

Minutes of the North Bend Parks Commission Meeting of May 22, 2019
Minutes are draft until approved at the following Parks Commission Meeting

Attendance:

- Parks Commissioners in attendance: Judy Bilanko, Kyle Braun, Minna Rudd, Eric Thompson, and Brian Duncan
- Parks Commissioners absent: Mark Correira (notified ahead), Kassi Winter
- Staff in attendance: Mike McCarty, Senior Planner, Bre Keveren, Special Events & VIC Coordinator

The meeting was called to order at 6:05pm.

Parks Commission Maintenance Needs Tour of Parks

The Parks Commission visited EJ Roberts Park, followed by Si View Neighborhood Park, and William H. Taylor Park to identify maintenance needs at the park for placing on a future Long-Term Maintenance Capital Plan for the parks. Projects on the Long-Term Maintenance Capital Plan would be funded by banked revenues from the annual \$10,000 budget established by the City Council for maintenance purposes through a decision card the Council approved in 2018. The Parks Commissioners each noted project maintenance needs, and were going to send their notes to Mike McCarty to compile for discussion at the next Parks Commission meeting. The Parks Commission returned to the office at approximately 7:30.

April 24, 2019 Parks Commission Meeting Minutes

Parks Commission requested the following changes:

- Edit attendance (Mark Correira attended)
- Change one statement to "Staff facilitate a master process" (first page)

Eric Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 24 meeting, with the above edits. Judy Bilanko seconded. Minutes were passed unanimously.

Utility Box Wrapping

Bre Keveren presented an update on PSE-owned utility boxes in North Bend. Two boxes were located by PSE and communicated to Bre. The Parks Commission is interested in learning of PSE-related financial assistance opportunities to wrap "Padmount 4," located at the parking lot for the Mt. Si Senior Center (Main Ave S). Bre will connect with PSE on this. While this padmount could potentially change years from now with a future Senior Center site redevelopment, the community could still have the opportunity to appreciate this wrap for the lifespan or near-lifespan of that wrap.

Kyle Braun noted that the City of Bellingham has a PSE-created mural on display. Does PSE offer financial assistance to curate murals / other art pieces for cities? Kyle will send additional information about this mural to the Parks Commission.

Judy Bilanko noted that James Boevers, with Tanner Electric, may be interested in the Parks Commission utility box wrapping project. Mike will reach out to James regarding this.

Parks Commission discussed an interest in wrapping the Railway-owned boxes on Main Avenue. Bre noted previous outreach, which concluded in not allowing wrapping. Judy Bilanko recommended further outreach with the Railway Museum regarding this idea.

Parks Commission discussed a PSE-owned utility box near Les Schwab. Minna Rudd will look into information about this box, namely:

- Confirm it is a PSE-owned box
- Future plans for this box, if is known. The Parks Commission recommends holding on any wrapping ideas for this box until the bike park lighting has been completed. Parks Commission talked about original plans to potentially paint this box upon completion of the bike park lighting project or replace it. It was also noted that this particular box has historically been a prime target for graffiti.

Westerlund Property Signage: Parks Commission inquired into the status of the proposal for a mural along the fence of the Westerlund property at the entrance to Torguson Park to beautify this entrance. Bre Keveren will connect with Lynn Hyde on the status of this project.

Downtown Dumpster Screening

Bre Keveren discussed garbage screening and wrapping concepts with the Parks Commission, concentrating specifically on McClellan Street.

Garbage Wrapping:

- Garbage receptacle wrapping could create grimy, damaged art
- Styles of art on receptacles: Stencil, paint

Garbage Screening:

1. A metal screen, with plants growing up the screen, thus creating a visually appealing way to hide garbage receptacles.

- Challenge: Maintenance of plants, whether that means plantings in pots, or removing concrete and planting

- Challenge: Digging into concrete; changing / damaging road structure

2. A metal screen made by an artist, where the screen itself is a piece of art

3. A one-sided, chalk board screen; with community art / messages to be chalked on board; chalk art

Mike McCarty discussed ownership of all business garbage receptacles. Business owners pay for their own cans. Parks Commission posed a question: Could the North Bend Downtown Foundation (NBDF) gather all business owners who share receptacles in Downtown North Bend, and discuss the idea of each property owner contributing to a screened collective dumpster area? This improvement could create a standard, perhaps an ordinance. Minna Rudd noted a need to work with Republic to ensure receptacle protocol is being followed. Kyle Braun expressed interest in establishing the drive lanes on a conceptual plan, with the intention of providing some clarity about the available frontage on McClellan for this purpose, ultimately providing business owners with more direction, which could also, in turn, encourage other improvements in this area too (e.g. more windows facing McClellan). McClellan is an area of interest as it is very visible to visitors via the train, and pedestrians walking throughout downtown. Kyle Braun will measure the drive lane on McClellan.

Mike McCarty noted that, likely, any garbage receptacle screening projects would go beyond the \$5,000 small parks improvement budget and would require a decision card. Mike noted that the NBDF and Economic Development Commission could be joint sponsors of the decision card and project.

Downtown Block Party Parks Commission Booth, July 20

Early planning is for the booth to contain information about parks projects, as well as City information on hazard mitigation, in partnership with Si View Metropolitan Parks and the City of North Bend.

Parks Commission discussed partnering each Parks Commission member with a City staff member throughout the day, with the intent of protecting Parks Commission members from questions that are not related to their commission.

Volunteers (from this Parks Commission meeting) that have committed to shifts at the booth with staff:

12 -2pm: Judy Bilanko
2 – 4pm: Kyle Braun
4 – 6pm: Eric Thompson
6 – 7pm: Brian Duncan

Mike McCarty will inquire with other Parks Commissioners at the next meeting about their availability to be at shifts at the booth.

Other Items:

Parks Commission discussed the importance of safety for those crossing Park Street, and the connectivity this crossing will create.

Mike McCarty invited Parks Commissioners to the upcoming City Council Workstudy, where the Council will discuss initial brainstorming on planning for the future River Walk, 7pm at City Hall.

June 28: Community walk event. 5pm, Meadowbrook Farm. The Parks Commission is invited to an opening welcoming ceremony at 5:15 at the Meadowbrook Bridge connection to the Snoqualmie Valley Trail, followed by a community walk over Tollgate Park and the new trail connection there. Bre will connect with the Chamber of Commerce to borrow ribbon and scissors for the event.

Next Meeting - Considering special Parks Commission meeting in mid-June, as Mike McCarty will be gone at the usual meeting time of June 26. Possibly June 17. Mike to send out info to Parks Commissioners confirming meeting time.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.


Judy Bilanko, Parks Commission Chair


Mike McCarty, Senior Planner

Minutes prepared by Bre Keveren