

Pend Oreille County Parks & Recreation
Advisory Board *Workshop*

Cusick Community Center
Cusick, Washington

January 7, 2012
Saturday, 10:00 AM.

Minutes

Attending Members:

Mark Bender
Sam Nicholas
Charlie Smith
Dave Gruver
Jeanetta Taylor

Others:

Pandi Gruver
Sam Castro
Carrie McKinley
John Hankey
Stu Nieman

Action Items Discussed

- Yokum Lake Recreation Plan Development
- Section 16 Park Recreation Plan

Members mentioned some land owners have encroached on park property. A request was made for the county to survey boundaries

- RCO Grants with Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

Based on 10.689 Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program one such grant opportunity is called, "The Community Forest Program." This program is used for creating, expanding, and/or enhancing parks and other public spaces. Public access to the community forests is required and intended to enhance public health and well-being.

- S. Castro discussed his meeting with DFWL regarding the adjoining land at Section 16
- Securing Future Designated Park Sites. Evaluate the County Land Map Book to determine if other properties have recreational potential. Start with signage.

- Develop Public Access Policies and Solicit Volunteer Groups to groom Access Points.
Boy scouts, Girl scouts, and 4H were suggested. Once points have been identified, we can put together a recreational/colorful brochure identifying the locations.
- Designate a Bird Viewing Sanctuary—Build a platform for viewing wildlife.
Bird viewing is a great tourist attraction.
- Set up a Milfoil Control Wash Facility Designation
Diamond Lake Association-Lead
- Designate a grant pursuing/writing group
- Little Spokane River Water Shed Interpretive sign has been installed at Pend Oreille County Park, and is illuminated by the newly installed yard light by the restrooms.
- Sullivan Lake Camp Ground Concessioner
- Gardner Caves
- Pend Oreille County Park: Back Country Horseman
Presented their requests for approval to burn the piles, grade some roads, clear a few trees, make a loop road, and flatten a section of the horse area for parking. They would also like a phosphate-free faucet and water. Volunteers are available to perform most of the work and they have most of the equipment and materials needed. The group was given a \$500 limit to spend out of the park fund. Any additional will need to be presented to the Parks Board as a formal proposal request. S. Castro will be meeting with a few of the Back Country Horseman members to review the proposed site of clearing at the Pend Oreille County Park in approximately two weeks.

- New tables and park benches at the Pend Oreille County Park were requested.
Solicit groups such as the Boy scouts or High school students to perform the labor
See if Riley Creek would like to donate lumber.
- Work on Partnerships with the EDC, DFWL, Little Spokane Watershed Conservation group, etc.
- Look into Title 11 grant opportunities
- Establish Priority Lists—An Excel Spreadsheet has been created to utilize for this purpose and was provided to the Park Board Members. It is available to others upon request.
- Additional information since workshop: D. Gruver informed, on Saturday January 14th about 10 NWBCHW members and M. Bender from the parks board burned a lot of the pile in the parking area of the Pend Oreille County Park. He said it is going to take more work when things thaw out. Lots of frozen piles of dirt with brush in them.

Next Regular Meeting

Wednesday, February 15, 2012

Cusick Community Center, 2:00 p.m.

**Pend Oreille County Parks & Recreation
Advisory Board Meeting**

Cusick Community Center
Cusick, Washington

March 21, 2012
Wednesday 2:00 p.m.

Minutes

Attending Members:

Mark Bender
Charlie Smith
Dave Gruver
Jeanetta Taylor

Others:

John Hankey
Sam Castro
Carrie McKinley

C. McKinley read the January minutes. J. Taylor motioned to approve the minutes. Motioned was seconded and all approved.

Treasurer's Report:

J. Taylor gave the Treasurer's report with an ending fund balance of \$304,615.87 as of February 29, 2012. An itemized list of expenditures will be provided to Jeanetta before future meetings.

Discussion:

J. Hankey expressed an interest in changing the meeting time and location from time to time in order to accommodate more schedules. One suggestion was to have the meeting begin at a later time. Another was to rotate between locations: Newport, Cusick, and Ione.

Pend Oreille County Park:

S. Castro noted a new park caretaker is needed by May 1st. The park board should draft a proposal and make a determination very soon as to the arrangements for the new caretaker. The park home will be assessed for any updates needed.

New Picnic tables: C. Smith has been working on bids for the lumber. He provided quotes from Ziegler Lumber and Lowes. He will be getting quotes from Idaho Forest group, Vaagan Bros., and Stimson Lumber as well.

