

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

Thursday, March 8, 2018

4:00 PM to 5:30 PM

VACANT – Janet Pickard

A. CALL TO ORDER: 4:20 PM

B. ROLL CALL:

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

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Planner II Alex Wenger, Community Development Director Michael Jones,
Public Works Director Ravyn Whitewolf

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Jason Friend-1526 Peace Portal Drive: Mr. Friend commented on the disc golf course. He expected more public outreach before the construction occurred. He presented photos that he took of the disc golf course in Cornwall Park. He noted damage to trees and the lack of vegetation on the ground. He showed a golf disc example. He asked that a monitoring plan be put in place. Ms. Pickard asked if he had suggestions about how to conduct monitoring and how to prevent damage. Mr. Friend responded that he did not. Mr. Baldwin asked about a course he saw in Ferndale on the old golf course. Ms. Clark recapped the outreach and planning that occurred prior to the approval of the course.

Laura Friend-1526 Peace Portal Drive: Noted that she has a geocache in the park and reported on comments that are included in the cache. She noted that discs will go off the course and will cause trampling in the underbrush. She commented on her experience with changes to Cornwall Park due to the changes brought by the disc golf traffic. She suggested a photo monitoring plan and standards. She mentioned that the course could be removed if the city decided that it was not wanted. Mr. Baldwin asked if she knew of rules or sign-in for Cornwall Park. Ms. Friend responded there are no rules.

D. NEW BUSINESS:

Cemetery Tool Shed

Mr. Baldwin would like to see the tool shed retained because it is historical in nature. He has heard comments from the public about a preference to retain and repair. Ms. Whitewolf

discussed the nature of the damage and the current state of the building. The building is not used for equipment storage. She mentioned the subsidy of the cemetery. She mentioned the need for fund raising if the building were to be saved. There was discussion by the Board. Mr. Shirk asked if there were safety concerns. Ms. Whitewolf stated that she didn't expect there was a risk unless there was a major earthquake.

Ms. Clark moved that the City do everything it can to save the tool shed and support a fund raising effort for its preservation and repair. Mr. Baldwin seconded. Unanimous approval.

Semiahmoo Spit Trail Phase 1

Mr. Wenger provided a brief update regarding the status of our research on the easement. We have been consulting with the City Attorney who is developing a memo for our review. There were a few questions about locations and length of trail.

Tim Johnson, 9499 Semiahmoo Parkway: Mr. Johnson noted he is the President of the Beachwalker Board. He reported on some interaction with the Semiahmoo Resort Association and the City. He reported on the condo board's understanding of the property lines and easements. He explained that he has heard of plans to build a structure in the easement location to make the trail linkage. He noted that other projects were required to grant a further upland easement. He requested that the Board direct the City to coordinate with the Beachwalker Villas directly rather than as a community conversation.

Mr. Baldwin noted that his experience tells him that there has been significant erosion and changes to the beach. Mr. Baldwin agreed it was not a community issue when discussing the property, but the Board does address things from a community perspective.

Ms. Clark asked of Mr. Johnson, about the original plan that there was to be beach access around the entire spit. He replied.

Ms. Pickard asked if the intent was to negotiate a new easement. Mr. Johnson said, no. He clarified the perspective of the Beachwalker owners, and the logistical challenge of granting an easement. Mr. Baldwin noted that he thought it would be cost prohibitive.

Cain Creek Park Update

Mr. Wenger provided an update on his work with Nature's Path regarding a work party. Scheduled for April 28. He also reported on some site clearing to prep the site for clean-up. There were some general questions and discussion. Mr. Shirk offered his help.

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Lincoln Park Frisbee Disc Golf Course

Mr. Wenger reported that some dead and dying trees are being removed. Whatcom Disc Golf Club continues to provide many volunteer hours.

Mr. Baldwin asked for a report on restrictions that may have been placed on the park when donated. He also suggested a set of rules and a sign in procedure, or possible limited hours of operations. Ms. Clark was concerned about the damage she saw in the photos presented by the Friends. Mr. Baldwin noted that the golf club volunteers are doing a lot of work tearing out

English ivy. Mr. Wenger stated that a photo monitoring plan will be implement and that staff will develop an adaptive management program. Mr. Wenger presented an email from Shelly Button.

Park Plan Public Involvement Plan

Mr. Wenger provided a draft public involvement plan for the Park Plan and reported on the proposed process.

F. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

Mr. Wenger reported on a boy scout who is seeking to develop an outdoor fitness circuit as an eagle scout project in Lincoln Park

Motion to approve minutes, Mr. Shirk, Second Ms. Clark, Unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT: 5:28 PM

Park and Cemetery Board minutes of March 8, 2018 will be approved at the April 2018 Park and Cemetery Board meeting.