

**Minutes of the North Bend Parks Commission Meeting of May 23, 2018**  
**Minutes are draft until approved at the following Parks Commission Meeting**

**Meeting called to order at 6pm.**

**Attendance:**

- Parks Commissioners in attendance: Judy Bilanko, Minna Rudd, Eric Thompson, Brian Duncan, Kyle Braun
- Staff in attendance: Mike McCarty, Senior Planner; Lynn Hyde, Economic Development Manager and Planner; Bre Keveren, Special Events & VIC Coordinator

1. The Parks Commission met at the corner of North Bend Way and Bendigo Boulevard, in front of the antiques business at 6:00 pm, to review the cabinet wraps at the utility box, and provide recommendations on use.

- a. Parks Commission selected the following historical images as favorites, among a larger selection of images chosen by Snoqualmie Valley Historical Museum for review:
  - I. North Bend Timber Co, "Big Sticks Through North Bend"
  - II. 1907 North Bend Map
  - III. North Bend Band on Maloney's Fir Stump
  - IV. The Parks Commission would like to use a photo that features the Sunset Garage, facing west on North Bend Way. Bre to connect with Snoqualmie Valley Historical Museum to inquire.
- b. Bre Keveren to connect with Department of Transportation regarding broken windows and DOT stickers. Can DOT stickers be moved on the box? Incorporated into the art? Replaced with new, clean stickers?
- c. Lynn Hyde to connect with Craig Glazier, to inquire if City can hang large printed historical images in window of unused storefront.

2. Parks Commission moved to EJ Roberts Park for the rest of the meeting and Barbecue. EJ Roberts Park at 500 Thrasher Ave NE

3. February 28 meeting minutes: Motion Judy Bilanko, 2<sup>nd</sup> Minna Rudd. Approved unanimously.

4. April 25 Parks Commission minutes. Motion Judy Bilanko, 2<sup>nd</sup> Minna Rudd. Approved unanimously.

5. Parks Capital Facilities Plan Update: Mike McCarty reviewed and updated the Parks Capital Facilities Plan with Parks Commission. Mike emphasized the importance of the 20 year capital projects plan, and re-analyzing it every six years to accommodate for growth, inflation and other community changes.

Kyle Braun posed a question concerning the notation of cost on the plan. Why insert cost estimates in plan? Mike answered: Costs have gone up considerably, so new project estimation needs to occur.

However, some costs will come down as these projects are further analyzed. Minna also noted that cost estimation helps provide insight regarding project prioritization.

- a. Tennant Trailhead Park project: Mike will show a more finalized version at the next Parks Commission meeting.
- b. City Hall Park: Mike went into detail on the park related elements of the City Hall project, like an expansion of uses; for instance a deck, more sight furnishings that encourage a park setting, amphitheater, and more.
- c. Torguson Park: Mike noted a need to look at Phase II improvements.
  - a. Edit request: Change "BMX Park" to Torguson Bike Park.
  - b. Judy posed a question regarding the statement, "enable additional evening/night use" – Edit request: Change language to "increase the hours the park is open."
  - c. Torguson Park Maintenance building: Nearly wrapped up
- d. EJ Roberts Park Expansion: Parks Commission discussed the trail development.
- e. Tanner Trail: Mike is awaiting a cost estimate to plug an updated, more accurate number into this area.
- f. Tollgate Farmhouse Restoration: Mike and Minna noted that this project is moving quickly. Exterior work is largely done. Minna noted that septic adds an additional \$50,000. Mike to update cost estimate. Farmstead improvements: Working to create an area for people to minimally process their crops and sell. Local historian Dave Battey proposed an Interpretive apple orchard, utilizing historical strains of apple.
- g. Tollgate farm trail: Trail connection, and also want to provide a trail on the north side of the Snoqualmie Valley Trail.
  - a. Minna posed a question: Is there a plan for a sidewalk on Northeast 8<sup>th</sup>? Mike answered: There is a plan to expand the shoulder.
- h. Meadowbrook Farm to Snoqualmie Valley Trail Connector
  - a. Edit request: Lynn noted that the updated cost that was closer to .5 million (more than \$200,000, she thinks).
  - b. Judy posed the question: Is disc golf still wanted at Meadowbrook? Mike answered: Yes, they want it, but they need more resources to make it a reality and need to work out maintenance arrangement. Kyle noted the increase in popularity of disc golf.
- i. William H. Taylor Park Improvements
  - a. Mike noted that the two tiered floor of the Depot is challenging.
  - b. Mike further explained the William H. Taylor Park to Si View crosswalk improvements; the need to create a continuous path through that area.
- j. Riverfront Park Improvements and South Fork Snoqualmie Right Bank Levee Trail and Promenade: City Council wants to make that trail more like a "boardwalk"; promenade; make it a more visible park. Easement would be at the north end of that. One side is publicly owned, Lynn noted, which could allow for further unique park opportunities.
- k. South Fork Snoqualmie River Pedestrian Bridge: Mike noted that it could enable use of the levy on both public sides, and enables more pedestrian connection for huge amounts of residents

near the Safeway. Minna noted that it could serve as a bicycle/pedestrian corridor, and also lessen vehicle traffic.

Judy posed a question about Shamrock Park: Can we save some parking for this area? Minna answered: Yes, however we need to get visitors out of their cars and utilizing local trails more. Judy noted that this could be a challenge on rainy days, and that some people aren't able to walk as much as others.

Deficient Parks Study: Si View Metropolitan Parks identified that parks deficiency in specific areas of North Bend. Parks Commission discussed.

Mike will further update cost estimates and at next Parks Commission meeting, look at priorities. Parks Commission discussed the public feedback received from recent Open House.