C. McKinley informed the group about Paul Hillestad's willingness to organize a small group of Eagle Scouts to build the tables.

D. Gruver and the NW Back Country Horseman will likely put together a proposal for horse pullouts and a communal campground with a fire pit.

Section 16:

S. Castro met with D. Ramsey, County Engineer, to discuss vacating the road by Rustlers Gulch, "Fresco Trail Rd." Fresco Trail was in the county ledger as a right-of-way. S. Castro will make a request to the Board of Commissioners to remove it from the ledger. Doing so would allow us to put up barricades. S. Castro also proposed putting together a proposal to put a resolution in place prohibiting wood cutting in the park.

S. Gibson and S. Castro met to discuss areas in Section 16 that still require assessment. If it is the right thing for the forest and our parks, then we should at least consider further timber harvests. We have to ask ourselves how it is going to preserve and protect our park.

Public Access Policy:

A public access policy needs to be implemented according to S. Castro. We have several access points but unfortunately many are currently being used as private driveways. Diamond Lake is one example. Public access is vital to our community as it is the only way for some to get to the recreational sites.

S. Harris of PORTA (Pend Oreille River Tourism Alliance) has already been working on signage for the water trails along the river. Therefore public access along the river is in the works. We can draw on her resources for signage at Diamond Lake and other areas.

Preservation of County Land for Parks:

D. Gruver made a MOTION to have S. Castro write a proposal designating the piece of county land adjacent to Edgewood Campground as a future parks and recreation site and have him present it to the County Board of Commissioners for approval. C. Smith seconded. All were in favor, motion PASSED.

Sweet Creek Rest Area:

The rest area is located on Hwy 31 just past Selkirk school on the left in Ione. It is in a beautiful area and has a trail that goes up to a waterfall. It is approximately 40 acres and is the main corridor between us and Canada. Just across the Hwy is an Eagles Nest viewing area. Sweet creek is on both sides of the Hwy and has lots of potential. The rest area is currently being maintained by the road department. If the parks department would like to assume responsibility of clean up then it may be something to consider adding. J. Hankey noted, area high school students are in need of community service projects to fulfill their "senior project" graduation requirements and therefore helping to maintain this rest area could be an option for them. Maintenance is fairly minimal and includes emptying garbages (which have a chain on the lid to prevent large item disposing) picking up litter, and vault toilet clean up.

Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition:

S. Castro asked the group if they would like to become members of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition. The cost of membership is \$100 per year. The City of Newport is a member and they received a \$100,000 grant to build a 3,500 square-foot spray park. The Town of Cusick through its membership was able to receive \$189,802 in grant funds to build the Cusick Community Park. These are examples of the benefits and types of grant available to organizations. C. Smith made a MOTION to join the coalition and M. Bender seconded. All approved, motion PASSED.

Adjourned:

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm

Next Meeting

Wednesday, April 18th at 2:00 pm

Cusick Community Center

**Pend Oreille County Parks & Recreation
Advisory Board Meeting**

Cusick Community Center
Cusick, Washington

May 16, 2012
Wednesday 2:00 p.m.

Minutes

Attending Members:

Sam Nicholas
Mark Bender
Charlie Smith
Dave Gruver
Jeanetta Taylor
Ken Timmreck
John Stark

Others:

Steve Gibson
John Hankey
Sam Castro
Carrie McKinley
Tim Ibbetson

The first order of business was to elect Sam Nicholas as Chairman of the Park Board. Nicholas read the minutes from the previous meeting and noted one correction. The name Edgewood should read Edgewater. Minutes were then approved.

Jeanetta Taylor read the Treasurer's report for the previous month. Expenditures in April were \$1,368.53 with an ending Park fund balance of \$302,410.22 as of April 30, 2012.

Yocum Lake:

Sam Castro informed the group about the possibility of the Board of County Commissioners prohibiting by resolution overnight camping at Yocum Lake after a recent tragedy there. A hearing would be established first and members of the Park Board would be welcome to attend and share their opinions. Castro noted it is not only about the recent activity but also about sanitation since there are no facilities on site such as a vault toilet. The park has yet to be established as a designated campground.

Ken Timmreck suggests looking into grants to develop the park and use park funds as the required match. One item could be a vault toilet. Dave Gruver wants to make the park more accessible, user friendly, and less primitive.

Pend Oreille County Park:

S. Castro reported the tenant is out and the home does need some updating such as paint, carpet, and a stove. The County is in the process of recruiting a new Park Host/Tenant. County road crews have been at the park with water trucks. The Boy scouts will be there May 18th – 21st to clean up campsites. The park will be ready to open Memorial Day weekend.

