

**Poulsbo Trails Committee
City Hall – 200 NE Moe Street
1st Floor Conference room**

Subject	Meeting Minutes	Date	Monday, February 13, 2013
Recorder	Mary McCluskey	Start Time	6:00 pm
Committee Chair		End Time	7:30 pm
Committee Members	Mary Carter, Diane Fitzpatrick, Steve Calhoun, Kate Nunes, Molly Lee, Rita Hagwell, Tom Nordlie, Lee Derror, Brooke Hammett, Jonathan Erickson, Hank Hayden, Edie Lau, John Nantz, Mrs. Nantz		
Staff Present Others Present	Mary McCluskey, Parks and Recreation; Mayor Erickson		

This meeting was recorded but was patchy at times due to microphone placement

Agenda		
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1.	Administrative:	Introductions were made by everyone at the meeting. Mary reviewed the meeting agenda. Mary reminded the group that the Urban Paths of Poulsbo Plan requires that the group meet at least annually, and make recommendations on the priorities list to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Most of the discussion tonight will be about pedestrian trails; the engineering department works on most of the bicycle facilities in the city.
2.	Agenda Items	
	a. 2013 Trails Projects	The mayor reviewed trail projects that she is working on this year. These include: (1) the PSE easement off of Noll Road on Storhoff Rd. It runs along private property to Highway 305, so an easement will be required for public access. It is about ½ mile long. Noll Road is beginning to have development pressure. The hope is that if this trail could be created, children could walk to school instead of waiting for a bus on 305. She has reached out to PSE, but the property owner needs to be contacted. (2) Forest Rock Hills Park to the stormwater pond to Caldart Avenue. A Housing Authority development on Caldart will be underway later in 2013. This trail would allow children to get to the park without walking on the street. Most of the properties are public properties, but the city will have to make arrangements with the FRH Homeowners Association. (3) 7 th Avenue to 4 th Avenue which will allow people to walk up and over to Torval Canyon and Front Street. This trail requires the permission of two commercial property owners. Housing

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		<p>Kitsap also has property there, and has said yes to an easement. They will also help with environmental studies. This trail will also allow people to walk to the WSDOT remediation site once the city acquires it in 2017. This will be additional public open space.</p> <p>The committee and mayor discussed different aspects of these trails. Would a bike trail be built next to it? Maybe. Most of these walking trails would be crushed gravel. People could walk their bicycles on these trails. There is little money for these projects. This will be an advantage to the commercial property owner. Maintenance of these trails will probably be by the city. This is part of the long term cost of trails. Tom mentioned that bikes play havoc on gravel trails. These should go in before development occurs. The mayor reiterated that these easements are only with willing property owners. No pressure or imminent domain.</p> <p>Mary reviewed the 2013 projects and funding available for the projects. There is little funding available because park capital funding has been cut 50% over the past three years. Projects include: Trails signage; Trail Maps; Nelson Park trail easement planning and Trail easement support (as needed reports, supplies, etc).</p>
	b. Review of Trails Priorities	<p>The committee held discussion on the trails priorities grid that is included in the Urban Paths of Poulsbo plan. Mary updated the grid by inserting comments on the successes of each priority. The city has seen many successes on the grid. She also asked the group for any priorities that might be missing. This is the time to update the information. Mary gave a brief update on the Liberty Bay Waterfront Park. This is the second year of conceptual planning. The engineering department is working with property owners, resource agencies and consultants to find alternatives for the trail. John Nantz commented that a boardwalk along the shoreline will have detrimental impacts to wildlife and the environment. Mary also reviewed other successful projects including Hostmark Street; Mesford trail; Lincoln Rd. roundabout. There was quite a discussion about crosswalks on 10th Avenue, and how important these will be when Safeway is built. Tom feels that the crosswalk from Fish Park to Nelson Park is dangerous because it is 4 lanes. Could safety measures be used such as flashing lights? Becky spoke of trails that developers will build, such as one from the Languanet plat to Ridgewood and 23rd Avenue. The bulb-outs on Highway 305 have not been corrected; Mary will check</p>

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		<p>with engineering but she thinks that will be done by Safeway. Tom also asked about safety measures for Lemolo Shore Drive. The mayor said that a solar powered, digital speed sign is going to be placed on the road soon. The mayor also reported that there is a new trail from Vinland Pointe to Vinland Elementary, though the housing development has not yet been built. Another trail leads from Liberty Hills to College Marketplace. There was a question about adding flashing yellow arrows at the 305 intersections. The mayor said that the state does not use those flashing turn arrows in cities; mainly due to speed and volume.</p> <p>Rita Hagwell said that she has a power pole on her property that she owns. She also commented that she is concerned about garbage (litter) along Viking Way, and who would clean it up.</p> <p>The group discussed maintenance and instituting an Adopt-a-Trail type program. All agreed that might work in neighborhoods.</p> <p>The Wilderness Trail has a security issue, and the city is looking to open up the top and bottom so that people/students cannot disappear into the woods. Because it is near the creek, there are environmental concerns to consider. It would involve removing invasive weeds.</p> <p>Mary C. commented that it is very nice to see successes, and that this priorities grid is still very viable.</p> <p>There was another question about adding crosswalks at Languanet and Noll when the new housing development goes in. The mayor did not think that would happen. Mary told the group that the new development on Finn Hill, Vinland Pointe, has completed a trail from the cul-de-sac to Vinland Elementary. John Nantz asked about the Liberty Bay Waterfront Trail, and his concerns that this trail will include an over the water boardwalk that will adversely impact wildlife. He has seen pictures on the website that shows part of it over water. Mary said that the engineering department is working with the resource agencies and the Suquamish Tribe for alternatives. Mary hopes to get back to planning for the trail signage. The mayor would like to have consistent signage with the city park signs.</p>

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		Mary said that she is hearing from the committee that there are no major projects to add; that the list is still very viable. The group agreed.
	c. National Trails Day event	Mary asked if anyone in attendance would like to work on a subcommittee for the National Trails Day event on June 1. This will be a trail building event at the NKREC site. There is about \$13,000 available for trails. One project is to complete a piece of trail from behind Poulsbo Elementary to Poulsbo Middle School; and the second one is to add a pedestrian trail into Raab Park. Brooke said that a storage unit is now sitting behind Poulsbo Elementary, and that may change the trail. Mary will check with Dave Dumpert at the school district on that. Subcommittee volunteers include Brooke, Steve C., Jonathan and Hank.
3.	Committee Member Comments	Jonathan asked about the timeline for developing the new trails on easements. The mayor said that she will continue to work on all, and hope to have one success per year. There was a question about the missing sidewalk piece on Hostmark; the mayor said that it will be completed at spring break.
4.	Next meeting	As needed; this committee should meet at least annually.