



CITY OF RIDGEFIELD, WASHINGTON

Parks Board MEETING MINUTES

March 9, 2022

Regular Meeting - 6:30 PM

GENERAL SESSION CALL TO ORDER - 6:30 PM

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Rian Davis	Board Member	Present	
Sandy Schill	Board Member	Present	
Bruce Carpenter	Board Member	Present	
Jake Bredstrand	Board Member	Present	
Sarah Scott	Board Member	Present	
Whitney Randall	Board Member	Present	
Beth Bicknell	Board Member	Present	

LATE CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT - [6:32 PM](#)

None.

CONSENT AGENDA - [6:33 PM](#)

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jake Bredstrand, Board Member
SECONDER:	Rian Davis, Board Member
AYES:	Davis, Schill, Carpenter, Bredstrand, Scott, Randall, Bicknell

1. Approval of Minutes from Wednesday, 2/9/22 Meeting

MEMBER REPORT - [6:34 PM](#)

1. Pickleball Presentation, Board Member Bruce Carpenter

Board Member Carpenter shared a presentation about pickleball after an introduction about available amenities at Ridgefield parks. None of the parks currently have pickleball courts. He explained what Pickleball is, how to access information about where to play, and the space requirements for courts. He shared that people plan their trips around available courts to play at, so it could be an additional tourism opportunity. Board Member Davis asked if there is information on if the YMCA may include pickleball

courts as part of their planned design. Interim Public Works Director Brenda Howell stated that it was unknown at this time, but that we could research it.

OLD BUSINESS - [6:57 PM](#)

1. Nature Play Area Updates, Interim Public Works Director Brenda Howell

Interim Public Works Director Brenda Howell shared that the next volunteer day is coming up for the Nature Play area at Abrams Park. She asked for suggestions on what the Board would like to see accomplished. There is interest in the slide tubes getting painted but discussion held that it will not likely be ready to happen during this event. Volunteers are encouraged to bring basic hand tools. Board Member Randall asked if additional social media posts are planned, which was confirmed. Board Chair Bicknell asked if there was interest in birch wood that was offered and Howell stated she would confirm.

2. Skate Park Discussion, Interim Public Works Director Brenda Howell

Discussion occurred on the Skate Park since it may need to be relocated in the future. Board Member Davis shared that feedback was for the skate park to stay downtown since the site is important for access. The application needs to be flexible as the current skating features need to stay in use and can generate some sound. Davis Park and Abrams were both suggestions in the past. There is great interest by the kids in upgrading the amenities of the skate park. Cost could be a potential barrier, so there has been discussion in looking at grants to fund it. The kids who would play at the Skate Park would like to be included in the art and design process. Board Chair Bicknell recommended to keep potential locations in mind during the parks tour.

NEW BUSINESS - [7:17 PM](#)

1. Master Planning for Refuge Park Concepts, Interim Public Works Director Brenda Howell

Sr. Landscape Architect Andrea Kuns with DOWL presented three concepts for board feedback for Refuge Park. All three concepts feature walking trails, playgrounds, picnic shelters, natural areas, and open space/lawns based on community feedback. Additionally, there was interest in sport courts, fitness stations, and community gardens which were included in some of the concepts. Concept A "Active Edges" intends to preserve the existing pedestrian paths with emphasis on adding a playground and parking lot which could be included in phase 1. Concept B "Active Core" features activities toward the center of the park that would require some grading and phase 1 could include the parking lot, small trail connections to Hillhurst, as well as a playground. Concept C "Exploration" features a large play area, 3 picnic zones, and expansion of the dog park to include a second entry with phase 1 possibly focusing on the playground and trails. These concepts will be posted for community input and will be shared with City Council for additional feedback. They will plan to present a refined master concept to City Council in April with the intent of final adoption. Design work is targeted for later this spring.

Board provided feedback that was most favorable towards the amenities of the "Active Core" design. "Active Edges" was the second preferred design. Additional suggestions included a buffer to neighbors to dampen sound, contemplate adding a community garden, and adjusting parking.

2. Master Planning for Horns Corner Park Concepts, Interim Public Works Director Brenda Howell

Sr. Landscape Architect Robert Phipps of PBS Vancouver presented two initial concepts for Horns Corner Park. They will develop a final concept after feedback with intent to receive Council approval in a similar timeline to Refuge Park. There was feedback solicited via the Ridgefield Roundtable ahead of time with 414 responses. They took those responses along with feedback from Staff in creating their concepts. Inclusive playgrounds were a primary request, a desire for a dog park, covered areas, accessibility, a splash pad, a pickleball court, trees/native shrubs, or a cultural heritage piece. Concept 1 features an inclusive play area, adult fitness area, and recreational paths along with a board walk over the wetlands. This option would add ten parking stalls to the north side

of the park along Settler Drive. Concept 2 would not add additional parking, but instead features a larger inclusive play area with themes on seasons, an integrative picnic shelter, an extended boardwalk over the wetlands, and a multi-sport court. Option 2 would maintain a couple central trees that are currently present at the site.

Feedback from the Board included support of inclusive play elements with preference towards combining aspects from both designs. There are concerns over the wetlands being taken over by the boardwalk, and the cost of future maintenance. Suggestions included longer walking paths, fitness equipment around the walking paths, and moving the gazebo in closer.

3. Park Design Aesthetic, Chair Beth Bicknell

The Board discussed what they would like to see in park design aesthetics. Board Member Davis recommended a standard that future parks need to be accessible to everyone, and that alternative path medium should be investigated outside of bark and gravel. Chair Bicknell suggested that they should assemble a checklist for future parks. Board Member Schill suggested that trails connect the parks in some fashion and that they don't need a matching theme. Board Member Randall recommended that the parks be connected while having their own identity.

PUBLIC COMMENT - [8:28 PM](#)

None.

STAFF REPORTS - [8:29 PM](#)

Public Works Update

Interim Public Works Director Brenda Howell shared that a Parks Manager will be joining the City. They will be tackling parks and trails into a cohesive system to serve the whole community. An RFP will be put out for the planning and design of Boyse Park. The Hillhurst Trail and the Mayor's Meadow to Reiman Road Trails are currently under development. Ridgefield received the Federal Lands Access Program grant for Gee Creek Trail to continue it from Heron Drive to Main Avenue and construction will take about four years.

FROM THE BOARD - [8:31 PM](#)

Board Member Updates

Board Member Schill asked if there were updates for the play net. Interim Public Works Director Howell confirmed that staff has researched, but that we need an option that's made and intended for public use. She stated that we will continue to research, and it may be a small project or something that staff installs.

Board Chair Bicknell shared that she presented the Parks Board Work Plan to Council. The Port will also get back to the Board about the non-motorized boat launch.

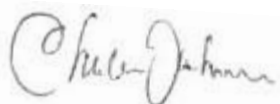
Council Update

None.

Requests from the Board for Upcoming Meetings

None.

ADJOURN - [8:34 PM](#)



Chalea Johnston, PW Administrative Assistant

Beth Bicknell, Chair