



# Clallam County Parks, Fair & Facilities Department

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

## **CLALLAM COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD Minutes of July 10, 2023, Special Meeting**

- Call to Order** Vice President Roger Hoffman called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm.
- Members Present** Roger Hoffman Bill Hughes Candace Kathol Pete Davis  
Diane Chung Anna Plager
- Staff Present** Donald Crawford Melissa Earley
- Previous Minutes** Bill Hughes moved to approve the minutes of the May 2, 2023, meeting, as written. Pete Davis seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. Anna Plager requested clarification on various items mentioned in the minutes. Don provided clarification where needed.
- Correspondence Received** Letters of Support Received Regarding Horseback Riding at Dungeness Recreation Area – Letters in support of maintaining horseback riding at Dungeness Recreation Area were received from the Peninsula Chapter of Back Country Horsemen of Washington, US Fish and Wildlife legal team Garden Law Firm, Janis Marlow Ph.D., Cheryl Smith, Lorelli and Steven, and Toni Shearer.
- Unfinished Business** Horseback Riding at Dungeness Recreation Area – Follow up discussion regarding horseback riding at Dungeness Recreation Area. Don provided a background of the issue and requested feedback from the Board. Candace inquired if there was a county process that would guide the board on this issue. Don clarified that the group should discuss, then make a recommendation. If the Board recommendation is to make a change, then Don would then bring the recommendation to the county Administrator to determine if the change could be made administratively or if it needs to be brought to the County Commissioners. While Don agreed the park manager had some valid concerns, he also felt it would be premature to make a decision on the topic. Anna inquired about the Dungeness Master Plan and why the 2018 update was tabled in relation to possible urgency in updating the plan to include possible changes regarding horseback riding. Roger Hoffman suggested leaving the topic until the next meeting to discuss possible interim measures.
- Committee Reports** Parks Master Plan Update – Anna Plager discussed her recent meeting with Candace Kathol and Diane Chung regarding the Parks Master Plan and the procedure to move forward as they understood it. Items they would like to be addressed in the plan update include the implementation of Rainshadow Disc Golf course, a five-year plan update requirement, and the stated costs

of capital improvement plan. Additional items that could be updated include area population and staffing organization chart. Don reminded the group that not all grants require a master plan, but the larger ones do. He is in the process of gathering information regarding the cost of utilizing outside sources to put together a master plan to include in the 2024 or 2025 budget as the department does not currently have the staff time to undertake the project. Roger made motion to accept the committee's recommendation to include the implementation of Rainshadow Disc Golf course, a five-year plan update requirement, and the update the stated costs of capital improvement plan sections in the Master Plan update. Bill Hughes seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

### **Staff Reports**

Forestry Master Plan for Robin Hill Farm County Park – Don reported he recently met with representatives from the Department of Natural Resources Forestry Division and the Washing State Extension Forestry agents. He reported the timber is no better or worse than stands around the peninsula. There are some instances of laminated root rot but they are not anything not found in other stands around the peninsula. He reported DNR has grants available to fund up to 50% of a forestry master plan. Don is contacting local foresters to glean some budgetary numbers to include in the 2024 or 2025 budget year for the purpose of hiring an outside firm to update the forestry master plan. The original plan was dated 1996 with a 2010 update.

### **New Business**

Proposal to Establish Cascadia Marine Trail at Salt Creek Recreation Area – Andrea Hurley, Executive Director of Washington Water Trails Association gave a presentation on her groups mission to protect water trails and access to public spaces and water for human powered watercraft. Washington Water Trails would like to include Salt Creek Recreation Area in their trail system. The proposal requests access to Salt Creek beach as a place to land, take a rest, and spend the night near the vault toilet and parking lot on Camp Hayden Road free of cost to overnight kayakers. Don requested direction from the Board on whether or not he and the park manager should proceed with taking this proposal to the Board of Commissioners. Candace requested the topic be placed on unfinished business for a later meeting.

### **Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items**

- Judy Sarles, Port Angeles – commented in support of horseback riding at Dungeness Recreation Area, and volunteer opportunities.
- Jeff Chapman, Port Townsend – commented in support of horseback riding at Dungeness Recreation Area
- Linda Morin, Sequim – commented in support of horseback riding at Dungeness Recreation Area and the need for improved communication and education regarding the best practices in giving horses the right of way.
- Toni Shearer, Sequim – commented in support of horseback riding at Dungeness Recreation Area and requested a list of issues

brought forward be publicized so the group can present an argument if needed.

- Annie Barrett, Sequim – commented in support of horseback riding at Dungeness Recreation Area.
- Judy Dupree, Sequim – commented in support of horseback riding at Dungeness Recreation Area.
- Vanessa – commented in support of horseback riding at Dungeness Recreation Area.
- Cheryl Smith, Agnew – commented in support of horseback riding at Dungeness Recreation Area.
- Cathy Lucero, Port Angeles – commented in support of horseback riding at Dungeness Recreation Area.
- Ed Bowen, Clallam Bay – commented on potential Lake Aldwell project discussed in a previous meeting, Altair Trail at the southern end of Herrick Road on the westside of the Elwha River, Parks Master Plan, and Slip Point. He also gave kudos to the Fairgrounds for a recent amateur radio event.
- Kayla Kosel, Sequim – commented in support of horseback riding at Dungeness Recreation Area and on general perception among horseback riding community that the ranger at Dungeness Recreation Area has a personal vendetta against horseback riding at the park.

**Adjournment**

Bill Hughes moved to adjourn at 7:32pm. Pete Davis seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Melissa Earley  
Administrative Operations Coordinator