

Minutes of the
City of Gig Harbor
Friends of the Parks Commission
August 9, 2006
5:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: Ken Malich called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
Roll was taken.

PRESENT: Commissioners Peter Hampl, Ken Malich, Michael Perrow and Nick Tarabochia were present. Jacquie Goodwill was absent. City Staff included David Brereton and Terri Reed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The Commission members reviewed the minutes of the July 5, 2006 meeting.

MOTION: Move to approve the July 5, 2006 meeting minutes as presented.
Hampl / Perrow - unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Dog Parks

Peter Hampl said that the dog park group that met at the library on July 19, 2006 is talking about a place over by the airport for a dog park. Peter mentioned that he doesn't think that Wilkinson Park is really set up to be used appropriately as the City's off-leash dog park.

Parks Appreciation Day – April 21, 2007

Dave Brereton spoke about working together with PenMet Parks next year to hold a Parks Appreciation Day (PAD) in Gig Harbor. The Commissioners are interested in each one individually being at a different park on that day so that they would be available to interact with the citizens and groups volunteering to work at that park. Peter Hampl recently met with PenMet about PAD and they said that they would keep us involved in the plans for 2007. Peter would like to get a banner to promote the event. Michael Perrow asked if City Park staff could make recommendations as to the work that will need to be done. Dave said that he would coordinate the maintenance activities.

Nick Tarabochia asked about accessing the 2006 Parks budget. Peter Hampl will send the link to Nick.

Ken Malich mentioned that the Recreation link on the City's website goes to PenMet's site. He would like to have a Parks section be available instead. Dave Brereton and Terri Reed will look into how Parks can be incorporated.

Michael Perrow talked about getting some sponsors for the cleanup in each park. Peter Hampl will continue his communication with PenMet regarding sponsors and coordination. Dave Brereton will take care of getting the banner displayed before the event.

NEW BUSINESS:

Terry Hunt presentation regarding Starbuck's interest in sponsoring Westside Park

Terry Hunt wasn't able to make it to the meeting so Peter Hampl went over the discussion he recently had with her. Terry would like the Starbucks at Key Bank to become the sponsor for Westside Park. In March, Terry can apply for a grant through Starbucks with a non-profit private organization. They can also coordinate a program called "Make Your Mark". This is where a minimum of three Starbucks volunteers work on the park, and for the number of hours that they work, \$10/per hour is given to the park, up to \$1,000 per session. There can be several sessions per year.

MOTION: Move that the Starbucks store at Key Bank become the sponsor of Westside Park and recommend that they submit an application for a grant for the park.
Hampl / Tarabochia

AMENDED MOTION: Amended to add that Terry Hunt will make a presentation to the Commission at the September meeting and that the sponsorship be limited for more control.
Tarabochia / Perrow - unanimously approved as amended.

Friends of the Parks Commission Name

The Commission has a desire to change their name officially to Parks Commission. Dave Brereton explained that this would take an amendment to the original ordinance.

MOTION: Move that the City Council be petitioned to have the name changed from Friends of the Parks Commission to City of Gig Harbor Parks Commission and amend the original ordinance.
Tarabochia / Hampl – unanimously approved.

Park Names

Peter Hampl asked how the City goes about naming the parks. Peter would like to make a suggestion to the Eddon Boat Ad Hoc Committee to name the new park being referred to as Eddon Boat Park, to City of Gig Harbor Maritime Heritage Park instead. He feels that there is more to the park than the Eddon Boatworks portion.

Nick Tarabochia mentioned that maybe all the park names should be reviewed and input from others considered. Dave Brereton explained that there currently isn't a City policy on naming parks. Michael Perrow asked about the City's procedure for naming streets and said that maybe they should review that for ideas to apply to the parks. Dave will provide a copy of the street naming ordinance.

The Commission will start a review discussion of the park names and submit a recommendation to the Mayor and City Council. This item will be discussed at the October meeting.

Arts Commission

Ken Malich said that when he recently received the Arts Commission agenda, it brought to his attention that art in the parks should also involve the Friends of the Parks Commission. Dave Brereton explained that the Arts Commission makes recommendations to the Council but in the future that suggestions for public art in City parks will go through the Parks group so that they can review them and make comments.

Park Update - Cushman Trail Phase II

Ken Malich asked about the status of this project. Dave Brereton explained that the proposal is going through with Pierce County. Pierce County is still working on the feasibility study and identifying abutting property owners. The alignment shown on the handout is a conceptual alignment that was walked with a GPS unit. The trail has not yet been designed and in the future there will be public meetings and more discussion with the Commission, Council and the community.

Peter Hampf expressed his concern with how the trail could go through or around Wilkinson Park and alongside the barn. Peter Hampf asked about the status of the Wilkinson Barn inventory. Dave Brereton will forward the latest update on the Historic Structures Report to the Commission.


EXECUTIVE SESSION:

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Wednesday, September 6, 2006 at 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURN:

MOTION: Move to adjourn at 6:35 p.m.
Hampf / Perrow – unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,


Terri Reed