Charlie Smith offered to volunteer at the Park and fill in as the Park host until the vacancy is filled.

Section 16 Park:

The vision and plan for Section 16 and Pend Oreille County Park is to establish a pathway between the two parks and create a route within the right of way for ATV's and horses.

S. Castro suggests having a timber harvest plan. Steve Gibson, Forester for Pend Oreille County, attended meeting, offered advice and addressed questions from the members.

When asked what needs to be done first at the park, S. Gibson said he needs to know what is out there, how old, and what kind of shape is it in?

Mark Bender would like to see a Stewardship plan sustainable long term. Sam Nicholas asked if Steve could give us a proposal. Sam Castro will see if he can contract out the work and then have Steve submit a proposal.

S. Gibson spoke about knowing what was on the County Parks except for Section 16. He suggests gathering information on Section 16 in order to have a base level understanding then create a stewardship and harvest plan.

Next Regular Meeting:

New Location: Pend Oreille County Park
Wednesday, June 20, 2012 at 2:00 P.M.

Pend Oreille County Parks & Recreation
Advisory Board Meeting

Pend Oreille County Park
Newport, Washington

June 20, 2012
Wednesday 2:00 p.m.

Minutes

Attending Members:

Sam Nicholas
Mark Bender
Charlie Smith
Dave Gruver
Jeanetta Taylor
Ken Timmreck

Others:

Steve Gibson
John Hankey
Sam Castro
Carrie McKinley
Tim Ibbetson
Karen Skoog

Minutes from the May meeting were reviewed. Charlie Smith made a motion to approve the minutes and Dave Gruver seconded. Motion passed.

Jeanetta Taylor read the Treasurer's report. Expenditures for May were \$1,573.13. The beginning Park fund balance was \$302,410.22 with an ending balance of \$300,837.09.

Pend Oreille County Park:

Jeanetta Taylor asked if her grandson, Eric Taylor could add bat houses to the park as part of a project he is working on. All members were in favor and approved the request.

A new Park Host has been selected with the help of Jeanetta Taylor as one of the interviewers. The Park Board gave their approval to proceed with hiring.

New Park Use Permits/Receipts have been ordered. The new receipts will have a date and camp site # section. This will help clarify who is camping where and when. Also, the pay station drop box has been repaired and therefore should not have issues with any payments getting caught near the top and not dropping all the way down.

The group toured the vacant Park Host house to assess repairs and updates needed prior to the new host moving in. Flooring needs done and interior walls painted.

Dave Gruver spoke about The Back Country Horseman's request to add a water system, group camp sites, and a turnaround.

Gruver made a motion to allow up to \$5,000 for the new RV parking, water for horses, and camp sites project. Ken and Charlie seconded and all were in favor. Motion passed. Sam Nicholas will put together a proposal for the Board of County Commissioners.

Members then followed D. Gruver to a section of the park where the proposed new water system and campsites would go. Dave mentioned the roads would need to be wider to accommodate RV's and horse trailers. He is also proposing 5 or 6 new camp sites with a communal ring.

According to Steve Gibson, prior to the project beginning, a SEPA review would need processed since some trees need removed. He says step 1 is to have a plan on paper then go through the permit process. In the plan talk about how many linear feet of road and if you are crossing any streams. Also noted, since these will be dry camps the Forest service considers them "primitive". Mark Bender suggests using Steve Gibson as the Contractor to get the permit.

Sam Castro spoke about a Timber proposal for the POC Park in order to remove hazardous trees, and other serious issues with managing a forest. Steve Gibson said some trees have root disease and others are damaged from snow storms, etc. Steve would like for someone to draw a proposed area on the map and show which areas need cleaned up for Forest Health and/or Public Safety around campsites. Once this is done then the State can come out and look at the totality of the project together with the proposed project from The Back Country Horseman.

Steve advised the Park Board to create a "work order" identifying the dangerous trees and health issues in the campground area and on access roads.

Ken Timmreck informed the group about a grant program sponsored by the National Fire Fund to reduce ground fuel and help with fire suppression. The program was available in the past and therefore we should look for it in the future. A mulching tool was used to clean up piles of brush and dead trees on the ground. What was left was soft mulched wood which provides a safe walking and playing surface. According to Ken, there is a 10% match required and this can be in the form of in-kind hours from volunteer labor. Carol Mack from the Pend Oreille County Extension office should have information on this program as well.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, July 17th at 2:00 p.m. at the Pend Oreille River on Sam Nicholas' boat.
Location details will be sent prior to the meeting date.

