

Yessica Rosas appreciated the successful efforts of all involved with the Park Board and park partners.

Karla Brown wanted to thank everyone for their presentations and work from the park partners in 2020.

Dave McNeal wanted to congratulate the organizations on making it through 2020.

Richard Nordness found the annual reports interesting and appreciated what was accomplished during the year.

Diana Ruff mentioned that the use on Badger is phenomenal. She noticed more families with younger kids using the trails. She, also, mentioned that the bathroom at Two Rivers needs to be replaced. She wanted to thank the park partners, and is hoping for events in 2021.

Laauli Faamausili wanted to thank the Board in supporting the park partners. He, also, is optimistic at getting the park projects completed.

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

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