

**South Whidbey Parks & Recreation District  
September 21, 2016 – Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**I. Call to Order**

Commissioners Present: Mark Helpenstell, Bob Hezel, Dennis Hunter and Matt Simms  
Staff Present: Doug Coutts, Tom Fallon, Carrie Monforte and Peggy Nelson

Mark called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. The attendance sheet is attached for permanent records only.

**II. Public Comment**

Public comment was recorded under Agenda Item D – Horse Droppings Complaint.

**III. Approval of Minutes**

*The minutes of the Regular Meeting on August 17, 2016, were unanimously approved in a motion made by Matt and seconded by Dennis.*

**IV. Treasurer’s Report/Voucher List Approval**

Matt reviewed the Treasurer’s Report with the commissioners.

The ending fund balances, per Island County, were as follows:

- The Maintenance and Operations Fund was \$277,020.45.
- The Capital Fund was \$500.65.
- The Reserve Fund was \$200,498.19.
- The Bond Fund was \$158,315.37.
- The Property Fund was \$41,610.49.

**Voucher Approval**

*In a motion made by Matt and seconded by Dennis, the Board unanimously approved the Maintenance and Operations Fund Vouchers #7729 through #7780 in the amount of \$59,753.57, Property Fund Voucher #11 in the amount of \$12,969.54 and electronic tax payments in the amount of \$2,926.14.*

**V. Staff Report (to be included in permanent records)**

Doug discussed the Staff Report with the commissioners.

**VI. Unfinished Business**

**A. Comprehensive Plan Programs**

Mark updated the commissioners on the design plan that was developed by the amphitheater committee. Mark said the committee was considering a box stage that was partially covered with a fanned area in front. Doug said he submitted a letter to Island County requesting a zoning change to accommodate the amphitheater.

Doug reviewed the Comprehensive Plan with the commissioners and asked them to prioritize the items in the chart from most important to least important and submit the

ranked chart to him in the next week or two. Matt said he wants feedback from stakeholders about the Comprehensive Plan and that the Plan needs to be approved by the Board by December's Board meeting. Tom said he wanted to add the following items to the list: parking for the playground, field #3 and the amphitheater, elevator and Crow's Nest improvements, replacing the rotting poles and roof of the picnic shelter and playground restroom and drain field improvements.

### **B. Campground Process – Update**

Doug said he received the grant application rankings from RCO and the District ranked 34<sup>th</sup> overall for the campground development grant and 4<sup>th</sup> for the property acquisition grant. Doug said that dependent upon State funding of the grants, the District will more than likely receive grant funds of \$207,000 for the property acquisition but will probably not receive the development funds. Matt said the District needs to create a campground development plan to get through phase one using the property acquisition grant funds.

### **C. Resolution 2016-05 - Refunding 2008 Bonds**

Doug said the refinancing of the 2008 bonds was in process and a signed resolution by the Board was needed to complete the bond refinance. *Matt made a motion to approve Resolution 2016-05 – Refunding 2008 Bonds and Dennis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.*

### **D. Horse Droppings – Complaint – Discussion**

Doug said he received two complaints about horse droppings on the trails at Community Park which were discussed at the August Board meeting. Doug said Island County encourages horse riders to pick up after their horses but they do not require it and Washington State Parks does not allow horses but if they did, the law states that horse owners have to pick up after the horses everywhere but on the trails. Doug said the District has only restricted horses from riding on the sports fields and he is looking for direction from the Board on this issue because he does not want to police horse riders and would rather be directed to allow or not allow horses on District property.

Jerry Lloyd, a Greenbank resident, said the EPA does not consider horse droppings to be a problem and the American Trails Organization said there is no recorded human disease attributable to horses. Jerry said the real discussion should be who is riding the horses because if the riders are young adults, the District should give it thought before pushing them off the trails because youth are so vulnerable these days.

Connie Lloyd, also a Greenbank resident, said she does not know of anybody who rides down here at Community Park so the riders are probably young girls.

Mark said he thought the options for the District regarding horse droppings were: 1) make no changes to the policy or ban horses; 2) horse diapers, or 3) require horse owners to clean up after their pets; or 4) have staff clean up after the horses. Mark said the complainant should not have jumped the chain of command by complaining to the Board first but should have tried to resolve the issue with staff first. Mark said we live in a rural community and the horses are probably not trailered in to the Park but instead the horse riders live close to

the Park. Mark said he wants to give current system a chance and if he was a regular walker on the trails and the horse droppings bothered him, he might clean up the droppings himself.

Matt said the District should not change what is currently being done about horse droppings because he has not seen any horse droppings on the trails lately. Mark said the issue can be resolved by trail users notifying the office if someone notices horse droppings on the trails.

## **VII. New Business**

### **A. Playground Surfacing – Purchase Approval**

Doug said the playground was in need of new wood chips and the cost to purchase these chips was \$5,895.89 so Board approval was needed to purchase the chips since the cost was over \$5,000. *Matt made a motion to approve the purchase of wood chips for the playground and Dennis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.*

### **B. 2017 Budget**

Doug said he was submitting a preliminary budget for 2017 to the commissioners for their review but he was still working on the budget. Doug said the commissioners could give him comments on the budget prior to the budget workshop which is before the October Board meeting.

## **VIII. Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.