
BENTON COUNTY NATURAL AREAS & PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

March 10, 2021

GOTO MEETING

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/522615733>

One-touch: tel [+1 \(669\) 224-3412](tel:+16692243412)

Access Code: 522-615-733

**360 SW Avery Ave., Corvallis
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

Committee Members Present: Dan Rosenberg, Amy Becker, Bob Hansen, David Smith, Jackie Hastings, Mary Derr, Travis Obermire, Ellen Tappon, and Suzanne Lazaro.

County Staff Present: Lynne McKee, Natural Areas, Parks & Events Director; Leanna Buck, Recorder; Adam Stebbins, Benton County Natural Resources Coordinator.

I. BUSINESS

A. Approval of February Minutes

Suzanne moved to approve the revised minutes and Bob seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Forest Stewardship Plan Update

Adam thanked everyone for reviewing the materials that he emailed out. He reported that the Board of Commissioners work meeting is scheduled for this upcoming Tuesday, the 16th of March. He will be presenting the final plan and addendum at that meeting. He advised that we are about two months behind schedule due to the wildfires making field work difficult as well as the COVID issues. He feels that we have a good solid plan from Trout Mountain and that we got the full money's worth from the contract with them. These will be the documents that we follow over the next decade. Immediately after we have an adoption of the plan, we are going to focus on the development and release of the Fitton Green Oak Release and wild fire plans as well as the thinning and oak release along the Mulkey Ridge trails. He feels that we have an excellent guidance document going forward. Adam will provide an overview to everyone on the Fitton Green project as it continues to evolve.

C. Outdoor Education & Recreation Update

Adam reported that this program was established about 5 years ago. They have been providing a steady amount of opportunities for K-12 students and their families to learn more about the environment through different activities. He also talked about the park use and car count surveys that have been completed via work done by an intern each year. He shared that there are car counters at each of the Fitton Green park entrances. There will be another car counter at Beazell, North Albany and Adair parks as well. These will be in place until September when school is back in session.

D. 2021-2023 Biennium Budget

Lynne thanked everyone for their input on all of the projects we have been working on. She reported that everything has been submitted and talked about the challenges of the merger and making sure that parks and fairgrounds don't lose any money in the budget. In her meetings there has not been any cuts so far so she will be moving forward with the budget process. It will be submitted in May for the finalization. She will bring back what Capital Improvement projects have been awarded when she knows more but for now everything looks good. She will add everything up and bring the total budget balance back to the board at the next meeting.

E. Natural Areas, Parks & Events Merger Update

Lynne advised that we are moving forward with position recruitments, a Deputy Director has been hired and is coming to us from Washington. He will be attending the next meeting to meet everyone. She shared that there are two maintenance positions open as well as the seasonal hiring. She will need to recruit for groundskeepers for Alesa and North Albany parks as well.

F. Updates from AFRANA

Ellen gave an overview of what AFRANA is by sharing a power point presentation. She shared that they meet once a month and the next meeting is this Friday, March 12th if anyone was interested.

G. Miscellaneous & Park Project Updates

Lynne talked about the \$55,000 dollar update project at Adair Clubhouse. Adam shared about the Storm Damage cleanup at Ft. Hoskins and Beazell. They also cleaned up the Mulkey Creek trail from storm damage as well. He also shared that the native seeding has established really well at Jackson-Frazier with a 90% success rate. He is moving forward on the outdoor education and recreation activities. Lynne will send everyone the plans and color schemes for the new playground that will be going into Bellfountain. Adam shared that the hazard tree removal at Bellfountain has been postponed due to all the arborist companies being held up by storm damage clean up.

III. MEETING ADJOURNMENT ~ 7:22pm

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