



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

MINUTES

September 11, 2019

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

Committee Members Present: Suzanne Lazaro, David Smith,
Jackie Hastings, Janine Salwasser, and Travis Obermire.

Committee Members Absent: Phil Hays, Dan Rosenberg, Ellen Tappon.

County Staff Present: Laurie Starha, Natural Areas & Parks Director; and Leanna Buck,
Recorder.

I. BUSINESS

A. Approval of July Meeting Minutes

Janine suggested that in Section C we add: "Community input will be received at the Bellfountain BBQ.", and at the 4th bullet in the same section add the word "grant" after the word "Challenge.", and in section F change "USDF&W" to "USFWS". In section E after MOU add the phrase, "between NA Friends group and the Parks dept." In Section F after MOU add "between Willamette Neighborhood Housing and Benton County."
Add the action items in a different color for minutes going forward.
Janine moved that the amended minutes be approved after revisions are made. Jackie seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS: Laurie is working with County Council on the "Chair voting clause in the new ByLaws" and will get back with the group once a decision has been made.
Laurie will follow up with the action item on the Purpose Statement.
Janine will make a document with links to add to the website.
Leanna will add Actions Items to the agendas.

B. Update on Bellfountain BBQ & Community Outreach

Laurie asked for input from the members about the BBQ. It was shared that the Health Department and Parks Department worked well together and people were happy to see the interaction and the information that the Health Department brought forward. The Health Department is still working with the Parks Department to finalize the notes taken at the event which will be brought to the next meeting for the Board to review. The Board liked having the kids input on the concepts from the July meeting and would like to try to connect with the schools to get more ideas for the playground.

Laurie shared that the Parks Department will have to do a new assessment of the trees at Bellfountain Park to bring things up to date and determine which trees will need to be removed.

Action Item: Laurie will send David the last tree assessment for Bellfountain.

C. Recap Park Tour

Members shared that the Park Tour was great.

Janine suggested that we should have a naming convention for parks that we don't encourage recreation like Saxton Park and Anderson Park. She proposed that we call them Natural Areas.

Action Items: Laurie will send the Board the Benton County requirements for Park Reservations for their review. Laurie will find out if the City has a designation of Parks that are Natural Areas or Recreational Areas.

D. North Albany Timber Removal Discussion

Laurie reported that the Parks Department did a timber harvest three years ago at this park. Since then approximately 30-40 trees have died or are dying and are problem trees. She advised that they need to be removed for public safety. Removal will be taking place the week of September 16th. The Department will be closing the park and have monitors stationed to prevent the public from wandering into the timber falling area. The Department has been working with neighborhood groups in advance of the work.

E. Miscellaneous & Park Project Updates

Laurie shared that the Department will be implementing a new reservation system that is planned to go live at the end of the month.

Laurie also shared that Fitton Green emergency access route project is currently in progress. It's approximately a \$48,000 project that will rock the current dirt road from Throop Loop to Cardwell Hill Road.

Suzanne asked the group if they would be interested in considering having this meeting earlier. The group all agreed that 6:00pm would work well for everyone. Jackie moved that the start of the meeting be moved to 6:00pm, Janine seconded the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

F. Other

III. MEETING ADJOURNMENT ~ 8:21pm

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