



Natural Areas
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BENTON COUNTY NATURAL AREAS & PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

June 13, 2018

Avery Day Room
360 SW Avery Ave., Corvallis
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Phillip Hays, Kent Daniels, Suzanne Lazaro,
Andrew Damitio, Janine Salwasser, Dan Rosenberg.

Committee Members Absent: Ellen Tappon

County Staff Present: Adam Stebbins, Parks Superintendent; and Leanna Steinke, Recorder

I. BUSINESS

A. Approval of May Meeting Minutes

B. Staffing, Next Steps

Adam talked about the staffing changes that have happened and how they impacted the department. He went over a department organization chart and talked about the different positions in that chart, the reorganizing that has happened in the last few years. Adam stated that the board should provide input as the strategic plan is updated (after summer season the department will be starting where strategic plan work left off).

C. Outdoor Ed/Rec Program

Adam talked about the Outdoor Ed/Rec Program that is busy with the different programs that have been happening with the OSU Early Childhood center for the 3rd annual day at Beazell (with over 200 attendees), the Natural Areas Week events such as those at Beazell (Mothers Day Hike) and other parks, 4th annual FOCUS, and the Get Outdoors day. He then went over upcoming events that are in partnership with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, OSU Extension and Corvallis Parks and Rec. He went through some pictures that were taken during some of those activities. He also talked

about the monitoring of parks usage that the intern will do this year. This project is the first traffic count and in-person/online survey the department has led. The parks that were chosen were Beazell, Fitton-Green, North Albany, Adair and Jackson-Frazier. A few of the Parks Board Members volunteered to go out and help with the surveys. Adam will send the survey out to everyone.

D. North Albany Trail

Adam went over the highlights of what is going to happen with North Albany Park and the project that will be completed this year as well as the work that needs to be done leading up to the start and end of the trail project. He hopes to have the project finished in about 5 to 7 days. Adam will be the lead on the project as well.

E. Jackson-Frazier Long Term Restoration Project - Phase 2 Start

Adam reported that the department is starting phase 2 and added that we have been officially awarded the OWEB grant that was applied for. He talked about all the mowing that will take place and all of the prep work and spraying that will happen to start phase 2. He also talked about the time frame that things will happen as well.

F. Parks Tour

The Parks Tour will be July 28th. The bus that was reserved for the tour only seats 22 people so seating to each location will be limited to RSVP only. Adam showed everyone the invite that he created for those that the board would like to invite. There was a discussion on who everyone would like to see at each park to talk about the things that are going on or happening at each location. Adam also talked about finalizing an itinerary as well.

G. Miscellaneous & Park Project Updates

Suzanne shared the information from the last trails meeting that took place as well as who all had attended that meeting. She shared the trails that have been updated on The Right Trail website as well as the trails that were not on there. The group discussed some of the grants that they were interested in applying for as well as the grants that were no longer available. She also talked about the planning strategies that will be done when considering new trails. The group is hoping to do some community outreach to find out what the public would like to see for trails and what areas they would like to do these outreach meetings. Suzanne will send the board the minutes she took from the meeting as well once Ellen and Laurie review them.

Andrew advised the board that this will be his last meeting as he is moving to Northern Washington to start his career beyond college. Thanks so much Andrew for all you have done and we wish you the best in your future endeavors.

III. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Please visit us at: <http://www.co.benton.or.us/parks/>