



January 21, 2010 Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting

Commission Members Present: Gil Blinn, Kyle Davies, Cy Field, Ann Palmer, and Sandy Playa.

Staff Present: Dona Wuthnow and Kathryn Hansen.

Guests: None

Chair Gilbert Blinn called the meeting to order at 8:38 a.m. in the County Legislative Building Conference Room in Friday Harbor.

Approval of Agenda: Approved, with the addition of discussion on the Orcas Island Park & Recreation District to New Business. Kyle suggested discussing DNR Budget cut/Cattle Point NRCA, time allowing.

Approval of minutes: Minutes of the November 19, 2009 regular meeting were approved with the following corrections (under New Business).

MOTION: Johannes Krieger moved to accept the Special Event policy statements as ~~changed~~proposed; Kyle Davies seconded the motion.

Correspondence: Dona read a letter from Tim Thomsen, Owner/Guide of San Juan Kayak Expeditions (letter also e-mailed in advance of meeting). Dona clarified that there is not a \$7 per person fee for use of a Day Park. Dona advised the Commission that it is the role of the P&RC whether or not they wish to make an exception to the approved policy. Sandy shared previous discussions with another small kayak touring company. There was some concern voiced over misuse of the "emergency" clause. County Code infractions are now a citation, not a misdemeanor. Dona noted that a company can apply for an after-the-fact permit immediately after use, if necessitated. There was discussion. There was consensus to maintain status quo. If any commercial groups are observed using any park, we should be notified.

Officer / Committee Reports: Sandy reported on the LTAC November 19 meeting. The Committee did make a decision to not cut the usual grant funding to Parks, museums, etc. without at least a year's notice. Dona has information on application process and deadline.

Open Forum: None.

Financial Report:

- December Budget Summary. There will be more 2009 expenses reflected in the Month 13 report. There was discussion about ending cash for both Parks and OIRP. Dona reported that OIRP will be very close to breakeven at the end of the year; Parks should be in the black.
- 2010 Budget. The combination of Parks and Fair is being drafted and we are moving forward. Currently trying to determine a method to allocate Administrative staff time across the two divisions.
- 2010 Budget Amendment process. Dona explained the challenges in the adopted budget, related to Fair line items. These will be corrected with the budget amendment. Dona will work with Rev on the process.

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Parks and Recreation Director's Report (e-mailed in advance of meeting):

- Parks & Rec. Plan update.
- Odlin Park Renovation.
- Lopez Skate Park. There was brief discussion about the history of the expired agreement. Ann Palmer is interested in being involved.
- Camping Reservation system (C.A.M.P.). Dona gave a brief summary of the new system. Bugs are still being worked out. We hope to add photos of all campsites, but will wait until winter storm cleanup is complete. Both Cy and Sandy offered to help clean up.

Old Business:

- SJCP Launch Program. Dona met with representatives from the Whale Museum/KELP Program and commercial kayak operators. The vessel launch program is intended to be a partnership with the Whale Museum. It is expected that revenues from the program will offset expenses. Initial plans are to have a mini education program with a PowerPoint presentation in the Park office building. It will be a term of the commercial Special Use Permit that all kayak guides be trained in KELP principles.
- Meet with Fair Board (Decision). Dona reported that Pete Rose has indicated that both the Parks & Recreation Commission and the Fair Board will continue to advise their respective departments. Pete recommends a once annual meeting between both groups. There will naturally be some overlap, especially with camping and event management. There was discussion. Dona will propose that P&RC members attend a Fair Board meeting this spring. Kyle will do some research on the Fair Board.
- Recruiting for Lopez Member. Ann is trying to recruit a new member, but has no solid leads, yet. Cy suggested that Ron Metcalf advertise on the radio. Kyle had some suggestions and Cy will talk with Stephanie.
- Land Bank/Parks joint commission meeting. Kyle had previously talked with Lincoln about a casual meet and greet. Dona suggested that future TPL/Park & Rec. Plan meetings could be coordinated with a joint Commission meeting.

