

Minutes of the North Bend Parks Commission Meeting of November 20, 2019
Minutes are draft until approved at the following Parks Commission Meeting

Attendance:

- Parks Commissioners in attendance: Judy Bilanko, Eric Thompson, Brian Duncan, Mark Correia, Kassi Winter
- Parks Commissioners absent (notified ahead): Kyle Braun, Minna Rudd
- Guests in attendance: Si View MPD Operations Manager Dave Dembeck, Snoqualmie/North Bend Police Officer Jase Gutzler
- Staff in attendance: Mike McCarty, Senior Planner

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

Public Hearing on the Skate Park

Mike McCarty introduced the proposed reconstruction of the Skate Park by the Si View MPD, and noted the comments that were offered by the Parks Commission at their prior meeting on this topic in September. No one from the public spoke formally for the purpose of the Public Hearing, but Officer Gutzler and Dave Dembeck both offered comments and participated in the discussion with the Parks Commission on the proposal.

An important design aspect from the public safety and security perspective is to maintain visibility into the skate park area. The rear of the skate park area, somewhat invisible from the parking lot, is a problem area where loitering and some drug use continues to regularly occur after park closing hours, according to Officer Gutzler. He suggested installing cameras at the skate park, with signs noticing the public that it is on camera, to surveil activity and help prevent vandalism and drug use that has been occurring in this area. Officer Gutzler also suggested a motion sensor light back end of the skate park, focused on the slope between the skate park and the Les Schwab property. The Parks Commission was favorable to these ideas. Dave Dembeck noted that Si View is considering installing a camera outside of the new restroom building, which has been vandalized repeatedly lately. Signage will be important noting hours of the skate park. Mark suggested that a rule should be provided requiring helmet use in the skate park. Mike noted this could be addressed in the Park regulations being drafted.

A separate continuing nuisance at the skate park is used tires stored in the back corner of the Les Schwab property being thrown over (presumably by park users) into the rear of the skate park area. Les Schwab should be contacted to see if there is a possibility for them to better secure their used tires.

Eric Thompson provided a motion to recommend approval of the skate park with the comments noted at tonight's meeting, together with the comments provided by the Parks Commission at their October meeting. Altogether, these include:

- Incorporate landscaping, clustered to preserve visibility into the skate park;
- Add a sidewalk along the parking lot to connect the skate park with the rest of the trail system within the Park, so users don't have to walk through the parking lot to get to the rest of the park;
- Add a trash can and benches;

- Install explicit signage stating skate park hours, as these will differ from bike park hours.
- Add a security camera to provide surveillance at the skate park, with notification that the area is under camera surveillance, to help prevent vandalism or other illicit activity;
- Add a motion-sensor light to the sloped area between the skate park and the Les Schwab property to help prevent loitering or illicit activity in this area after dark. Ensure this light is not directed toward the skate park, which is closed after dark.

The motion was seconded by Judy Bilanko and passed unanimously.

Dave Dembeck noted that many of the above recommendations could be addressed in-house by Si View separate from the contract with Grindline for the skate park improvements themselves.

Minutes of the June 17, 2019 Parks Commission Meeting

Judy Bilanko made a motion to approve the minutes. Mark Correia seconded. The Parks Commission passed the June 17, 2019 unanimously.

Potential Arts Advisory member to the Parks Commission (pursuant to NBMC 2.2.040). Follow-up discussion from June meeting and recommendation on how to proceed.

The Parks Commission discussed the potential for an art advisory member to the Parks Commission, continuing the conversation from the prior meeting. The Parks Commission supports having one arts advisor as an ex-officio member. We just need to define the expectation of the position and term of service. Mike will come up with draft language for the Parks Commission to consider for this, using some suggested language provided by Judy Bilanko from the City of Edmonds Arts Commission and material provided by Mark Correia from the Del Mar California Public Arts Policies.


Draft Park Regulations

Mike McCarty introduced draft new park regulations in a new Chapter under Title 12 of the North Bend Municipal Code. Mike noted that this is an introduction only and the draft would be brought back for a public hearing before the Parks Commission at a future meeting, following additional staff and legal review. The Parks Commissioners were favorable to the proposal. Consistent with earlier discussion on the skate park with the Parks Commission at this meeting, Mike will add a draft regulation requiring the use of helmets by bike and skateboard riders within City parks.

Parks Long Term Maintenance List (following tours of parks at prior Parks Commission meetings.)

Mike provided the final draft of the Parks Long-Term Maintenance List updated from the last Parks Commission meeting to incorporate the final edits from the Parks Commission at that meeting. The Parks Commission will do a field trip/site visit annually (likely in the Spring) to review this list and provide updates as projects are completed and new needs are identified. Mark Correia motioned, seconded by Eric Thompson, to recommend approval of the Long Term Maintenance List. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm.



Judy Bilanko, Parks Commission Chair



Mike McCarty, Senior Planner

Minutes prepared by Bre Keveren

