

RECORD OF PROCEEDING OF
CHUCKANUT COMMUNITY FOREST PARK DISTRICT
MEETING MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Thursday, May 23, 2013

Fairhaven Branch, Bellingham Public Library
1117 12th St, Bellingham, WA
In the Northwest Room
7:00 to 9:00 PM

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

John Hymas hymas@fidalgo.net
Vince Biciunas vbici.ccfpd@gmail.com
Cathy McKenzie cmckenz.ccfpd@gmail.com
Sue Kaun skaun.ccfpd@gmail.com
John Brown jbrown.ccfpd@gmail.com

Called To Order The meeting was called to order by President John Hymas at 7 pm.

Commissioners and Citizens were welcomed and thanked for attending, and informed that per Chapter 42.30 RCW (Open Public Meetings Act), all CCFPD board meetings are open to the public.

Roll Call:

John Brown
Vince Biciunas
Cathy McKenzie
Susan Kaun
John Hymas

All Present

Public Comments Heard (3 minutes)

Delaine Clizbe thanks us for receiving public comments at the start of the meeting, and for moving the meeting to this room. The meeting room at Fairhaven Park is difficult to hear in (bad acoustics) and asks that we make accommodation for the hearing impaired if we meet there again. On agenda topics possibly going to executive session, asks us to not go into executive session. On the purpose of the park district, she claims commissioners campaigned on only paying off the endowment loan, the park district being a funding vehicle only. She is concerned

about questions to Jon Sitkin about what information we did not have to provide in a public records request, and she encourages us to conduct all our business in as open a manner as possible.

Bill Geyer notes that there is a community room available for meetings at Whidbey Island Bank. He handed each commissioner a letter, requesting that the Metropolitan Park District comply with the Growth Management Act and the Bellingham Comprehensive Plan. He requested that commissioners detail the specific work program, tasks, budget, schedule, and process including definitions, goals and objectives, and 'definition of the funding mechanism to achieve this District Plan." He asks for a response to this request.

Gerry Wilbour thanks us for the deliberative process and wishes us luck and success in reaching an interlocal agreement with the city.

Brooks Anderson expresses her gratitude for our service to our community, and to affirm that the new park will be an asset to our community.

Joe Yaver notified us of and gave the clerk a copy of the Notice of Decision granting a variance from the Critical Areas Ordinance to develop a single-family residence and garage at 1448 Iris Lane, abutting the Chuckanut Community Forest.

Public Comments Concluded.

Motion was made to approve the agenda for today's meeting. John Brown moved and Sue Kaun seconded to approve the agenda. Discussion included Vince's notes that there are two sets of minutes to approve, May 9 and April 25, and a request to add the approval of her expense reimbursement.

John Brown asked if it's appropriate to solicit public commentary on ideas for the interlocal agreement and procedures at the end of tonight's meeting.

Vince Biciunas said that we need to have a discussion with our legal counsel first, and that we should schedule a public hearing for our next meeting, so that everyone is given the same legal notice. Sue Kaun said everyone needs adequate, advertised notice, and we need to see our attorney come on board first, and then solicit public discussion. John Brown dropped his suggestion for agenda change.

Voted to approve tonight's agenda, unanimously.

Motion made to approve minutes from our May 9, 2013 special meeting. Sue Kaun moved to accept. John Brown seconded. Cathy Mckenzie made the correction that the motion to designate John Brown to be our liaison with Bob Carmichael was not unanimous, but rather, approved 4 to 1. Corrected minutes approved unanimously.

Motion to approve minutes from April 25th made by Sue Kaun and seconded by John Brown. Sue Kaun had four changes. Minutes approved with changes, unanimously.

Clerk's Report:

We have received a donation of \$100.00 from Mr. Stephen Carmean, towards our Chuckanut Community Forest Park District Fund. It has been deposited to our account. A Thank You note has been prepared and is ready to be signed by all five commissioners, to be sent to Mr. Carmean. This was accomplished.

Motion was made by Vince Biciunas to review the Legal Services Contract and accept as our Legal Counsel, Robert Carmichael of Zender Thurston, P.S. Sue Kaun seconded. Discussion. John Brown mentioned the termination clause was clarified. Motion passed unanimously.

John Hymas has signed the official contract, as our President.

Motion made by Sue Kaun and seconded by Vince Biciunas, to approve the Draft Budget for 2013 and 2014, with amendments. Sue Kaun suggested we add an expense line item for the loan we plan to repay the City. Vince Biciunas also noted that we have received a bill from Whatcom County detailing the February 12, 2013 election costs at \$53,336.75. Discussion noted that this budget will likely need revision or amendment by our legal counsel and Treasurer in the future. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Vince Biciunas and seconded by Cathy McKenzie to discuss the interlocal agreement with the City of Bellingham preliminarily with our legal counsel. Discussion. Sue Kaun added that we should designate a commissioner or two to discuss how to move forward with our attorney. Bob Carmichael agreed it would be helpful to have one or two people to be his main contact. John Brown asked about holding a public hearing. Vince Biciunas suggested we hold a public hearing at the start of our June 27th Regular Meeting. Sue Kaun recommended we limit oral comment to three minutes and accept written comments prior to the meeting, as well as during. Cathy McKenzie suggested a steering committee member who could talk about the intent of the ballot measure. Bob Carmichael said that we need to agree what the public hearing is about. No Action needs to be taken on this item to discuss with our legal counsel.

Motion made by Cathy McKenzie to hold a public hearing to discuss our mission statement and the interlocal agreement at our regular meeting on June 27th at 7 pm at the Fairhaven Branch of the Bellingham Public Library. Vince Biciunas seconded. We will limit the scope of the public hearing to
#1 the mission of the board
#2 the terms of the interlocal agreement with the city of Bellingham.
Motion passes unanimously.

Further discussion concerned the written comments. They will be accepted to our PO Box and electronically, and also during the meeting. The cut-off for written comment submissions could be decided later, depending on the volume of interest and the turn out at the public hearing. We will write the mission statement after the public hearing is closed, possibly at the June meeting, or later. Bob Carmichael reminded us that we have requirements from state law that will also help guide us.

Motion was made by John Brown and seconded by Vince Biciunas to designate John Brown and Cathy McKenzie as our liaisons with our legal counsel. Discussion. Motion passes unanimously.

Other Business:

John Hymas asked Bob Carmichael about the lack of a parks master plan affecting the interlocal agreement. The Commission could be helpful in terms of community outreach on the master plan.

Motion made by Cathy McKenzie and seconded by Sue Kaun that written comment will be accepted prior to and at the public meeting, either electronically or to our PO Box. Discussion. Passed unanimously.

Motion: Sue Kaun moved and John Brown seconded, to approve payment of the expenses presented by Vince Biciunas, \$135.82, covering the May 9 meeting room reservation and other small clerical expenses. Approved unanimously.

No further business.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 PM.