

Minutes of the North Bend Parks Commission Meeting of July 24 , 2024

Minutes are draft until approved at the following Parks Commission Meeting

The meeting was an in-person meeting at North Bend City Hall and was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Attendance:

Parks Commissioners in attendance: Tim Talevich, Kyle Braun, Brian Duncan, Minna Rudd and Matt Miller. Absent: Eric Thompson.

Staff in attendance: Senior Planner Mike McCarty

Guest: Ethan Eusebio (incoming Youth Parks Commissioner, not yet appointed by Council).

Draft June 12, 2024 Parks Commission Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Rudd requested an amendment to the minutes to note that resident Ward Bettes met the Commission on one location during the parks tour. Commissioner Braun made a motion to approve the minutes as amended; Commissioner Miller seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendations on images for downtown garbage and recycling cans

Principal Planner McCarty reported that new garbage and recycling receptacles for the downtown area can have images on them to make them more attractive. Several images were presented and reviewed by commissioners. Commissioner Talevich suggested images of higher quality were available of Snoqualmie Valley scenes and offered to source some for further review.

Downtown Plaza Concepts

Senior planner McCarty explained that a consultant has drafted five concepts of a proposed plaza for Ballarat Avenue, intended as an attractive, usable space between the train depot and the downtown commercial district. Commission members commented on the concepts, including these topics: Make it clear that the area is a pedestrian space, with a clear visual distinction to separate traffic; how much parking would be lost; a possible covered area for rainy time of the year; and flexibility for events.

Conceptual Middle Fork River Overlook Plaza

This plaza would serve as a connection between Tanner Road and the Snoqualmie Valley Trail and is considered a valuable public space right off the river. Commissioner Braun noted a picnic shelter might not be feasible here, because there's no parking and no restroom. Commissioner Rudd suggested having benches and an interpretive sign. Other

comments were to have seating with a focus on river viewing and Mount Si, with ample landscaping to protect the seating area from the road, with the seating area potentially covered if feasible.

Shoreline Public Access Plan

Facet, a consultant, is preparing a draft Shoreline Public Access Plan for the City. Public input will be gathered through an online survey posted on the city's website and through a public open house in September. Commissioner Braun, representing Facet, explained that the plan is a guiding document to help support shoreline access, trails and more, as requested by the public. Braun said the plan could potentially include 10 to 15 projects, from trail connections to garbage can placement. A joint Planning Commission and Parks Commission session on the plan will be held in early 2025.

Upcoming Farmers' Market Parks Booth

The Parks Commission will have a booth at the July 25 Farmers' Market in North Bend with information on all major current topics, such as the WH Taylor and Riverfront Park Master Plans, Middle Fork Plaza, Shoreline Access Plan, and more. Commission members signed up for sessions in the booth.

Small Parks Improvement Budget

Senior planner McCarty presented an update on the 2024 Small Parks Improvement Budget. These topics were covered:

- 1) Park directional signs. They are ordered and in production.
- 2) Bike racks downtown. They have arrived and are awaiting installation.
- 3) Dog waste bag stations for Tennant Trailhead and Dahlgren Family Park. They are ordered and are awaiting delivery. An extra station might be available; it was suggested it could be used at the east end of Dahlgren Park, or somewhere suggested by city parks crew members.
- 4) Potential picnic tables. Two would be for Tollgate Park and one for Torguson Park near the pump track. The city is awaiting price quotes to determine costs.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Tim Talevich