Park Board meeting August 2012

Chairman Sam Nicholas called the meeting to order at 2:00pm.

Park board members present: Jeanetta Taylor, treasurer, Charles Smith, Ken Timmreck, Dave Gruver, Mark Bender and Chairman Sam Nicholas.

Pend Oreille County support staff: Sam Castro, Mike Lithgow and Terri Ann Hedtke.

Guests: Diane Wear, Tim Ibbetson and Karen Skoog.

June minutes approved.

Treasurers Report: Jeanetta reported from the Monthly Financial Statement a beginning balance of \$299,860.85 and reasonable expenses totaling \$5,487.81. Ken Timmreck motioned to accept the Treasurers report and Dave Gruver seconded. Motion carried. Terri Ann mentioned that the Park has receipted some monies for camping and that the Park house repairs have been completed.

Sam Nicholas surrendered the floor to Sam Castro. Sam explained that as of August 1st, Public Lands, which includes the Park, will be under the umbrella of Community Development, Mike Lithgow director. Sam also provided a brief summary of Park Board Accomplishments for the past 2 years. See attached. Sam Nicholas and the Board thanked Sam for his involvement.

Dave Gruver addressed the issue of the Back Country Horseman and the agreement for them to haul away debris.

Mike Lithgow introduced himself and provided an overview of the Public Lands.

Terri Ann Hedtke was also introduced.

Diane Wear, County Commissioner from District 2, spoke to the change of direction. Sam Nicholas asked Ms. Wear how secure are the Parks funds? Ms. Wear assured Sam that there is no intention to take the Parks funds. Dave Gruver, speaking on behalf of the Parks Board, wants to see the funds used appropriately. Mike agreed that haphazard spending is not acceptable, but rather use the funds as leverage; partnering with matching money for grants, grant opportunities are a wise use. Mike also mentioned an update to the existing parks plan. Dave Gruver questioned the need to upgrade as the plan has not changed. Sam Castro mentioned having a process in place for projects should be a goal; that support is forthcoming when the public sees the good of what's been done. Commissioner Wear agreed, Parks are easy to sell to the public, and that ranking forms are available from the EDC. Sam Nicholas would like

to explore the ¼ of 1% real estate excise tax (REET) monies to garner some sustainable income for the Park.

Commissioner Wear recently attended the ground breaking ceremony for the Kalispel tribe's new visitor center—the interpretive trail portion of the project will no longer be funded. Ms. Wear provided a visual conception of all the interpretive center could provide. The Tribe is looking for support to fund the trail element of the center, ultimately \$7000 is needed. The Park Board members had questions relating to paddler accessibility, a gift shop and the current source of revenue for construction (tribal monies and a grant). It was noted that the facility would be a cultural center and ultimately house a café thus providing jobs. Sam Nicholas noted that the center would not be taxed. Ken Timmreck addressed salaries. Sam Castro spoke to partnering and Mike Lithgow mentioned the security opportunities, which are “priceless.” The Board consensus was that this would be a hard sell to north Pend Oreille county residents. The question was asked how the Tribe partners with the County and Sam Castro mentioned SURF board/Tribal projects as well as Tribal support of the CASA program which the County can no longer afford. Sam Castro recently attended the Pow Wow and mentioned the strong message on partnerships.

Terri Ann Hedtke read initial observations and suggestions from Mike Peterson, the new Pend Oreille County Park host. See attached. Mike Lithgow has already spoken with Sharon Sorby at the Weed Board, and the County will apply next year for the cost share of chemicals for weed spraying at the Park. Sam Nicholas would like Mike Peterson to make a requisition and gather some bids for items addressed on his suggestion form, specifically; furnace, insulation, gate placement and/or fencing and the acquisition of a container unit for secure storage. Mike Lithgow shared information on acquiring a dumpster for the Park, Charlie Smith motioned to secure a dumpster and Ken Timmreck seconded, motion carried. [21 August 2012 as Excess Disposal would not allow the dumpster to be stored on site thru the off season months, free gratis, dumpster will be acquired in Spring 2013]

Charlie Smith noted that the cable installation people have opened a trail between the Park and Section 16, would the PUD allow use of the trail for a bridle trail to connect the 2 Parks?

Back Country Horseman would like to run a water line to the west end of the park, Dave Gruver, Sam Castro and County design engineer George Luft will work together on this request.

