

Minutes of the North Bend Parks Commission Meeting of November 18, 2015
Minutes are draft until approved at the following Parks Commission Meeting

Attendance:

- Parks Commissions in attendance: Yvonne Dalke, Judy Bilanko, Mike Brennan, Ethan Duvall, John Lockie, and Eric Thompson
- Parks Commissioners absent: Karen Wallace (notified ahead)
- Staff in attendance: Mike McCarty, Senior Planner

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm.

Approval of Minutes

Judy Bilanko made a motion to accept the minutes as amended for the September 23, 2015 meeting, Mike Brennan seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Landscaping for future Park Street/Downing/North Bend Way Roundabout

Mike McCarty presented the conceptual plans for this roundabout, as prepared by the City's consultant on the project. The Parks Commission was favorable to the subalpine planting theme, and provided the following recommendations to incorporate to the extent possible:

- Provide flashing pedestrian lights within the crosswalks indicating when someone is crossing.
- The weeping Alaska Cedars may become too large within the roundabout over time and shade-out other vegetation.
- The mountain hemlock should be planted in clusters for best appearance.
- Substitute the David viburnum with Orange Flame Oregon Grape (*Mahonia aquifolium* 'orange flame'). The viburnum becomes a more hedge-like shrub, which wouldn't be in keeping with the subalpine-look of the rest of the vegetation.
- Substitute the Sterntaler Tickseed flowers (*Coreopsis lanceolata*) with black eyed susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*), as the black eyed susan has been very successful in other projects within the City and is very hardy.
- Substitute the Oregon iris with daffodil, as daffodil is much longer lived.

Mike Brennan provided a motion to recommend the above revisions to the plans for the Park Street/Downing/North Bend Way Roundabout. Eric Thompson seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Landscaping Improvements for Existing City Roundabouts

At a prior meeting the Parks Commission requested to review and recommend landscape improvements to the two existing roundabouts within the City – at the North Bend Way/Cedar Falls Way Roundabout and at the Bendigo Boulevard/I-90 Roundabout. At this meeting, the Parks Commission provided the following recommendations:

North Bend Way/Cedar Falls Way Roundabout:

- Install drip irrigation from the existing irrigation stub.
- Add clustered mountain hemlock trees.
- Add tall and short Oregon grape.
- Add flowers to the sign area at the roundabout, including daffodil, purple coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea* 'Bravado'), and Ingwersen's Cranebill (*Geranium macrorrhizum* 'Ingwersen's Variety', matching that within the new roundabout).

Bendigo/I-90 Roundabout:

- Add clustered mountain hemlock trees.
- Add 2 Bowhall maple behind the North Bend sign.
- Add flowers around the sign (same mix as for Cedar Falls roundabout).

John Lockie provided a motion to recommend adding supplemental landscaping to the North Bend Way/Cedar Falls Way roundabout and Bendigo/I-90 Roundabout as described above. Ethan Duvall seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Update on Council Action on Decision Cards

Mike McCarty informed the Parks Commission about the status on the Decision Cards relating to parks that were submitted for Council consideration, based on prior Parks Commission recommendations. At the October 27, 2015 Council Workstudy, the City Council decided which decision cards would be carried forward into the 2016 budget. The Council approved the decision cards for Sports Court Maintenance at EJ Roberts Park, the Meadowbrook Farm Interpretive Center to Snoqualmie Valley Trail connector trail and bridge. Additionally of interest to the Parks Commission, the Council approved a decision card for preparing Middle Fork gateway plans for 468th, including traffic analysis and conceptual plans for street design and channelization, pedestrian amenities, landscaping, and lighting improvements.

\$5,000 Small Park Improvements Budget

The Parks Commission has a \$5,000 budget for 2015 as provided by Council for small park improvements. Mike McCarty requested that the Parks Commission decide how they wish to spend their 2015 budget. Yvonne Dalke provided a motion to use the \$5000 budget to continue replacing old and deteriorated garbage cans and recycle bins within City parks, as was partially done with last year's Small Park Improvements budget. Michael Brennan seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Parks Commission 2016 Work Program

Mike McCarty informed the Parks Commission of issues the Parks Commission would be addressing in 2016, including the following:

- Working with a sign contractor and providing review and recommendation on park-related signs for park entries, park orientation, and park-directional signs.
- Recommendation on western Torguson Park pedestrian entrance at Phoenix Plaza and associated site improvements.
- General residential project park reviews.

Yvonne Dalke requested that the Parks Commission also review and recommend additional signs directing visitors to parking within the downtown area, particularly for events such as the Santa Train, where many out-of-town guests are looking for parking. Mike McCarty stated that while parking signage wasn't in the purview of the Parks Commission, he would inform Community and Economic Development Director Gina Estep about this request, and that it may be an item for the Economic Development Commission to consider.

Other Items

Judy Bilanko requested that Mike McCarty look into whether funds remain from a April 15, 2009 letter from Mayor Ken Hearing to the Snoqualmie Valley Garden Club indicating that the Parks Department would provide \$100 for plantings around the sign at the North Bend Way/Cedar Falls Way roundabout, matching \$100 that the Garden Club donated.

Adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Next Meeting - The next meeting of the Parks Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, December 16 at 6pm.



Yvonne Dalke, Parks Commission Chair



Mike McCarty, Senior Planner

Minutes prepared by Mike McCarty