

Minutes of the North Bend Parks Commission Meeting of August 25, 2021
Minutes are draft until approved at the following Parks Commission Meeting

The meeting was held on online via Microsoft Teams

Attendance:

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

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes of the June 30, 2021 Parks Commission Meeting

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

2021 Parks Maintenance List and Parks Commission Decision Card

Mike McCarty presented the updated 2021 Parks Maintenance list prepared based on recommendations of the Parks Commission at their tour of City parks at the May and June Parks Commission meetings. Mike requested Parks Commission discussion a whether there were particular projects from this list that the Commission wishes to recommend funding to address from the banked \$20,122 available from the last two years from the City’s annual Parks Maintenance/Repairs budget, and noted that he would also discuss this list with the Public Works Director to determine which projects could be addressed internally by City Parks crews, and which would best be addressed as contracted projects.

Primary repairs that the Commissioners discussed included multiple trail paving repairs needed throughout several parks, general improvements and upkeep needed within Gardiner Weeks Park, and general maintenance and upkeep needed within EJ Roberts Park, as per the Parks Maintenance List. Kyle Braun noted that he didn’t recommend providing significant repairs within Gardiner Weeks Park at this time given the potential for improvements or master planning in the near future for a replaced Senior Center with potential affordable senior housing. Tim Talevich and Luke Duvall discussed the ivy mess at Gardiner Weeks Park, and that they could possibly do a cleanup project with the Mt. Si Green Team, which Tim could take the lead on coordinating.

Commissioners generally supported the idea of prioritizing maintenance funds to EJ Roberts Park, and not using maintenance funds for trail paving repairs, as that could be very costly and could eat up all of the banked funds for one purpose. Mike McCarty suggested that the Parks Commission could separately submit a decision card for City Council consideration to fund trail paving repairs, given the larger expense.

Motion by Kyle Braun to recommend that banked maintenance funds be directed towards repairs within EJ Roberts Park. The motion was seconded by Brian Duncan, and passed unanimously.

Motion by Kyle Braun to recommend that staff prepare a Decision Card to the City Council on behalf of the Parks Commission for funding paving repairs to asphalt paved pathways within City Parks. The motion was seconded by Tim Talevich, and approved unanimously.

Other Potential Park-Related Decision Cards

Mike McCarty presented the potential park-related decision cards that are being prepared for City Council consideration in the upcoming 2022 budget planning process. These included:

1. Full time parks maintenance Worker position. (Decision card is being prepared by Public Works Director Mark Rigos.) Parks Commissioners discussed this item and felt that an additional full time parks maintenance worker would be an asset to the City by providing the staffing needed for maintaining levels of service for parks maintenance as the City and its park resources continues to grow. Kyle suggested also preparing a parks maintenance and operations plan to ensure efficient use of staff resources.

Motion by Minna Rudd for the Parks Commission to recommend that the Council approve the parks maintenance worker position, and also to prepare a parks maintenance and operations plan to make the most efficient use of resources. The motion was seconded by Kyle Braun, and was approved unanimously.

2. William H. Taylor Park Master Plan. Mike McCarty reviewed a draft Request for Qualifications for preparing a master plan for William H. Taylor Park, but noted that based on Council discussion at their August 24 workstudy, the Council did not indicate strong support for this, so staff will further review this topic with management staff before submitting a decision card. Council expressed interest in pursuing broader improvements to McClellan Street and potentially to Riverfront Park as well, addressing trail linkages in the downtown vicinity. Kyle Braun suggested staff review the City of Issaquah’s request for qualifications for the 2019 Master Planning process for Tibbets Valley Park, Veteran’s Memorial Park, and the Issaquah Creek Corridor, and suggested adding additional budget to the proposed Request for Qualifications.

Grant Application for Levy Trail:

Mike McCarty reported that he will likely be applying for a King County Rivers and Open Space Grant in the fall for a proposal to acquire easements and/or property along the left bank levy of the South Fork Snoqualmie River, and construct a gravel trail atop the levy. Mike noted that the proposal is dependent on property owners willing to sell either an easement or property, and that he is currently in discussion with property owners about the proposal.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.

Minna Rudd, Chair

Minutes prepared by Mike McCarty

Mike McCarty, Senior Planner