Ken Timmreck discussed a proposed bridge over Sand Creek, could Path & Trail monies from the Road Dept be used for this project? A meeting was scheduled. [21 August 2012 meeting with Sam Castro, Don Ramsey, County Engineer, George Luft, Mike Lithgow, Sam and Linda Nicholas, Ken Timmreck; the Path and Trails monies would not be an appropriate source of

funding as it is limited in scope to non-motorized transportation, the parties agreed to explore alternate funding]

Charlie Smith inquired about the status of the Forestry Plan for the Park and Section 16 that Steve Gibson, County Forester, is developing. Sam Nicholas spoke to the last meeting with Mr. Gibson.

The "Rustlers Gulch" property is open for disabled hunters. Hunting with ATV's and a partner is allowed, contact Julie Anderson with WDFW.

The "Box Canyon" property would be a good candidate for the DNR's grant program for fuel reduction mitigation, should the program become available in the future.

The meeting formally adjourned at 3:41pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Park Board will be 19th September 2012, 2:00pm at the Cusick Community Center.

Park Board Meeting September 2012

Chairman Sam Nicholas called the meeting to order at 2:00pm.

Park Board members present: Ken Timmreck, John Stark, Mark Bender, Jeanetta Taylor, Charles Smith and Dave Gruver, a late arrival.

Pend Oreille County support staff: Sam Castro and Mike Lithgow.

Guests: John Hankey, County Commissioner and Bob Spencer, Mayor of Cusick representing PORTA.

August minutes were approved pending a scrivener's error correction of the dollar amount needed for the trail from \$7000 to \$70,000.

Treasurers Report: Jeanetta reported an ending balance of \$292,199.35. Jeanetta would like to schedule a time to come in and meet with Terri Ann, the Parks Accountant. Mike reported on some recent expenditures. Jeanetta mentioned a park in Montana and how it operates. Donations were discussed. Treasurers report was accepted.

Bob Spencer was introduced as the president of PORTA, the Pend Oreille River Tourism Alliance. PORTA would like to see if there is anything they can do to help the Park. Terri Ann is a PORTA board member and suggested that a PORTA member attend the Park board meetings and hopefully a Park board member would, in turn, attend PORTA meetings.

Sam Nicholas asked Mike if, in the future, Park board minutes could be e-mailed to the members, as well as a reminder the Monday prior to Park board meetings.

Park host, Mike Peterson, had been asked to gather bids for storage building options and upgrades for the park house furnace. Only American Eagle responded to a request for bids and so they provided several options. Please see attached. Discussion included; the need for insulation, that the host does have a wood stove and replacement of the Park house with a used manufactured home rather than renovations. A motion was made by Charlie to go forward with the fan coil option; Mark Bender suggested the motion be amended to stipulate a target cost, after some discussion that cost was set, not to exceed \$7000. Motion passed. Insulation was discussed. Mark Bender thought it best to authorize Mike Lithgow to have the building insulated, motion was made and seconded, motion carried. Charlie asked about the windows in the Park house and wondered if the PUD had any programs available, Mike Lithgow will look into that option.

The storage building options were reviewed; renting vs building, size, what will be housed; Sam Castro spoke favorably to the shipping container option. Motion was made to authorize Mike Lithgow to research and purchase a storage container not to exceed \$3000.00, motion was seconded and carried.

Mike Lithgow asked Sam Castro to speak to danger trees at the Park. The Public Works will remove a danger tree that has been identified. Debris removable was discussed. Scheduling is challenging during hunting season when many road crew personal take vacation.

Benches and tables were discussed next. The Park needs new benches and tables. Bob Spencer suggested KCTC as another option for table construction. Mike Lithgow felt this was a good issue to work on through the winter months to be ready for opening in the Spring.

Bridle trails along the PUD right of way, approval? Does the County have a right of way along Forest Service Rd, can it be utilized? Sam Castro mentioned the possibility of Paths and Trails monies. Charlie mentioned this would mean only one crossing to get to section 16; a viable option. Charlie wanted to make a motion to gate Frisco Trail Rd. to discourage motorized vehicles, dumping and shooting. Sam Nicholas suggested signage. Sam Castro suggested a resolution to post signage that would prohibit motorized, street licensed vehicles; "recreational vehicles only, no wood cutting." Mike Lithgow will prepare a resolution.

Sam Castro talked about a call he received re: ADA compliant campsites and bathrooms. Sam, as Title 6 coordinator, needs to address these concerns to retain federal funding for the County. Grant potential was discussed. A partnership with the Tribe, to facilitate Kaltran was discussed.

