



Yamhill County Parks & Recreation Board Meeting Minutes

Date: March 15, 2021

Time: 5:30pm-7:00pm

Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting

In Attendance: Sam Bremmer, Jim Culbert, Tim Duerfeldt, Steve Harloff, Neyssa Hays, Rachel Juarez Flores, Galen McBee, Andrew Mortenson, Bill Pallotto, Martin Peters, Marie Vicksta

Members Absent: David Hanson

Staff: Ben Much, Parks Division Manager

5:30: Meeting Called to Order

February Board Minutes were approved.

5:45 Staff Updates

Rogers Landing - Contract for boat tie-up dock repair has been awarded.

Ed Grenfell - Will split contract into parts to meet funding availability this year and next.

Deer Creek – Bid for materials to complete the boardwalk has been received. July/August start date.

Dayton Landing - No change.

Parks Master Planning – Carrie Martin declined invite suggested Ken Huffer to be consulted.

County Parks website – Board minutes submitted to IT, bus as of last week the page has not been updated. Jim suggested he and Rachel work with Ben on an overall website review and update to: <https://www.co.yamhill.or.us/parks>

County Parks Facebook Page - Ben now has access. Board discussed ways to provide updates, including the planned summer 2021 activity to replace Tangleboxing for just this year. Rachel volunteered to help with suggestions and Spanish translations. Ben warns that until COVID restrictions are lifted, he worries about sending more people to the parks and making people more aware of the parks. Parks can't currently take reservations under state protocol. Ben to send rough ideas out for the Parks Board of messaging he wants to see and request those with interest to flesh out the messages.

6:10 Continuing Business

Charles Metsker beaver deceiver

Board discussed the proposal received to install a beaver deceiver in the pond. Marie noted that these contraptions are pretty simple and could probably be done in house. This will be investigated further to save on hiring a contractor to install. Neyssa will ask about the rumored beaver friendly Weyerhaeuser contact, who might suggest a source of funding for materials and/or installation.

Summer 2020 Yamhill Co. Park Promotion

Board discussion points follow:

- Steve recommended that Yamhill County Health be contacted to find out if we really should not use tangleboxes, but since the public may not want to handle tangleboxes this summer, we ought to provide an alternative this year.
- Would like to keep the promotion simple, and similar to prior years.
- From an equity standpoint we need to make sure that everyone can complete it and send it in?
- Tim noted we need to get it done ASAP in order to get the word out.
 - May 1st is the historical deadline for passports sent to the printers
 - Program started on June 15th
- Yamhill Co. Fairground has requested that we include them as a location.
- Ideas on changes: At each location, post a temporary sign with a keyword or letters that are entered into the Passports. Signs would be sturdy and weather-resistant, but disposable. Unscramble the keywords or letters to complete a phrase that is sent in on the postcard to qualify for the prize drawing.
- Budget is \$2,000 needed for sign materials, printing passports, and prizes.
- Rachel recommended a subcommittee work out the final details to present to the Board by the April meeting, if not beforehand by email. Bill and Tim also volunteered.

Parks Branding

Board discussion on using new logo on new parks signage and items for sale to promote county parks. park shirts for sale. Board members could wear clothing items to help when we are presenting at park events. Possibly a blanket or something else that doesn't come in sizes (for ease of sales and inventory) could be used. T-shirts aren't very expensive. Use swag, such as beverage containers as prizes for Tangleboxing, etc. Steve volunteered to follow-up with the company that provides materials for Yamhill County.

6:50 New Business

Yamhill Creek Nature Trail - Steve provided information on planned improvements and potential for learning that is being promoted by Phil Higgins from YDA and the City of Yamhill.

Parks Traffic Surveys

This continues a Board discussion from last summer. Andrew described methods to count parks visitors, both permanent and temporary. Local OR manufacturer (Diamond) competitive price wise and have a good reputation. Traffic counters can be embedded in such a way that they won't be vandalized (like the rope kind gets). \$600-\$800 per site, plus the inductor. Public works could probably install it and a permanent post to attach the counter to.

Why do we want this? In order to have data to incorporate into a Master Plan. We need to know how much our Parks are used so as to prioritize park management, maintenance, and improvements.

Rogers Landing and the Dayton boat ramp are logical places to start because of the state funding involved. Andrew noted that imbedded counters don't work well at sites like Dayton where access is not restricted and the roadway is gravel, but that perhaps motion activated cameras could be used instead. Also, the boat rental company at Dayton might be willing to provide data. A Cooperative Agreement with them might be helpful. Ben noted that Rogers Landing has motion activated cameras now and he has one more that could be placed somewhere. We could possibly put up more cameras in other parks for a couple of days, then move them. Andrew offered that he could put in a few hours to flip through the camera photos and see if he could get useful data that way. Andrew will follow up on these ideas.

Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Summer 2021 Parks Promotion – will select Parks to include and assign Board members to them.

Parks Branding Materials – continued discussion.

Yamhelas Westsider Trail update - Commissioners' discussion scheduled for Thurs. Mar 18th.

Parks Traffic Surveys – continued discussion.

7:01 Meeting Adjourned