New Business:

- Clarification of September minutes. The newly formed Orcas Island Park & Recreation District met for the first time in January. At that meeting, they determined that their role is to manage park lands. A question arose about an excerpt from the September 17, 2009 Park & Recreation Commission minutes, which reads, "There are four scenarios for Orcas Rec.: both levies fail, both pass, County passes/Orcas Rec fails, and Orcas Rec passes/County fails. Dona recommended OIRP continue until the new group is formed. There was consensus to recommend keeping OIRP funding in both budgets (levy passes and levy fails)." Dona clarified that the intent was to retain the budget line items in the County Parks budget through 2010 (the County Administrator's budget removed all OIRP budget lines from the 2010 budget). This allows for the current Orcas Island Rec Program to continue, as long as they continue to raise the funding needed to support the program. Pete has directed Dona to continue the Rec program through 2010, provided they don't go in the red. Gil suggested we set a meeting with the District Chair.
- ESVG 'way-finding' sign (Decision). Colin Maycock was present to explain the current County Council and EPRC review of sign regulations in Eastsound. There was discussion. It was suggested that a way-finding sign showing commercial advertising might be better located

on Main Street, on the Beemer property (across North Beach Road from the Village Green), or in the planting between the street and the sidewalk at ESGV. The EPRC meets the first Thursday of each month from 3pm-5pm at the Senior Center.

MOTION: Kyle Davies moved to approve the location of a sign or kiosk at Eastsound Village Green with details and content to be worked out later; Sandy Playa seconded the motion.

Gil offered a friendly amendment that the motion approve the concept (not the 'location'); Kyle accepted the amendment.

There was discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

- "Project Grad Night" (Decision). Dona explained a request from a Friday Harbor High School planning committee to use San Juan County Park as one of their sites for a graduation night activity. The group is willing to pay for the campsites for the night, even though they will only be in the park between about 6:00pm and 10:30 or 11:00pm. Such use falls outside of current Park policy and would require an exception by the Commission. Dona recommended that they approve the request for variance.

MOTION: Sandy Playa moved to allow Park use as requested; Kyle Davies seconded the motion.

There was discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

- 2010 P&RC meeting Schedule (Decision). Kathryn passed around the proposed meeting schedule so members could decide when to meet outside of Friday Harbor. Meetings will be held on Orcas in May, at San Juan County Park in June, at Shaw County Park in July, and at Odlin County Park in August. There is no meeting scheduled for December.

MOTION: Ann Palmer moved to approve the 2010 meeting schedule; Kyle Davies seconded the motion.

There was discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

- Department reorganization/staffing. Dona gave an overview of how we plan to implement staffing changes with the combining of Parks and Fair. Rather than move forward with the full-blown development position, the administrative department will be structured as follows: Kathryn Hansen will manage the administration office and programs. Christina Giamalis will provide primary customer service for group camping, commercial outfitters, and our individual campers. Jennifer Allen joins our office to support office staff, process monthly payroll, and take care of special events. Kris Bayas will work on a limited basis on special projects, such as the Brann Cabin preservation. We also hope to utilize Rev Shannon's expertise to promote park events.
- SJCC revision – Chapter 2. Due to lack of time, this topic was deferred to next meeting.
- Program goals and objectives. Due to lack of time, this topic was deferred to next meeting.
- P&RC report to the County Council. Dona reminded members of their duty to report on their 2009 accomplishments and 2010 work plan to the County Council. Initial target is the end of April.

Announcements:

Kyle provided handouts on the TPL Open House in Friday Harbor (summary comments) and maps of the Cattle Point NRCA.

Dona showed off the award from the Eastsound Planning and Review Committee for Design Excellence for the ESG Stage on the Green.

The next P&RC meeting will be held in Friday Harbor on February 18.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn Hansen
Recording Secretary

DATE	LOCATION
✓ Jan. 21	Friday Harbor (Johannes away)
Feb. 18	Friday Harbor (Cy, Gil away)
Mar. 18	Friday Harbor
Apr. 15	Friday Harbor
May 20	Orcas - ESVG / Homegrown
June 17	San Juan County Park - Officer Elections
July 15	Shaw County Park
Aug. 19	Odlin County Park - 2011 Budget? (Kathryn gone)
Sept. 16	Friday Harbor (Ann gone, Kyle may be gone)
Oct. 21	Friday Harbor
Nov. 18	Friday Harbor (longer meeting time)
Dec. 16	no meeting

Legislative Conference Room requested for all dates 11/18/09 w/Maureen See.

