

Minutes of the North Bend Parks Commission Meeting of March 23, 2022

Minutes were approved at the June 15, 2022 Parks Commission Meeting

The meeting, held online via Microsoft Teams, was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

Attendance:

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

Minutes of the January 26, 2022 Parks Commission Meeting

Commissioner Correira made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Commissioner Braun seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Parks Commission Chair and Vice Chair for 2022

Mike McCarty requested that the Commissioners elect an annual chair and vice chair for 2022, consistent with the Parks Commission meeting rules in NBMC 2.24.090. Commissioner Braun nominated Commissioner Rudd to serve as Chair, and Commissioner Thompson (pending confirmation of this, as he was not present) to serve as Vice Chair for 2022. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Correira and passed unanimously.

Request for Proposals for William H. Taylor Park and Riverfront Park Site Planning

Mike McCarty presented the draft RFP for these parks, to be advertised for seeking consultants in April, funded by the Council's approval of a \$250,000 decision card in the 2022 budget. Commissioner Braun suggested that the City may wish to note in the RFP that the City may use its own consultants for sub-disciplines involved in preparation of the plans, such as the City's geotechnical consultant, critical areas consultant, and arborist consultant, which could save around 10-15% from markup that the primary consultant may otherwise charge for use of their sub-consultants. Commissioner Braun also suggested that the specific review criteria for the City's evaluation of the proposals be provided in the RFP itself. Mike noted he would discuss these suggestions with staff in preparing the final RFP.

Parks Survey

Mike McCarty and the Parks Commission discussed items to be included in an informal/non-scientific City Parks survey Mike would put onto the City's website and solicit public participation on to inform the upcoming update to the Parks Element of the Comprehensive Plan. Mike noted that he would use the previous 2015 City Parks survey as a basis, modifying it based on Parks Commission suggestions and to address the more current parks facilities. Specific Commissioner suggestions:

1. Note which parks are City parks vs. Si View Parks vs. other private (Sirius Sports Fields Complex, neighborhood HOA parks).
2. Add a question about what respondents see as the greatest accessibility issues to using parks and recreation facilities, including pedestrian/bicycle access and safe route from their home to the park, distance to parks, handicap accessibility of pathways and routes, and handicap accessibility of playgrounds and equipment.
3. Question 5 (how far do you travel to get to a City park) -revise to how do you primarily access City parks (car, bike, walk).

4. Question 7 (why you visit city parks) – Commissioners concurred with Mike’s suggestion to eliminate “time with family and friends,” as it is duplicative of other categories and doesn’t give us much useful information.
5. Question 11 (whether respondents feel the City has an adequate supply of various listed parks facilities), Commissioners concurred with Mike’s suggestion to separate out passive parks from trails, and note trails as its own category.
6. Question 11 - include river/water access as a category.
7. Question 11 – add barrier-free/handicap accessible facilities as a category.
8. Question 11 – make pickleball and volleyball as their own separate categories, eliminate badminton (which typically is more of an informal game that doesn’t require established courts.)
9. Question 11 – add disc golf as a category.
10. Question 11a (open-ended listing of additional park facilities respondents would like to see in North Bend) – Commissioners concurred with Mike’s suggestion to add an additional question before this open-ended question, listing out some of the top facilities suggested here that the City could address, and have respondents rank their preference for these facilities.

Scoping for Parks Element Update

Mike McCarty briefly summarized items to address for the update to the Parks Element of the Comprehensive Plan that the Parks Commission would be addressing in the year ahead, seeking any initial thoughts from the Commissioners on additional topics to cover. On parks levels of service, Commissioners suggested that the City not count the ballfields at the newly developed Sirius Sports facility, as those are private fields not open to use by the general public, and are used largely by leagues outside of the immediate valley.

Tentative Schedule for Parks Element Update and Public Outreach

Mike McCarty presented a draft schedule for Parks Commission review and opportunities for Public input, and Planning Commission review and hearing for the Parks Element Update in 2022 and 2023. The Parks Commissioners concurred with the tentative schedule.

Grant Applications

Mike McCarty reported that the City has been notified that it is recommended for approval on its application for a \$500,000 2022 King County Parks Capital and Open Space Grant application, pending King County Council approval of the overall grants budget, to fund a portion of the Meadowbrook Prairie Loop Trail. Mike noted that the City will now apply jointly with the City of Snoqualmie and Si View Metropolitan Park District for a Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Grant to fund the remainder of the project costs, estimated to be around \$300,000. If that grant is awarded, the project would commence in summer 2023.

Mike also reported that the City has been notified that it is recommended for approval on its application for an \$800,000 King County River Corridors Grant to fund the design work for a future levy setback and levy trail along the South Fork Snoqualmie River between Bendigo Boulevard S. and W. North Bend Way, pending King County Council approval of the overall grants budget.

Minna Rudd reported that Si View Park has been notified that their applications for King County Parks Capital and Open Space Grants application for the Tenant Trailhead Park to Snoqualmie Point Park trail and the Edgewick to Snoqualmie Valley Trail connection have been recommended for approval, and their application for a King County Aquatics Grant for the proposed Si View Aquatics Center in North

Bend has been recommended for approval of \$4 million, all pending King County Council approval of the overall grants budget package.

Parks Commission Retreat Meeting

Parks Commissioners discussed holding their retreat meeting on April 20. Commissioner Talevich will plan the agenda for that meeting. The meeting can be a picnic dinner at one of our parks, weather permitting.

Pickleball Court striping

Commissioner Talevich inquired about whether a private group of volunteers could fundraise and coordinate/contract a striping project at the EJ Roberts Tennis Courts to add pickleball court striping, with the City's permission. Mike noted there would likely be some limitations on how this could occur, and would check with the City's legal counsel.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Minutes prepared by Mike McCarty