

**City of Poulsbo  
Parks and Recreation Commission  
Meeting Minutes**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Regular Meeting Minutes</b> NOTE- This meeting was not recorded due to lack of access to the council chambers computer	<b>Date</b>	<b>April 25, 2016</b>
<b>Recorder</b>	<b>Pat Hightower</b>	<b>Time Started</b>	<b>7:01 pm</b>
<b>Committee Chair</b>	<b>Steve Calhoun</b>	<b>Time ended</b>	<b>9:00 pm</b>
<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Steve Calhoun, Mary Carter, Amanda Cheatham, Norm Hersman, Edie Lau, Judy Morgan, Mike Randall</b>		
<b>Staff Present</b>	<b>Mary McCluskey, Parks and Recreation; Diane Lenius, Michael Bateman, Engineering</b>		

**Key Points Discussed**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Highlights</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Administrative:</b>	
A.	Questions & Concerns of the Committee	None.
B.	Agenda and Extended Agenda Review	1.D. Elections was moved to 3.D.
C.	Approval of Minutes: 2/22/16	M/S/A MC/JM
<b>2.</b>	<b>Comments from Citizens</b>	<p>Bo Blakey from HDPa updated the commissioners on Front St. beautification. Some of the pots are in the process of being replanted. The flowering baskets are scheduled to be hung before Girls Night Out on May 4. He also mentioned that the sidewalks look ragged and dirty, and have weeds coming up. He is hoping that the Public Works Dept can clean them up as they have in the past. Mary will let them know.</p> <p>Rick Feeney from West Sound Cycling commented that he has been working with Diane Lenius and appreciates what Poulsbo is doing for bicyclists. WS Cycling will be putting on the Tour de Kitsap July 31.</p>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Agenda Items:</b>	
A.	Outdoor Basketball Hoop – Lions Park	<p>Mary reminded the commissioners that a family had requested the possibility of putting a basketball hoop at Lions Park. She had talked to the PRC at the February meeting, who requested that neighbors been alerted to this request. She has had two other requests over the years. Mary presented letters from two neighbors of the park, the Ransdells and Tracey Joines, and from Public Works Foreman Joe Walker. Chair Steve Calhoun then opened the meeting up to public comments. 12 citizens commented, including the neighbor that originally brought up the request. Comments and concerns included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are 4 other basketball courts or half courts located in the area at the Parks and Recreation building, Raab Park, Coffee Oasis, and the Mountain Aire development.</li> <li>• One option would be to add a half court at the tennis courts. Many residents play tennis on the courts, and concern was voiced about lack of compatibility of the</li> </ul>

two sports, possible damage to the windscreens, nets, and court surfaces, limited availability and longer wait times for playing tennis.

- Another option would be to add a court, possibly at the northwest corner of the park. Putting a court there would mean loss of a large tree that many neighbors enjoy. Loss of open space and adding one more thing to the park are also concerns. Two more pieces of playground equipment are going in this week next to the new sewer lift station vault.
- Others voiced apprehension about having a court anywhere in the park, mentioning increased noise levels, lack of available parking, litter, crowding/density and safety and security, especially after dark. Several felt that the demographics of the park would change if older kids were using it, and that mixing the older kids with the younger would be a problem. Property values might be brought down. Some mentioned how much they enjoy seeing families out on the grass and hearing the sound of the children laughing and playing. There is apprehension about losing grass or any greenery from the park.
- In 1999 a playground remodel was organized, and children were asked to vote on what they wanted at the park. Playground equipment voted on by ages 5-9 was installed, but older children wanted a half court basketball hoop, which did not happen. One neighbor commented that there are not enough courts in the area. The courts at Poulsbo Middle School are always in play, and many people come from all over the area to play basketball. Having courts that are close enough for youth to walk to and the need for more activities for older youth were also mentioned.
- Centennial and Nelson Parks were also discussed as possible alternate locations.

Centennial has a house that will be torn down soon. It would be close to the neighborhoods and right down the street from Coffee Oasis, which has a number of kids that like to play basketball. Centennial was also suggested as a possible location for a new skate park. Environmental laws require a 50-75 foot set back from the creek, so it's unknown if either would be feasible at that location. There has been discussion in the past about having the park become an arboretum.

The old barn at Nelson Park will be torn down soon, and that footprint could be used for a basketball court. A negative to this site is that it is further away, and is more tucked away and surrounded by businesses rather than homes, but the project is feasible.

The commissioners will give the alternative locations some thought and discuss it more at the June meeting.