Budgetary discussion. Mike Lithgow spoke to an increase. Sam Nicholas would like to have something to study, with dollar figures. Some Park member's feel that County staff, as appointed to oversee the Park, should be paid by the County, it would be different if the Park had an annual income. Bob Spencer spoke to grant projects, and that administrative costs are considered. Charlie provided some historical information re: section 16. Sam Nicholas spoke to the ¼ of 1% REET initiative to place before the voters. The Park board would need to demonstrate to the voters that they are good stewards of the monies entrusted to them. Bob Spencer spoke to the advantages of partnering with the County. Sam Castro then addressed the Board. His message was protect your investment, create a permanent sustainable funding source, work with the forester to apply timber harvest plan to the Park.

Sam Nicholas asked about the possible pairing with County Lands and the projected income from the County lands harvest program. Proposal to the BOCC for a percentage. Sam Nicholas spoke to the importance of communication to establish trust. Sam Castro suggested a resolution to be placed before the BOCC. Sam Castro doesn't feel 5% adequately covers the time commitment involved. Sam Nicholas would like to "see" a proposal. Could a projection be prepared for next month's meeting?

Bob Spencer highlighted some events that PORTA sponsors, 501-C-3 status can be very beneficial, he offered PORTA as an umbrella for grant applications. He also suggested the Park board take over the fair grounds.

Stevens Co has passed an ordinance to open county roads for ATV's, a recommendation should be made to BOCC. Specific roads were named that could be opened to ATV's, enhancing access, including along State Hwys. Signage would be needed. Another bid for a mulching job for fire suppression requiring a 10% match, volunteer labor counts toward that match. Sand Creek bridge update; monies available are to be used for a non-motorized trail only. Is trail creation along highways permissible?

Motion to adjourn, seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Park Board minutes Oct 2012

Park Board members present: Jeanetta Taylor, Charlie Smith, Sam Nicholas, John Stark, Dave Gruver, and Ken Timmreck.

Guests: Gayne Sears and Kevin Walton from the Forest Service.

Staff: Mike Lithgow and Terri Ann Hedtke

September minutes were approved.

Treasurer's report was read and approved. It was noted that Jeanetta was able to meet with Terri Ann to see the types of reporting available. Jeanetta will receive the "Accounts Payable Edit Listings" with copies of the vouchered receipts attached.

Gayne Sears, District Ranger, and Kevin Walton, Recreation Staff Officer for the Newport-Sullivan Lake Ranger Districts, introduced themselves, providing brief bio's.

Charlie asked after the off road vehicle ordinance project. Gayne explained both from an historical and environmental perspective.

Sam explained that each park Board member has a specific focus and perhaps scheduling a meeting to address those specific issues would be advantageous. Sam is interested in encouraging partnerships.

November's meeting was rescheduled to November 14th to accommodate the Thanksgiving holiday. Gayne asked if the Park Board would like the Forest Service to attend their meetings, it was agreed this would be beneficial. The Forest Service will be included in the Park Board contact list to receive minutes and meeting notification.

Sam explained, for the benefit of the guests, how the meeting agenda was generally structured.

Charlie had a question regarding County lands adjacent to Forest Service properties.

January 12th was proposed for a joint meeting with the Forest Service and Park Board; to be held at the Cusick Community Center, between noon and 4:00pm. (pot luck!) Gayne wanted to mention a few items prior to the January meeting; Batey Boulder and trail maintenance, economic potential opportunities for winter recreation at Sullivan Lake, the unused air field and the potential for the Pacific NW Trail were mentioned. Mike suggested bringing maps. Boyer Mountain and Yocum Lake were listed as items for the January meeting agenda, Gayne encouraged everyone to get ideas to her and she will take responsibility for preparing an agenda.

Mike addressed Pend Oreille County park items from the last meeting, specifically a storage unit and improved HVAC. A framed, pole or pre-built storage shed would be the least expensive option, (\$2000 – \$3000) but not as secure as a storage container unit. \$3,350 is a starting price for used container units, not delivered; \$4035 would be the delivered price. Motion was made and seconded to approve spending up to \$4,035, with the provision that if a less expensive unit is found, purchase that one. Dave Gruver volunteered to haul the unit if no further away than the Spokane area. The upgrades to the HVAC will be done by American Eagle, the electrical will need to be sub contracted. Gravel has been added to the driveway. Bids are still needed for the insulation.

Sam provided picnic table bids; 10 tables to be 4' x 8', \$931.00 for fir/larch, cedar would double the cost, and redwood would be \$240.00 per table. Motion was made and seconded to use fir/larch with a linseed oil finish. The tables will be built by Selkirk High School, ready for installation in the Spring. Materials to be invoiced from Park.

