



Clallam County Parks, Fair & Facilities Department

223 E. Fourth St., Suite 7
Port Angeles, WA 98362-3000

CLALLAM COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD Minutes of January 17, 2023, Regular Meeting

Call to Order	President Peter Craig called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.
Members Present	Roger Hoffman Peter Craig Peter Davis Bill Hughes Diane Chung Candace Kathol
Staff Present	Donald Crawford Melissa Earley
Previous Minutes	Bill Hughes moved to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2022, meeting, as written. Peter Davis seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.
Correspondence Received	No correspondence has been received.
Unfinished Business	No unfinished business at this time.
Committee Reports	No committee reports at this time.
New Business	<p><u>New Parks Advisory Board Member Introduction</u> - Diane Chung is the newly appointed Park Advisory Board member. Ms. Chung gave a brief discussion of her background in the forest service and National Park service as a National Park Manager and Assistant Director of Recreation for the Forest Service of Oregon and Washington. The rest of the group introduced themselves to Ms. Chung in turn.</p> <p><u>Park Master Plan Update</u> – Don Crawford gave a brief discussion regarding the need to update the Park Master Plan to meet Department of Natural Resources - Recreation Conservation Office (RCO) requirements. Their requirements indicate Master Plans are required to be no more than 5 years, while the current Parks Master Plan is 10 years. Don was granted an extension to April 1 to update the Master Plan from 10 years to 5, however the RCO want to see meaningful updates to the existing plan. Don is planning to budget for 2025 for the completion of a new Master Plan. In the meantime, Don has forwarded his draft of changes made to current plan to the group for review. Don requested input from the group in the areas of land acquisition and Dungeness Recreational Area. Comments should be directed to Don via email by the first week of February. The changes will be implemented and final draft will be presented at the next meeting prior to submitting the new plan to the Board of Commissioners for public hearing. The final Master Plan will be due to the RCO in May to be considered for grant approval.</p>

Staff Reports

Robin Hill County Park Blow Down Status – Don updated the group regarding damaged sustained at Robin Hill County Park during a significant windstorm in November 2022 during which roughly 300-400 trees were blown down or damaged. Cleanup efforts are being focused on a 50-yard distance on either side of the trails. A local logging company is performing the selective removal. He will market the marketable lumber to cover their cost, however a significant portion of the trees in question are not marketable. Sequim Kiwanis Club will be utilizing much of the non-marketable lumber as firewood for local families. Board President Peter Craig inquired as to the plan to replace the Eagle Scout project signage that was damaged.

Assistance from FEMA has been requested in the amount of \$99,500 to cover the cost of replacement trees, however not the cost of labor associated with replacing the trees. Part of the plan is to reintroduce native trees in some of the bare areas. Additionally, a large portion of the award will be spent on restoration of the trails and any other damage sustained as a result of fallen trees. Don indicated he expects a response as to approval in seven to eight months.

Don went on to explain the \$20,000 no match State of Washington Tourism Grant he applied for, if approved, would be used for trail improvements and signage replacement as necessary. Included would be the Eagle Scout project signage that was damaged in the windstorm.

RCO Grants Status – Don gave an update on various grant applications submitted in recent weeks. The Recreational Facility Planning grant for \$250,000 will fund developmental processes of facility planning. Don applied for this grant with the intention of converting Pillar Point into a campground. A decision of award is expected within a few months.

Additionally, Don is in the process of applying for a Boating Facilities grant in the amount of \$147,000 with a 25% match. If approved, this funding will be used to replace the dock at Lake Pleasant County Park.

Finally, Don applied for the Leave No Child Inside grant in the amount of \$25,000 – no match, intended for the replacement of canoes at Camp David Jr. A decision of award has not yet been made.

Clallam Bay Slip Point Lighthouse Keepers Home – Don indicated he expects to include this project in the 2024 budget. He explained the asbestos and lead abatement efforts will cost approximately \$1,000,000. Efforts are being made to change existing law to allow conveyance of the property from the US Coast Guard to Clallam County prior to abatement. Once the property is transferred, restoration costs are estimated at another \$1,000,000. Once this 10 acres property is transferred, the county will have approximately 70% of the beach front from Slip Point to Clallam Bay West, with the hope of adding 40 to 50 campsites to the area.

**Public Comments
on
Non-Agenda Items**

Ed Bowen made comment that he hoped the Director would discuss further the land acquisition aspect of the Master Plan as it relates to two recent acquisition possibilities. Peter Craig reminded the group that one of the primary goals in the Master Plan is to acquire shoreline properties. Don further addressed Mr. Bowen's comment by indicating the property referred to in comment was under contract for sale before Don had the opportunity to present it to the Board of Commissioners in Executive Session for consideration. Don further expressed he expects to have two more parcels in the Sequim area for potential purchase to bring before the group in March, 2023 for consideration.

Mr. Bowen further indicated he would like to see thought given to the Eagle Point property in the upcoming Master Plan update as he is disappointed in the progress thus far.

Additionally, Mr. Bowen expressed his disappointment in the policy changes made in regard to the Camp David Jr. reservation system.

Finally Mr. Bowen addressed the three acre section of the west shore of the former Lake Alwell, that was previously the State Fish and Wildlife boat launch and has been deeded to the county. He would like to see this long range planning of this area to include a planned recreation component, utilizing \$58,000 provided to the county in exchange for WSDOT easement for five years. Mr. Bowen encouraged the group to consider utilization of those funds for future development of that site.

Don Crawford informed the group of the plan to add a third camp host to Salt Creek Recreation Area and the possibility of adding a camp host to Camp David Jr. to help with 20 hours per week of basic repairs.

Adjournment

Candace Kathol moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:14 p.m. Bill Hughes seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Melissa Earley
Administrative Specialist IV