<p>B.</p>	<p>Trail Updates- Engineering Dept</p>	<p>Diane and Michael gave an overview of two upcoming trail projects, the Noll Road Corridor shared-use path project and the Liberty Bay Waterfront Trail project.</p> <p>The Noll Road project will have 2.05 miles of shared use paths from Highway 305 to the roundabout at Lincoln Road. The project is in the design phase now, and they are applying for grants. It will be done in three phases, and they plan to purchase the right-of-ways this year. Each section will be constructed about 2 years apart, beginning in 2018. Michael described how different grants help with different parts of the project. The city has limited match money for grants. The intersection improvement will move from Noll to Johnson Rd. A roundabout is preferred over a traffic signal, slowing the highway traffic down to 25 mph. A pedestrian/non-motorized vehicle tunnel would go under the highway for pedestrians, bikers and wheelchairs to safely cross. The shared paths will be ADA-compliant, and will connect with the Lincoln Road shared path. Other planned project elements include a Park &amp; Ride lot with 150 parking stalls, bus shelter, bike racks, and pocket park, and would be sustainable. They want to use shared use and bike paths everywhere they can, and like for the city to be a leader in Kitsap County on projects.</p> <p>The Liberty Bay Trail plan is conceptual, but the planning is complete and permits are being applied for at this time. They have obtained federal funding for planning. They have an initial buy-in from the Fish &amp; Wildlife Dept and the tribes, and have completed coordination with property owners. All of the property owners have agreed to their properties being used for the trail. One section would be an overwater bridge, further out from the beach in order to protect habitat. Parts of the trail would be at grade and parts elevated, and it will eventually connect to Fish Park. It will meet ADA requirements, and will mostly contain porous asphalt due to storm water regulations. They plan to have picnic tables, benches and trash receptacles along the way. There will also be educational signage, as well as along the Noll Road project, to try and get kids engaged in the environment. Timing on this project is probably 4-5 years out.</p> <p>The engineers have been working with local bike groups in their planning, and Michael thanked them for pushing the tunnel idea, which he thinks is feasible. Rick Feeney of West Sound Cycling commented that he would like to see the Sound to Olympics Trail come through Poulsbo, maybe on the north side. He also wondered if there was a better way for bikes to get across Viking Way and connect to the trail. The trail between Fish Park and Nelson Park (Viking Way) will probably have stairs.</p>
<p>C.</p>	<p>YMCA Feasibility Study</p>	<p>Mary reported that city council has approved funding for a feasibility study for a possible YMCA in North Kitsap. She said the thought is that the College Marketplace Ballfield site might be a good place for it, as it is right next to the Olympic College/Western Washington University campus. Mary recently</p>

		<p>toured the YMCA-UWT in Tacoma that was funded by the University of Washington. The study will involve 400 phone calls, and will be conducted by an outside contractor. Mary has just started looking at the survey questions, and the contractor hopes to bring the survey results to the council and parks and recreation commission in June.</p>
D.	Elections	<p>President- Steve Calhoun      M/S/A      MC/JM  Vice President- Edie Lau      M/S/A      JM/SC</p>
4.	<b>Department Head Reports</b>	<p>Mary updated the commissioners on projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lions Park- Two new pieces of playground equipment are being installed this week.</li> <li>• Waterfront Park Restrooms- Mary is waiting on a second bid from a pre-fab company. The plan is to work towards installation of a new restroom on the existing footprint in the fall. There is no budget for the project yet.</li> <li>• Nelson Park- The barn will be demolished soon.</li> <li>• Skate park- A meeting with the mayor and Josh Fisher had to be rescheduled. Mary is hoping he might be able to come back to the June PRC meeting for more discussion.</li> <li>• Bicycle Pump Track-Work has begun and they have started the sculpturing. Mary thinks it will go fairly quickly. She wondered if they may have room for a basketball court as well and will check with them.</li> <li>• Morrow Manor- Mary is working on a state grant, and if awarded, work could begin in late 2017. The property still has not been deeded over, and won't be until the infrastructure is in, most likely in the spring of 2017. Judy commented that the Rotary Club has raised money for a bronze sculpture. It will be installed near the entry way on a boulder that kids can climb onto.</li> <li>• Oyster Plant Park- The Rotary Club has withdrawn their idea of taking over the maintenance of the park. They may come back with an idea about Morrow Manor Park in the future.</li> <li>• National Trails Day is June 4. Plans are to work on trails on the Holm property section of Fish Park.</li> <li>• Poulsbo Farmers Market- Mary has heard a few comments about parking, as there isn't enough of it. The market has had more walk-in traffic than they were expecting. They expect more vendors in June and plan to put a third row of vendors down the middle.</li> <li>• Trails Signage Project- Mary has met with the Eagle Scout candidate again. They have signed paperwork, and done a tour of the sign sites. He met with his coach about the project last week and plans on doing the work this summer.</li> <li>• Waterfront Park Pruning- Mary reported that there has been a variety of comments as to whether or not to take out the laurel hedges. Public Works has decided not to take anything out, but will be doing some pruning in the park.</li> </ul>

5.	<b>Comments from Citizens</b>	Linda Berry-Maraist commented that she is thrilled to see all the progress on trails, and that the engineering dept. is running with it and finding funding will be the hardest piece. She added that if people are looking for a basketball court, it would be nice to find something close to old town. She wondered if a partnership might be reached with Liberty Bay Presbyterian Church since they have a parking lot that isn't used much. There are also other churches in the area with parking lots that aren't heavily utilized. Steve said that Gateway has basketball hoops, but they are fenced, which implies that you aren't supposed to be there. Mary will check into it.
6.	<b>Commissioner Comments</b>	<p>Steve encouraged the commissioners to take a look at the new murals under the bridge at Fish Park. He added that there are hidden things in the murals, and that the murals look different depending upon where you are standing.</p> <p>Mary Carter reported that the garden club will hold a plant sale May 7 at the Ace Hardware/James Lumber store.</p> <p>Judy asked if there had been a vote to make Centennial Park an arboretum. There has not, but the master plan shows trees and trails on it. Judy reminded the commissioners that they need to keep activities for older kids in mind. She also wondered if anything had happened with the trail from 4<sup>th</sup> Ave and down to 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Mary replied that the property owner doesn't want a trail on her property at this time.</p>
7.	<b>Adjournment.</b>	M/S/A            JM/EL

Minutes respectfully submitted by Pat Hightower.