Terri Ann read the Park Host report, see attached. Mike Peterson, the park host, has had some bear damage. Signs have been posted re: trespassing & hunting (in campground proper) The Park continues to receive a fair amount of use, a secure donation box to capture the off-season revenue would be good.

Charlie suggested contacting Julie Andrews in Colville for signs designating safety zones.

Discussion on the Park season. Suggestions included signs for “Foot traffic” and perhaps a sign up board.

Gayne and Kevin excused themselves from the meeting. Gayne asked if the public were invited to Park meetings, the meeting in January would also be open to the public.

Dave spoke about a meeting with the County on a fish creek at the park, George Luft, County design engineer, said that the WDFW would like a JARPA in place for stream crossings. This relates to the hydrant for the Back Country Horseman.

ADA compliant bathroom options and an ADA compliant campsite were discussed. Mike spoke about grant leveraging for some ADA. Many options discussed; partnering w/DoT and/or Tribe, relocation etc.

Mike provided pictures to show the bench/obstacle that has been installed at the Sweet Creek Bridge, to discourage motorized traffic on the pedestrian bridge.(see attached) It was noted that the District 3 Road Shop has been maintaining the restroom. Don Millern, District foreman, has contacted Floyds to service the facility at a cost of \$250.00 during open season. Again, perhaps a partnership w/DoT?

Sam would like the proposed resolution re: a percentage of timber sales revenue dedicated to the park fund re-structured to include monies generated from any of the county owned properties. It was mentioned that county forester Steve Gibson had agreed to put together a proposal/plan for harvest.

Eastern Washington University students will be assisting with the inventory of County lands. Strategic use of our County resources will be their focus. They would like to attend a Park Board meeting.

Mike presented some Budget options. (See attached)

Some discussion re: future funding.

Charlie mentioned that the resolution will need to be amended for clarification.

Section 16 boundaries posts & signage

The meeting adjourned at 4:00pm

The Park board members stayed to discuss the budget options Mike had mentioned.

November Park Board Minutes

Park Board members present: Sam Nichols, Jeanetta Taylor, Mark Bender and Dave Gruver.

Pend Oreille County staff: Mike Lithgow and Terri Ann Hedtke.

October minutes were recognized and approved.

Jeanetta, in her capacity as Treasurer, would like to see a report that addresses wages and benefits, as well as “bottom line” totals of all expenditures along with a report detailing income and the source of the income. Mike spoke to revenue potential and Sam suggested Jeanette sit in on a meeting with the Auditor or maybe a budget hearing. Sam further explained historically how Park income and out flow “works.”

Sam requested an update on a park project. Dave Gruver took point on this discussion re: the scope of the horse hydrant.

Mike addressed the Park House up grades i.e. furnace, insulation and storage unit. Regarding the storage units, a 20' x 8' wind and water tight unit can be purchased for \$2,300. Hopefully Dave Gruver will be able to pick up the container and the P O Road crew will be able to aid in offloading and set up. Sam wants to be sure Dave is reimbursed for his fuel.

Mike Lithgow gave a brief report from Park Host Mike Peterson. The Park has been very quiet. Thankfully no more bear damage to report.

Jeanetta shared a conversation she had with a man who had an unpleasant experience at the Park, evidently a while ago, prior to Mike Peterson's installation.

Mark Bender asked about altering the Park hours.

The last phase of the Sweet Creek project, connecting the trails, (perhaps with an easement or boundary line adjustment through neighboring Riley Creek property) will be eligible for grant monies with a 13% match. Mike will pursue.

Strategy for the January 12th meeting was discussed. The meeting may need to be moved to the 5th, to accommodate various schedules.

The County Forester's report was discussed. See copy attached.

Mike spoke about a meeting he had recently with County Forester Steve Gibson, County consultant Greg Dohrn and a class of Eastern Washington University students re: the public lands inventory. The students will be presenting their findings. The Parks Board will be invited, along with other interested parties. Further discussion on sustainability of funds and options.

The County Parks and Recreation plan needs to be up dated, ready for the grant cycle.

Park Board recommendation for salary. Perhaps send a recommendation per letter or in person. The recommendation will need to be received prior to the December budget adoption.

Mike shared information about the Washington State Trails Coalition conference he recently attended in Vancouver, thanks to the Tribe sponsoring his attendance. While at the conference he gave a presentation on our Water Trail.

Next Park Board meeting scheduled for December 12th.

Some discussion regarding newly appointed County commissioner Mike Manus.

