

AGENDA-DRAFT  
 CHUCKANUT COMMUNITY FOREST PARK DISTRICT  
 Regular Meeting  
 Thursday, May 28, 2015  
 Held at: Fairhaven Branch, Bellingham Public Library  
 1117 12<sup>th</sup> St, Bellingham, WA  
 In the Fireplace Room  
 7:00 to 9:00 PM  
 Our Mailing Address: PO Box 4283, Bellingham, WA 98227

Official email addresses for Commissioners, where public may send comments (subject to public disclosure):

John Hymas	<a href="mailto:hymas@fidalgo.net">hymas@fidalgo.net</a>	Sue Kaun	<a href="mailto:skaun.ccfpd@gmail.com">skaun.ccfpd@gmail.com</a>
Vince Biciunas	<a href="mailto:vbici.ccfpd@gmail.com">vbici.ccfpd@gmail.com</a>	John Brown	<a href="mailto:jbrown.ccfpd@gmail.com">jbrown.ccfpd@gmail.com</a>
Cathy McKenzie	<a href="mailto:cmckenz.ccfpd@gmail.com">cmckenz.ccfpd@gmail.com</a>		

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, President John Hymas. Welcome Commissioners and Citizens. Per Chapter 42.30 RCW (Open Public Meetings Act), CCFPD board meetings are open to public. This meeting is being voice recorded.

**Roll Call:** John Brown (Clerk), Vince Biciunas, John Hymas (President), Cathy McKenzie, Susan Kaun

**Motion:** to approve the Agenda for today's meeting. Discussion. Vote.

**Introductions:** Those wishing to be acknowledged as present, including our legal counsel.

**Public Comment:** Please limit remarks to 3 minutes.

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of our April 23, 2015 Regular Meeting. Discussion. Vote.

**Report:** A. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Report, from Parks and Rec Board member, Bill Hasenjaeger, and from CCFPD liaison. Last monthly meeting of Parks and Rec Board canceled.

B. Issue of bicycle ramp building and trail destruction, hole digging, etc, as documented in Michael Chivario's photographs. James King witnessed the damage with Vince Biciunas, Marvin Harris, Bill Hasenjaeger, and John Brown last Thursday, March 12. James King's suggestions and Michael Chivario's suggestions (if present).

**Motion:** Vince Biciunas proposes to ask City Parks to enforce a cease and desist on any alteration and misuse of the trail system in the Forest until a master plan is in place. We could ask for signage, cameras, patrols. Also, we could add an agenda item with follow up on the Ski to Sea Race. We might agree to send a second letter to Director King, depending on his decision.

**Motion:** Discussion. Vote.

C. From Ann Eissinger to Susan Kaun, May 11, 2015. "After reviewing existing maps, walking most of the trails and trying to compare what's on the ground to what is currently mapped, I have concluded that the maps are lacking significant detail. The number and density of foot paths within the CCF is substantially more than what is documented and appears to be growing rapidly. I even found a pick and rake and newly disturbed ground while visiting the site. To update the existing trails map would be a major undertaking to do accurately, and would require walking each trail and path with a high resolution GPS unit, and doing so during good weather, then mapping and proofing the results. This is well beyond my contract, so I am trying to determine the best solution.

At this point I would like to suggest that we use the best available mapped information and state that it does not reflect all of the foot paths and side trails within the property boundaries. Since a permanent trail system has yet to be defined, and will require considerable time and effort to design in order to avoid impacts to wetlands and sensitive areas, further trail mapping is best left for the Master Planning process. At that time a complete trails and foot paths map could be developed and used as a tool to define what is improved and how, and what is decommissioned and restored. If this approach is acceptable please let me know. If there are other suggestions please send them my way. Also, let me know if you have any questions. I look forward to hearing back from you and the Board." Discussion.

D. From Ann Eissinger (May 13, to Susan Kaun): "One suggestion I would make to the CCFPD Commissioners is to create a citizen stewardship group to simply walk through the CCF on a regular basis. This could be members of your board, neighbors, user groups, and others like Bill Hasenjaeger, who are willing to be a presence in the CCF and report any "issues." This would need to be coordinated with Bellingham Parks and have some defined structure and someone to report to, but could prove invaluable in averting any major damage or abuse of the forest lands. I am particularly concerned about the side trail expansion, off trail encampments, in-trail digging and disturbance, and in the dry season – fire! With a few dedicated citizens much of this activity could be stopped or at least dealt with. I am making this suggestion given the fact that there are issues that we know about and the Master Plan and associated active management of the site will take some time to define, complete and activate." Discussion.

**Report:** Baseline study status. Susan Kaun. Mineral rights, explored by Eissinger and Carmichael.

**Report:** Status of Naylor property gift. John Hymas.

**Report:** On status of hiring secretary/assistant to the Clerk. John Brown. No action taken. Discussion of posting on the website words regarding Robyn Dupre's passing. Motion? Discussion. Vote?

**Report:** Financial Report for 2014, now submitted. Vince Biciunas/John Brown.

**Discussion:** Public information on status of legal defense in *Ferlin et. al.* Report by counsel.

**Treasurer's Report:** As of May 4, 2015, Treasurer's Report, beginning unencumbered cash balance is \$133,788.03, ending unencumbered cash balance is \$287,179.44, including \$36,326.00 received from Ferlins et al for legal Anti-Slapp penalty and fees--to be held pending their appeal.

**Petty Cash:** Balance as of 5/28/2015, is \$2,846.14. No checks written in last month.

**Next regular meeting:** Thursday June 25, 2015, at Fairhaven Library, Fireplace Room, 7:00 PM.

**Consent Agenda:** Motion to approve Legal Service Invoice #72851 from Carmichael Clark PS in amount of \$381.00, for regular legal counsel services, and Invoice #72852 for \$2,915.50, for matters relating to Ferlin et.al. legal case. Discussion. Vote.

**Motion:** To adjourn to Executive Session to discuss with legal counsel *Ferlin et. al.* legal defense. Discussion. Vote. Executive Session will last\_\_ minutes. We expect to re-adjourn at \_\_ P.M.

**Return from Executive Session and report. Time:** \_\_\_\_ . Action?

**Old or New Business.** 1) An update from John H. for the record re: status of his re-election campaign . Challengers to his CCFPD Commissioner position? Costs to CCFPD associated with this election?  
2) Was James King officially asked to attend this meeting? If he's in attendance, I request we ask him for an update/COB Parks perspectives re: Ski-to-Sea permit approval process, ongoing CCF trail damage/mis-use, and ways we can work together if this race course issue arises again next year.

Upcoming items:

- 1) I request excused absence for June 25 CCFPD meeting; my family will be hiking in Grand Canyon.
- 2) I would like to invite a representative from Whatcom and/or Skagit Land Trust for our July meeting to present some examples of what might be needed from either non-profit group in order to assume the CCFPD Conservation Easement when the CCFPD dissolves. It would be nice if the Commissioners can begin a pertinent fact-finding process so we can start thinking about/planning whatever we need to do to facilitate that eventuality.

**Adjourn.** Time.