

**CITY OF BLAINE
PARK AND CEMETERY BOARD MINUTES**

Thursday, February 8, 2018

9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

VACANT - Chair

A. CALL TO ORDER: 9:30 AM

B. ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Garth Baldwin, Joan Clark, Janet Pickard, Zach Shirk

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Planner II Alex Wenger, Planner I Maddie Ottley, Public Works Director Ravyn Whitewolf

C. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

- Chair

MOTION BY BOARD MEMBER CLARK, SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER BALDWIN, TO ELECT BOARD MEMBER PICKARD AS CHAIRPERSON, ACCEPTED, AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY (4-0).

- Vice-Chair

MOTION BY BOARD MEMBER PICKARD TO ELECT BOARD MEMBER CLARK AS VICE-CHAIRPERSON, ACCEPTED, AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY (4-0).

D. CONSENT AGENDA:

MOTION BY BOARD MEMBER PICKARD, SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER BALDWIN, TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY (4-0).

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Marna Vinup - 6541 Everson Goshen Road – Spoke to the Commission regarding ceremonies at Veterans Memorial Park. Ms. Vinup also inquired about signage directing people to the park.

Dan Lagerwey – 446 W Wisner Lake Road - Representative of Custer VFW - Spoke to the Commission regarding maintenance of the monument.

The Commission held a discussion regarding ceremonies and maintenance of Veteran’s Memorial Park.

F. NEW BUSINESS:

Bell at Veterans Memorial Park

Ms. Vinup spoke to the Commission regarding an upcoming ceremony in which the organizers would like to use a bell. The bell and support structure are mobile and would be transported to the park for ceremonies, and stored off-site.

The Commission discussed the proposal and voiced their support.

Outdoor Fitness Course

Board Member Shirk highlighted the possibility of outdoor fitness being donated to the City, and possibility of installation with Marine Park shoreline restoration project.

The Board held a discussion about outdoor fitness equipment, funding, and potential placement.

Public Works Director Ravyn Whitewolf arrived at 9:52 a.m.

Mr. Wenger spoke about integration into the Park and Recreation Plan update, and potential funding for next year.

G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Lincoln Park Frisbee Disc Golf Course

Mr. Wenger stated that staff is currently working with Whatcom County Disc Golf Club regarding installation of a new disc golf course in Lincoln Park. Mr. Wenger noted the club has been clearing invasive species from the park and volunteered many hours planning the course.

Board Member Clark inquired about how to encourage more public participation, specifically high schoolers.

Mr. Wenger stated that the disc golf club is planning a tournament, and has been in communication with local organizations, and Canadian clubs.

Parks Projects, Budgeting, and Staff in 2018

Mr. Wenger noted that staff is currently working on several projects including creation of interpretive signs, cemetery niche wall by Public Works Department, parks signage, and parklet improvements, improvements to Lincoln Park, Marine Park, and trail construction in Semiahmoo.

Mr. Wenger also added staff is working on purchasing of a new vehicle for parks maintenance, and hiring of a permanent part time parks maintenance staff person.

Staff and the Board held a discussion regarding park's maintenance.

F. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

Mr. Wenger informed the Board of other items the City is working on, including increase in park's impact fee, improvements to the Skate Park, and 7th Street Garden.

Mr. Wenger also noted Nature's Path is coordinating work parties to clean up Cain Creek.

The Board and staff held a discussion regarding planned parks and trails upgrades.

Mr. Wenger then spoke about the Park and Recreation Plan update.

Board Member Baldwin brought up the idea of changing the meeting time for the Board in order to encourage more public participation.

The Board and staff held a discussion.

MOTION BY BALDWIN, SECONDED BY CLARK, TO MOVE THE PARK AND CEMETERY BOARD MEETING TIME TO 4:00PM ON THE SECOND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH, APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY (4-0).

ADJOURNMENT: 10:23 AM

Park and Cemetery Board minutes of February, 2018 will be approved at the March, 2018 Park and Cemetery Board meeting.