

Minutes of the North Bend Parks Commission Meeting of June 28, 2023

The meeting, held in person at North Bend City Hall, was called to order at 6:34 p.m.

Attendance:

- Parks Commissioners in attendance: Minna Rudd, Tim Talevich, Kyle Braun, Eric Thompson, Brian Duncan and Paige Robbins
- Parks Commissioners absent: Mark Correia
- Staff in attendance: Principal Planner Mike McCarty
- Others in attendance: Terry Pottmeyer, resident

Minutes of the May 24, 2023 Parks Commission Meeting

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

Arbor Day Proposal for EJ Roberts Park

Resident Terry Pottmeyer outlined a proposal for “Oaktoberfest” at EJ Roberts Park, featuring displays, booths, games and more on the theme of oak trees and other native plants that are critical to our environment. She also proposed the creation of a tree fund to lend philanthropic support to tree planting and care in the community.

Mike McCarty responded that the city celebrates Arbor Day, and perhaps this event could be tied to that day. Terry reported she has volunteers lined up to help. Commission members suggested that other possible support could include the Mount Si HS Green Team; Mountains to Sound; and Si View Parks.

Mike said he would confirm with the mayor to check availability and other matters.

Senior Center Survey Results

Responding to an email from Susan Kingsbury-Comeau of the Mount Si Senior Center, relating to the gazebo at the senior center, Commission members raised concern about the feasibility of restoring the existing gazebo. It's in disrepair, does not meet ADA requirements and would potentially be expensive to repair. It was suggested that a picnic area there might be more feasible; the Mount Si HS Woodworking Club potentially could help build a picnic area, possibly using existing wood from the gazebo.

Update on Park Planning for William H. Taylor and Riverfront Parks

Mike McCarty reported that the workshop on planning for these parks was well attended, with lots of good ideas suggested by the public for both parks. Those ideas will be presented to the City Council on July 25; the Parks Commission will review council feedback on Aug. 23 for a recommendation to the council.

Garbage Cans in the Downtown Area

The city has a new garbage service provider, so we need a new garbage can standard. That includes:

- A design that makes it clear what is recycle, and what is garbage.
- Enough cans downtown, but not too many
- Place recycle and garbage cans together
- Consider attractive graphic elements on them, such as Mount Si or the North Bend city logo.

Parks Commissioners requested more information on location for the cans. Mike will bring more information on this topic for review to the next Commission meeting.

Part 2 Annual Park Tour

The Commission visited Torguson Park, Dahlgren Family Park and Tollgate Farm Park. Ideas were exchanged about the current conditions at these parks and future improvements. Those include:

Torguson: Finish the center plaza makeover with perhaps an interactive map on the concrete pointing out local landmarks; improve the transition from the parking area to the central area, and from the central area to the play equipment; create a drop-off zone in the parking lot; make the play area more inclusive; and rubberize the play area surface. At the pump track area, it was suggested that a picnic table in the grassy area across the path from the track might be nice.

Dahlgren: Mike reported that plans for the parking area at the east end of the property are moving forward.

Tollgate: Local farmers have become tenants and the farm is becoming the community center envisioned. Discussion also focused on a playfield and picnic shelter there.

Next Meeting

The Commission will meet next on Aug. 23, 2023.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Tim Talevich