

Minutes of the North Bend Parks Commission Meeting of December 14, 2011
Minutes are draft until approved at the following Parks Commission Meeting.

Attendance:

- Parks Commissioners in attendance: Yvonne Dalke, Karen Wallace, Chris Moore, Cody Roell.
- Parks Commissioners absent: Eric Thompson (notified ahead), Phil Lacefield (notified ahead), John Fredenburg (notified ahead).
- Staff in attendance: Mike McCarty, Senior Planner
- Guests in attendance: Councilmember Ryan Kolodejchuk

The meeting was called to order at 6:00.

Minutes of the October 26, 2011 Parks Commission Meeting

Yvonne Dalke made a motion to approve the October 26 meeting minutes, seconded by Karen Wallace. The motion passed unanimously.

Roundabout Re-Landscape Proposal

Councilmember Ryan Kolodejchuck introduced the Parks Commission to an idea to re-landscape the roundabout on North Bend Way. Councilmember Kolodejchuck stated that the existing landscaping is relatively sparse and that the roundabout could be improved to be a more prominent focal point of interest in the City and gateway into the downtown area. Councilmember Kolodejchuck suggested placing granite boulders to terrace additional levels of soil in the roundabout island, together with Alpine Fir trees and other similar mountain vegetation, to reflect the City's mountain-culture atmosphere. Councilmember Kolodejchuck provided an estimated materials budget for the project, totaling \$8,350 (exclusive of labor), and suggested that labor and some materials could be leveraged through volunteers in the community, including scouts, the Garden Club, and potential landscape and irrigation-related businesses. Councilmember Kolodejchuck stated that there is a water connection within the roundabout that would allow for irrigation.

Parks Commissioners were favorable to the idea, but expressed some concerns about mobilizing volunteers and ensuring long-term maintenance, given difficulties in recruiting individuals to the adopt-a-Park Program. Yvonne Dalke stated that she would contact prior Parks Commissioner Kurt Taylor, who has previously done volunteer landscape architecture plans, to inquire about his interest in providing plans for the project. Mike stated that he would discuss this idea with City staff. Councilmember Kolodejchuck stated that he would inquire with the Parks Foundation about using the remaining funds in their budget (estimated \$3,000) toward the project, and would inquire with businesses in the area about contributions. Mike also suggested that Councilmember Kolodejchuck raise the proposal to the Council at a workstudy meeting, to raise awareness and leverage their input.

Parks Commission 2012 Work Program

Mike presented the Parks Commission with a sheet describing potential work program items for the coming year and asked whether the Parks Commission was satisfied with these activities, and if they wished to add

anything. Mike also suggested that there would not be enough time to address all of the items on the Work Program, and asked which they were not interested to include.

The Parks Commissioners concurred with the items on the Work Program list, but determined that there has not been enough evident community interest in pea patch gardens to proceed with planning for pea patch garden improvements at a City Park. (Depending on future community interest, we can respond at that point.) On promoting the Adopt-a-Park Program, Mike asked the Parks Commission if they would be interested to staff a booth during the summer at the Block Party or the Festival at Mount Si to recruit potential individuals and groups. The Parks Commission was interested in this, and agreed to include this on the 2012 work program.

Yvonne Dalke suggested adding one item – planning for additional railroad-related improvements at William H. Taylor (Railroad) Park and the North Bend Depot. Yvonne suggested working with the Northwest Railway Museum to bring a railroad car or locomotive down to the end of the tracks (extending the tracks as necessary) to provide a display in North Bend. The Parks Commissioners were favorable to this idea, and agreed to add this as a work program item for 2012.

Parks Commission 2011 Annual Report

The Parks Commission concurred with the draft 2011 Parks Commission Annual report that was included in the packet, which described the accomplishments of the Parks Commission in this past year. Mike stated that he would add the work program items that the Parks Commission decided on, and include the report in the Council Packet for the January 17 City Council Meeting (7pm at the Senior Center). Mike asked incoming Chair Chris Moore to attend that meeting with him to present the Parks Commission's 2011 accomplishments and to seek any council feedback or direction on the Parks Commission's 2012 Work Program. Mike also asked other Parks Commissioners to attend if available, to lend support and show their presence to the Council.

Work Party at EJ Roberts Park

The Parks Commission discussed the next work party for their adoption of EJ Roberts Park. Karen Wallace has a number of native plants for planting in the blackberry removal and native revegetation area to the east of the loop walking path. The Parks Commission scheduled the work party for Saturday January 14 from 9am – 12pm. Bring shovels and gloves.

Adjournment - The Meeting adjourned at 7:30.

Next Meeting - The next meeting of the Parks Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, January 25 at 6pm.

Approval of Parks Commission Minutes:


Yvonne Dalke, Parks Commission Chair


Mike McCarty, Senior Planner

Minutes prepared by Mike McCarty