

**THURSTON COUNTY  
PARKS & RECREATION BOARD**  
Nisqually Middle School  
Lacey WA

**MAY 9, 2006**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT** Mark Lovrien, Chair  
Bernie Chaplin  
Jon Halvorson  
Grant Larsen  
Carla Rutz  
Judy Johnson  
Donna Weaver Smith

**STAFF** Michael Welter  
Chuck Groth  
Kerry Hibdon  
Sue Poyner  
Cheri Johnson

The board met at the Regional Athletic Complex prior to the meeting to tour the site with staff and review needed maintenance projects.

**CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order at 6:50 pm

**MINUTES** – The April minutes were approved as written.

**RECREATION REPORT** – Sue encouraged members to attend the Swede Day Fun Run on June 17 to either observe the race or to take part in it. She also reported on the upcoming first annual trail event happening May 6 on the Chehalis Western Trail beginning at the Chehalis Western Trailhead at Chambers Lake. Everyone is encouraged to come and walk or bike the trail. Staff will have stations set up along the route to encourage physical fitness. Both the recreation and maintenance division have worked hard on this event. Many donations have been secured. TCTV will be there to film a portion of the event for an upcoming “County Connection” broadcast on Parks.

Sue distributed a copy of the redesigned Special Services activities brochure. She also reported that the adult coed softball league has over 800 players registered with a total of 43 teams.

**STEPS** – Sue and Michael recently met with Linda Stewart of the Thurston County Health Department to discuss a federal grant through the Health Department that has become available. The purpose of the grant is to help support community collaboration in the promotion of health

and fitness in our parks. Linda gave staff a deadline for applying for the grant. Staff will review the details of the grant before committing to it.

Margaret Huff has been hired as the new Recreation Program Assistant. She will be introduced at a later meeting.

**MAINTENANCE REPORT** – Chuck reported that over 700 people attended Prairie Appreciation Day this year. The day went very well and the rain held off.

Chuck stated that Starbuck's employees have completed 3 work projects to-date. For every hour worked, Starbuck's donates \$10 to the Parks Department.

The annual Hats Off to Volunteers reception that recognizes all County volunteers will be held next week. He encouraged the board to attend.

Chuck reported that in cooperation with the Capital City Little League, the Parks Department was able to jointly purchase spray paint for the fields at a reduced rate. They also gave staff a suggestion for seeding that will save the department money.

Kerry reported plans for the well at Griffin Fields are moving ahead. He is currently working with Puget Sound Energy to decide where it will be placed. Griffin School will be holding their year-end bon fire at the fields. The fire department has been advised and will be on site. Kenneydell Park athletic fields are being used everyday by the youth baseball organization. The baseball field was not reserved at all last year.

Street signs have been added at road intersections on the trails. Also, destination mileage signs have been installed.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES PLAN** – Michael stated that projects in the Capital Facilities Plan have been rolled over to next year due to lack of funds and not having the ability to leverage at this time.

**BRIDGING THE GAP** – Michael reported that construction on the bridge over I-5 is scheduled to begin late summer or fall of this year. The Parks Department is not the lead department, so he could not report as to how long the project will take to complete. The property owned by Mr. Blume has still not been secured. A facilitator has been hired to try to work out the issue.

Kerry noted that a few changes in property size and the removal of the ORV Park were noted on the Capital Facilities Plan.

Jon moved that the board recommend to the Board of County Commissioner that they adopt the plan for 2007-2012. Grant seconded the motion.

As a point of discussion, Michael clarified that at the last meeting staff committed to prepare a list of recommendations for a grant application using the Cooper Point property acquisition as a match. The deadline for applying for an IAC grant was May 1. Staff did not feel it could

adequately prepare for a grant and suggested that they consider this for the next grant cycle. Mark suggested doing the prep work early so there would be plenty of time to do a master plan prior to the next application deadline.

Jon's motion carried unanimously.

Michael asked that the board review the priorities for the CFP for the next meeting.

**REGIONAL ATHLETIC COMPLEX** – The RAC received a Design Excellence award from the Washington Recreation and Park Association at its annual conference in Vancouver. Staff will present this at a Board of Commissioner public meeting.

**PARC** – The committee has requested a list of projects that can be added to their brochure. Michael will get them a list of potential projects.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE** – Mark and Judy volunteered to be on the committee to nominate officers for the coming year. They will report back at the next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.