Mike has “planted a seed” with the Tribe re: new vault toilet at the Park and the Tribe partnering with the County on the facility for the Kaltran transit.

Dave may need to resign from the Park Board due to different employment, Mike will look into the By-Laws to see the requirements for park Board member appointments.

Motion to adjourn 3:40.

December Park Board Minutes

Park board members present; Sam Nicholas, Jeanetta Taylor, Dave Gruver, John Stark and Mark Bender.

Pend Oreille Staff present Mike Lithgow and T A Hedtke.

Jeanetta reviewed the Auditor's report for the Park Board members. Items of note, the Timber Cruising report, paid for with Park monies, and the building permit that had to be secured for up grades to the park house.

Sam would like a flow chart that would show itemized expenditures. Pend Oreille Co. staff will produce one for the February meeting.

Jeanetta noted the Sweet Creek Rest area expenses, now a responsibility of Parks and Rec.

Salary proposal; the Park Board recommended a flat amount of \$10,000 rather than a percentage. Mike has spoken to the Board of County Commissioners; they chose 15% of Mike's salary to be a Parks expense and 10% of Terri Ann's. This will be re-evaluated next year. The BOCC also voiced their desire to obtain sustainable income for the Park.

Mark Bender mentioned the upcoming inventory of Public Lands presentation on Tuesday, Dec 18th, 10:00am – noon, in the Commissioners meeting room, provided by the EWU Master Planning Students in cooperation with the County Forester, Auditor, Assessor and GIS Department. A County Lands Book has been created and will be provided to the Parks Board.

Funding Source discussion; lots of options to consider. Perhaps a percentage of the monies generated from all timbered properties, rather than just the Section 16 property. Dave Gruver asked Mikes opinion of the wording on the deed for Section 16, Mike feels the verbiage is ambiguous, addressing "the property" not just the timber or money generated from the sale of the timber. The intent may have been for the monies to be used exclusively for the Park, according to Dave quoting a "state guy." Currently there are 11County properties with marketable timber, according to Steve Gibson, former County Forester, and several other properties that are close to having marketable timber. Mark Bender asked if there were plans to replace Steve Gibson, Mike mentioned that Steve Gibson's fee was based on 10% of the monies generated by a timber sale and that the new BOCC might want to look at a different, less expensive option. Mark would like the BOCC to be proactive on this issue.

By laws for the Park Board would be helpful, Mark Bender had a copy. Jeanetta volunteered her extensive information to share with Terri Ann, as she has been involved with the Parks Advisory Committee and Parks Board for many years.

Jeanetta asked if a Parks Board budget has been approved, Mike told her it had but that no revenue had been identified beyond the money remaining in the parks fund and whatever standing timber on the

Section 16 property would be marketable. Mike told Jeanetta we have more money in the fund now than we have expected expenditures for 2013.

Sam voiced his frustration with making recommendations to the BOCC and feeling brushed aside. Mike mentioned that budget amendments are always an option and to take those concerns to the new BOCC.

Terri Ann spoke about PORTA potential, to utilize the Park for events; it is an incredibly logical, natural fit, for someone from the Parks Board to sit on the PORTA board.

Dave asked about the \$5,000 for the water line at the Park. Selkirk School has been in touch with Terri Ann re: lumber for the picnic tables.

The storage unit for the Park has been delivered and installed, thanks to Dave for hauling, a 20' x 8' unit with new seals. It could stand a coat of paint next summer. Floor insulation and foam sealing for the Park house has been a challenge due to contractor time frames. Some discussion on whether or not it would be cost effective to insulate walls where insulation has settled. The Park Board directed Mike to move forward.

January meeting with the Forest Service tentatively set for January 5th, with the morning session dedicated to a Parks & Recreation Comp Plan work shop. Updating the Parks & Rec Plan is imperative for possible grant submittal for RCO Grants in 2014. The EWU students may be able to help with these plans. Binders will be produced and handed out to all members at the workshop.

Agenda items for the meeting get them to Sam and/or Mike.

Mike mentioned the dumping problems at the Sweet Creek area, signage may help. Mike will research ordinances.

Kevin w/ the USFS is interested in working on an interstate motorized trail; Calispel Creek Trail might need to be adjusted away from the creek. Mike asked John about active motorized trail groups in the north county. Mark mentioned that there are 2 different districts but also 2 different regions.

Sullivan Lake Campground, keeping it open longer, the airport also.

Snow Park at Haines Butte; plowing? Mike will ask Sam & Don and have an answer next month.

Meeting adjourned at 3:12pm.