



Natural Areas
& Parks Department
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BENTON COUNTY NATURAL AREAS & PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

March 14, 2018

**Avery Large Conference Room
360 SW Avery Ave., Corvallis
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**

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

Committee Members Absent: Kent Daniels

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

I. BUSINESS

A. Approval of February Meeting Minutes

Suzanne moved to approve the minutes as amended, Ellen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Parks Tour

A doodle poll will be sent out for all Saturdays from June through September. Adam will take the lead on coordinating the Tour.

C. HCP Effectiveness Monitoring RFP

Adam talked about the monitoring that has to be done every three years under the Habitat Conservation Plan. He then discussed work that has been done in the past for enhancements and the focus on capturing these enhancements. Only two consultants bid on the RFP, Turnstone Environmental and Institute for Applied Ecology. Institute for Applied Ecology was awarded the bid. The price is \$16,900.00.

D. Draft Strategy Timeline

Adam provided two handouts to everyone regarding the Park's strategic plan workshop held in February. Laurie talked about the brainstorming session that the Parks department had as a group and explained the information that was compiled. Adam added information regarding the elements of the draft timeline. Laurie talked about the Intern that will be hired for the Outdoor Ed/Rec program and to conduct surveys in our Parks on usage. With this data, we will be better informed on how to utilize staffing resources.

E. Adair Park Addition

Laurie gave a quick update that she had a meeting with the developer and expressed the Board of Commissioners, as well as the Park Board, thoughts on the proposal of property acquisition. The Department would like the developer to complete the annexation process prior to consideration of a land dedication. The Parks Department will keep communication lines open, but that we are not committing to anything at this point.

F. Trail Maps Meeting Update

Ellen shared that a date, time and location has been picked for the meeting. She also talked about some of the information that she will be trying to put together for the meeting. Laurie will check with Laurel to be sure she will be able to make the meeting. Ellen would like to identify where the data gaps are as well as look at the equity of other areas for people to go.

G. Miscellaneous & Park Project Updates

Laurie reported that the Board of Commissioners has been talking with the Chinook Road District and the challenges of those roads and the agreement between the neighbors and the County. Last year the road district used about \$50,000 of their funds to widen the main road up to the trail head at Fitton Green in hopes that at some point it would be paved. The Board of Commissioners would like the County to remain good neighbors and is supportive of chip sealing the road. If this happens, the road district would absolve the Parks Department of any future maintenance concerns until 2030. Chip seal roads last approximately 15 years.

Laurie also added that there have been conversations regarding MLK Park and the path that was built during the 80's with bonds and grants. A portion of the path belongs to the County. The City Parks department has been maintaining that path for the past several year. Benton County has been meeting with the City of Corvallis to discuss future opportunities to improve the path. Funding will be an issue. There is talk to have the City continue to maintain the maintenance of the path through an MOU with the County.

Laurie reported that Hyak Park Restroom replacement construction has started and everything is going well. Also the Bellfountain Shelter replacement experience a hiccup when we discovered the need to install an ADA walkway from the shelter to the restroom. Laurie requested an additional \$25,000 from the CIP committee to cover the cost. The project is fully funded and will start in late summer.

II. MEETING ADJOURNMENT - 8:39pm

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