

Minutes of the North Bend Parks Commission Meeting of May 26, 2021
Minutes are draft until approved at the following Parks Commission Meeting

Attendance:

- Parks Commissioners in attendance: Minna Rudd, Eric Thompson, Tim Talevich, Brian Duncan, Luke Duvall, Kyle Braun, Deb Landers (Arts Advisory Ex-Officio Member).
- Parks Commissioners absent: Mark Correira.
- Staff in attendance: Senior Planner Mike McCarty.

No members of the general public participated in the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes of the March 24, 2021 Parks Commission Meeting

Commissioner Braun made a motion to approve the minutes as provided. Commissioner Talevich seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Mural

Deb Landers provided an update on the planning progress for the mural proposal coordinated by the North Bend Arts and Industry organization. 200 people responded to the survey, about 70% of which indicated preference for a mural providing an image of a natural setting. Deb is currently looking for grants to fund the mural costs, and technical assistance from organizations/individuals that do community murals. Luke Duvall noted that staff at the Mount Si High School expressed excitement to participate in the project.

Torguson Skate Park Opening Celebration

Minna Rudd provided an update on the planning for the opening celebration for the skate park. A ribbon cutting is planned for August 21 and will be an in-person community event, pending the COVID situation. The event will include demonstration of skating tricks and skills, as well as live music and food trucks, presuming we are in Phase 4 of the state COVID plan.

Meadowbrook Farm Prairie Loop Trail Grant

Mike McCarty provided an update on the Meadowbrook trail proposal. North Bend, Snoqualmie, and Si View will jointly apply for a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant for the proposal in 2022 (due May 2022). We will need to update our cost estimates, as construction costs have risen dramatically over the last year, which will likely require additional match. The project partners may also apply jointly for funding from the King County Recreation Grants offered starting this fall, funded by the King County Parks Levy.

Tennant Trailhead Park

Mike McCarty and Kyle Braun provided an update to the Tennant Trailhead Park planning. Kyle Braun works for the Watershed Company, who Si View has hired as the consultant to prepare permitting submittals for the project. Watershed Company and Si View are in the process of submitting permitting to the City for the first phase of the project, which will include initial trails, but not the parking lot or restroom, which will be provided later by King County. Phase 1 trail construction is anticipated to begin in the fall, pending approval of required permitting.

Annual Park Tour

The Parks Commission commenced their park tour to evaluate needs within the parks for maintenance, to update the Parks Maintenance list for consideration by City staff for use of the annual \$10,000 parks maintenance budget. Because of the time taken for the initial agenda items, the Parks Commission decided to not visit William H. Taylor Park, the future levy trail site on the left bank of the South Fork Snoqualmie River, or Tollgate Farm Park during this tour, but to schedule a meeting in June to complete those visits. The following is a summary of items noted at the parks visited at this meeting:

William H. Taylor Park:

- Mike noted that the City intends to begin replacing deteriorated benches at our various parks, which would include this park. We will utilize the bench standard for the benches that have been installed at Torguson Park and Tollgate Farm Park.
- Mike noted that the Si View MPD will be doing a site planning process starting possibly this fall to consider the overall design of this park, for improvements to be funded by the Si View Parks levy.
- Minna noted that the Northwest Railway Museum has secured a grant to partially fund a re-roof of the building.
- Mike noted that the City has ordered directional signs to the restroom at the back of the depot which will be installed at the park soon.
- From the existing Parks Maintenance List:
 - Ground settling by the water meter, dead tree by the east entrance to the park, and nails sticking out at the depot platform have since been addressed – can be crossed off.
 - Railroad track pieces remain and are trip-hazards – Mike to contact the Northwest Railway Museum.

EJ Roberts Park:

- Mike noted that the tennis court backboard will be installed soon by Public Works crew staff. Parks Commissioners suggested it be placed where it won't block views of the courts from the majority of the park.
- Holly trees have been removed – thank you to volunteers Tim Tallevich and Leila Brett. Stumps should be treated with herbicide by Parks Staff to prevent regrowth.
- Most of the maintenance needs identified on the existing maintenance list remain to be addressed.
- Remaining task per Parks Capital Facilities Plan is development of loop pathway in forested area of recent park expansion. This will likely be expensive, given wetlands. Kid-friendly fun interpretive signs that tell a story (such as in Salmon Run Nature Park in Issaquah) should be incorporated with the trail.
- Add to the list:
 - Trees should be limbed up near the parking stalls, which hang down quite a bit and pose a drop-hazard to parked cars.
 - Relocate the disc-golf basket at the northwest corner of the park by the Thrasher Ave./6th Street intersection further into the park, so players don't go out into the street as they currently do.
 - Paint a hopscotch or foursquare court on the vacant concrete pad beside the big stump east of the shelter, or place a bike rack there.

- Primary repair issue is condition of asphalt paving along the pathways and parking stalls, which contains extensive dips and depressions. Need to put these together into a contract for paving repairs. This should be a recommendation from the Parks Commission for specific use of the parks maintenance funds.

Torguson Park:

- Most of the improvements listed for this park on the Parks Capital Facilities Plan have now been completed. Still need to complete phase 2 of the gathering plaza area improvements including redesigning playground surround, added benches, and landscaping.
- In interim before gathering plaza reconstructed, need to do something with the circular asphalt area. It wasn't completed as originally planned with stairs, landscaping, sitting walls and flagpole, and is now just a boring space. Suggestion to paint on something at the center, such as a compass star, a mock roundabout, a labyrinth, or other image to add visual interest.
- Landscaping with the skate park to be completed this fall.
- Add directional signage from the plaza pointing to the Snoqualmie Valley Trail, pump track, and climbing tower.

Next Meeting

The Parks Commissioners will continue their tour at their next meeting in June (tentatively June 30), including visiting Gardiner Weeks Park, the future levy trail along the South Fork Snoqualmie River, and Tollgate Farm Park, including needed bicycle improvements connecting these areas.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:30pm.



Minna Rudd, Chair



Mike McCarty, Senior Planner

Minutes prepared by Mike McCarty