Minna mentioned that some of these projects are started, and need to be completed.

6. Early Draft of Tennant Trailhead Master Plan: Lynn presented her draft of Tennant Trailhead Master Plan, requesting feedback and input. Goal: Complete draft by July 21 (Block Party), for Commission to discuss with community at event. Goal: Get this to Council for review by mid-June. There will be an open house at the end of June, and Lynn hopes to have more to present by that time.

King County is currently working on the site plan. King County plans to have it complete by mid-June, when a visual will then likely be available.

Minna noted the importance of taking the necessary time to properly plan. Lynn anticipated completing this project in phases. This Master Plan is vital; helps tremendously with grant submissions, and prioritization.

Lynn noted that the most recent open house reflected a public desire for trails, particularly hiking and mountain biking. To avoid user conflict, there is a suggestion to have pedestrian centered and mountain bike centered trails. Lynn would ask Parks Commission to think about the loop trail and what uses it should be made available for (bike, walk, etc).

The Parks Commission discussed size of park in relation to parking designation. This portion is undecided as use has not been confirmed. Use will help determine size. For instance, if equestrian use is incorporated, parking needs to be dramatically larger to make trailer parking a possibility – another good reason to approach this project in phases.

Lynn noted Department Of Natural Resources' (DNR) interest in connecting Raging River trails and systems to this park. Eventually, the City would hope to fund a separated path from Tennant Trailhead Park to downtown.

Lynn noted that there is a viewpoint on a knoll where Mt Si is visible; could be a shorter loop with a view point.

Lynn further explained potential for interpretive and education loops, citing the Swamp Trail in Issaquah as an example: swamp trail in Issaquah; education opportunities for all ages.

Lynn further explained the possibility for canopy tours – another great opportunity for education. Example: St Petersburg. Lynn to also review the Bellevue example, noted by Kyle.

Lynn asked Parks Commission to keep in mind uses, and the importance of defining them for this park. For instance, consider equestrian use: Is there a need for this? Equestrian use did come up on the open house, but not the survey. Also, if we do, need to reassess the lot. Having a lot of different user groups could be challenging, and require more parking. This loop will not be large, which could potentially pose less of an interest for equestrian use. Commission agrees that this would be a challenge to make fit with increased parking needs and that this is small.

Lynn to reach out to King County for comp plan, areas designated for equestrian use. Lynn to also reach out again to DNR on this topic.

Off leash dogs: Minna noted that there is general consensus that this would not a be a good spot for off leash dogs. Informally, Meadowbrook Farm currently serves that purpose.

One open house topic: Programming the site. Lynn posed the question: What amount of programming do you allow? Minna suggested: Interpretive walks, hikes, passive recreation. Races would also need areas for porta-potties and parking. Lynn noted that there is already interest in hosting races at this location. When connectivity eventually happens, this could happen. Minna noted that it would likely be somewhat challenging as far as events go, but these do not need to be banned, but might be limited.

Eric Thompson made the request to hold on the above programming discussion until trails are more discussed further.

Lynn to bring funding forward in future meeting.

Eric posed the question: Can we contact Nintendo, to inquire whether or not access underneath the freeway can be acquired? Mike answered: Nintendo likely does not own all that. Lynn appreciated the idea, and thought there is a possible solution. Mike note that there are wildlife underpasses likely in this area, so Fish and Wildlife needs to be contacted.

Long term maintenance budget: Mark Correia

Parks maintenance concerns, so let's put together a maintenance plan for the smaller items to put together a decision card to begin funding these maintenance items. Ask council to begin that fund for when things need to get replaced. Kyle: who identifies these needs: Mark Pray with public works can help to identify those things. But it's not really a parks maintenance issue, finance issue, etc. sort of sits in a "black hole" right now. So that's why we need to have this annual/biannual, smaller contribution. Lack of staff is a huge issue. Idea: hire an intern to work on this program. Mark Pray likes idea of doing

inventory of a few parks every 6 months. He currently does this twice a year to meet OSHA requirements. Mike: stressed that its not because we don't care, but staff deadlines is hard. The staffing component is hard. Level of infrastructure for parks is going up and up and staffing level is staying pretty level. Could consider adding staff with decision card.

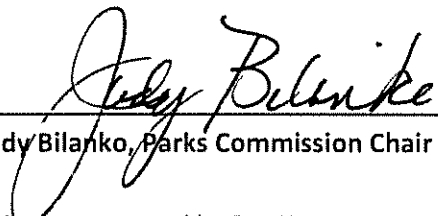
Kyle: can we go around, take pictures? Yes, Mike said that would be helpful.

7. Upcoming items to note on your calendar:

- a. Ribbon cutting for new BMX track at Torguson Park Friday, June 1, 3pm
- b. Tennant Trailhead Master Plan public workshop – June 27, 6:30pm at Depot, Parks Commission meeting to follow.
- c. Dahlgren Family Park public workshop – July 25, 6:30pm at Depot, Parks Commission meeting to follow.
- d. Block Party – July 21. Parks Commission to share a booth with City. Commissioners and City will share two-hour shifts, from 12:00 to 7:00 pm. Booth needs to be set up by 11:00 am. Place Si View MPD booth adjacent to share information sharing with public. As we get closer to July 21, Parks Commission will work on volunteer schedule together.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm**

**Next Meeting** - The next meeting of the Parks Commission is scheduled for June 27, 2018, immediately following the Tennant Trailhead Master Plan Public Workshop.



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Judy Bilanko, Parks Commission Chair



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Mike McCarty, Senior Planner

*Minutes prepared by Bre Keveren*



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