

Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Dec. 3, 2013

Ocean Pines Community Center; Marlin Room 7 pm

BOD Liaison; Terri Mohr

Present; Chair; Roy Foreman, Secretary; Tres Denk; John Wetzlerberger, Sonya Bounds, Don Pellicano, Marie Gilmore

Absent; Tim McMullen, Ray Ungar

Guests John and Jason Strouder of Progressive Bike Ramps, Jim Solomon and Glen Evens representing skaters and bikers of OP

Next Meeting; Jan.16, 2013 Community Center 7 pm

I. Announcements

Roy made sure everyone had read the Nov. Minutes and spoke on behalf of the Kiwanis Club. They are debating adopting Somerset Park.

Tim McMullen gave a call to let us know the directional signs have been put in on Robin Hood Trail and they are helpful.

II. Old Business

Bainbridge Park We discussed the work on the trail being under construction. Tres would like to set an opening date for April, potentially Saturday the 12th. Maybe the beginning of May? Opening event and bike rodeo. The new foot path extension now has gravel but needs more work. The open field stays wet and is not good for riding without improvements including but not limited too wooden boardwalks and man made hills to ride on. Tres recommends adding more to the trail in Phase 1 area to make a small complete loop. Bike racks would also be an improvement for the park. We discussed the treatment of the park by public works. They cut the pond to the ground including the phragmites. Often the ground is soft and the large equipment leaves tracks throughout the parks that are unpleasant visually and make the ground uneven and easy to trip over. The landscaping left no ground cover for animals of the pond.

We briefly discussed the life rings for all the Ocean Pines ponds as well.

Marie added that in her investigation about ADA compliance the sun shade Betty Thompson asked for is required. The gazebo Sonya had her eye on is no longer for sale.

Marie handed out her ADA Compliance report. The conclusion being that our playgrounds recent inspection showed we are well below the minimums. To be compliant we also need to:

1.Create Gaps in playground borders for wheel chairs 2.Add transfer platforms on large play structures 3. switch to engineered wood fiber,which is more ground up than mulch. She added a precedent being set when a school district and town were forced to change playground surface in a federal lawsuit.

Terri proposed that tis information go forward to the board meeting Dec. 18.

Library Trail We discussed cleaning the bridge behind the library and having public works improve the areas leading to and from the bridge headed east were the trail is under water.

Tres would like to flag the trail end at the park way to connect to the fire road. Also adding a single tack through the woods.

Funding was discussed. Project Open Space, John acknowledged Ocean Pines is looking to create a non profit. Tres volunteered ESIMBA's non profit status to look for funding. Specifically for trail work that connects our community using the Community foundation and other groups.

The county is not going to help our community with funding.

Gym floor is on the budget again. This is an actual safety issue and must be pursued. John will remind board again of this pressing issue.

III New Business

Progressive Bike Ramps Presentation The presentation was about bike parks. White Horse Park, with the playground, community center, skate park and walking trails would be a great place to offer cycling. The product that PBR offers would be great addition to the empty space between the park and the boat ramp. Known as a "pump track" They explained the difference of the product they sell and what a group like ESIMBA would build. The surface is vulcanized rubber with sand and could be ridden shortly after a rain. The other pump track ESIMBA would propose is a dirt track which is much more vulnerable to bad weather and would be closed more often for longer periods. Their pump track has three different types of construction. One with wood, one with metal and a concrete version. The first two can be moved and modified more easily. They allow all types of wheeled recreation.. Similar to a skate park but like a paved trail leading in a continuous path. It rises and falls to provide momentum from the bike, skates,roller blades scooters, etc. The skate park does not allow bikes, which alienates young teens that

are not skaters from this park. A pump track like this is all inclusive. It would operate like the skate park and give parents with young children another option for older siblings to enjoy at White Horse Park. The company offers a 10 year warranty. They have worked with our playground supplier West recreation. They have an international clientele and are the innovators of this product. Tres will ask about a Demo possibly during the Dew Tour. Mongoose provides a pump track during the Dew Tour Event in Ocean City.

Huntington Park Needs improvements on equipment paint or replacing. Sonya's plans call for Volley ball courts and horse shoe pits.

Usage of Community Center The rooms are free and non restricted for OP clubs and non profit groups. There is an expectation of profit without any measures or changes to the current policy for the Community building. We are at full capacity. The Country Club is not a possibility because the golf course management controls it. Terri will bring this topic to the board for us.

IV Actions

Terri is working on the details of the ADA compliance and completing the mulch issue. She and John are also working on the gym floor issue.

Roy is working on adopting Somerset Park and Budget items. Tres is working on finishing trails at Bainbridge Park and starting the library trail. Contact PBR about demo. Marie is working on Huntington Park. Tim McMullen is working on Robin hood Trail. Sonya is putting together the Parks and Recs. budget.

Tres Denk

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