

MINUTES—Regular Meeting
CHUCKANUT COMMUNITY FOREST PARK DISTRICT
Wednesday, August 24, 2016
Fairhaven Branch, Bellingham Public Library
1117 12th St, Bellingham, WA
Fireplace Room 6:00 to 8:00 PM
Mailing Address: PO Box 4283, Bellingham, WA 98227

Our Mission: The mission of the Chuckanut Community Forest Park District is to ensure the entirety of the property is protected in perpetuity in public ownership, with respect for its ecological, recreational, and educational functions and to serve as a fiscal mechanism through which the district, via a tax levy, will repay the City of Bellingham for the Greenways Endowment Fund loan.

Call to order: At 6:01 PM President Vince Biciunas called the meeting to order.

Roll Call: John Hymas, John Brown (Clerk), Vince Biciunas (President), John McLaughlin (arrived 6:07), Susan Kaun (excused).

Motion: J. Brown moved to approve today's meeting agenda, J. Hymas seconded. Vote was 3-0 to approve.

Introductions: Those acknowledged included Bill Hasenjaeger, City Parks and Rec Advisory Board liaison, Michael Chiavario, and legal counsel, Bob Carmichael.

Public Comment: M. Chiavario reported that Todd Elsworth (NW Recreation) asked him to hold off eradicating the park's invasive blackberries for now, as Elsworth wants to use it as mitigation. Chiavario's concern is that, absent a master plan for the park, nothing is being done and the blackberries are getting out of hand. Regarding L. Bryson's suggestion for signage, Chiavario spoke with Jerry Wilbur, who has knowledge of the park's history. Wilbur will connect with Bryson then respond to Chiavario. Elsworth is working on his mitigation plan.

Motion: J. Brown moved to approve the July 27, 2016, CCFPD meeting minutes. J. Hymas seconded. Vote was 3-0 to approve.

Report: J. Hymas, liaison to Park Advisory Board, reported on the Aug. 10, 2016 meeting. He stated the meeting had little to do with CCFPD this month. B. Hasenjaeger added that after the meeting T. Elsworth gave a tour of the proposed boardwalk site. Elsworth's plan for the connecting boardwalk is on track. J. McLaughlin concurred that boardwalks are a viable solution to the recreation/conservation conflict.

Report: J. McLaughlin discussed his proposal to utilize the CCFP for his upper and graduate level WWU students. McLaughlin hopes that by developing conservation designs, students will gain knowledge and experience in creating conservation solutions. McLaughlin will present his students with a problem: how

to accommodate recreational and educational uses of CCFP land without compromising conservation.

Motion: J. Brown moved to approve selected student projects, to be presented at the CCFPD November 16, 2016 board meeting. J. Hymas seconded. Discussion: M. Chiavario suggested the board invite L. Bryson to this presentation, in advance of the master plan development. Vote was 4-0 to approve.

Report: B. Carmichael reported on the status of City's review of Baseline Report. He has heard nothing from A. Marriner, city attorney, and L. Bryson's office.

Monthly expenses and cash flow sheets. J. Brown addressed the excess cash balance and possible one-time payment to the city. V. Biciunas asked for Legal's opinion. Carmichael gave a rough thumbnail of possible upcoming expenses with the *Ferlin et. al.* appeal process, and suggested CCFPD inquire how much interest it's paying on the balance due. Biciunas will make inquiries. Biciunas suggested adding the following items to the Sept meeting agenda: look at the 2016 budget; amend it for 2017 (approval is due in Nov) and; address the issue of making an additional one-time payment to the city.

Treasurer's Report: As of July 31, 2016, Whatcom Co. Treasurer's Monthly Report, beginning unencumbered cash balance \$177,799.57, ending unencumbered cash balance \$175,650.26.

Petty Cash: Heritage Bank account balance as of 07/31/2016: \$2,982.33.

Report: B. Carmichael had nothing new to report on the *Ferlin et. al* appeal.

Next meeting: **Wed.** Sept. 28, 2016, Fairhaven Library, **Fireplace Rm.**, 6:00 PM.

Motion: J. Brown moved to approve wages for Diane Birsner, 19.0 hours in July, 2016, total gross of \$475.00. J. Hymas seconded. Vote was 4-0 to approve.

Consent Agenda: J. Brown moved to approve the consent agenda payment items. J. Hymas seconded. Vote was 4-0 to approve.

Payment on the July 15, 2016 invoice from Carmichael Clark PS for \$255.00 for legal counsel services, and the invoice for \$5,638.70, for legal defense.

Payment on the Aug. 18, 2016 invoice from Highwaters Media for \$250.00.

Motion: The board agreed not to adjourn to Executive Session at this time.

Old or New Business. None.

Adjourn. Time: 6:39 PM.