

**MINUTES
CITY OF LANGLEY
PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMISSION
October 11, 2010**

Chair Nancy Rowan opened the meeting at 3:04 pm.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: Gail Fleming, Cary Peterson, Nancy Rowan, Tucker Stevens,
Cathy Waymire-Rooks

Staff Present: Fred Evander, Kathleen Landel

MINUTES

The Commission approved with corrections the minutes of the September 13, 2010 meeting.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Kathleen Landel handed out email correspondence initiated by Kathleen Waters-Riehl regarding a citizen comment in the June 14, 2010 minutes. Ms. Waters-Riehl's concern was that it should be clear that a citizen comment about the bluff maintenance on the Cascade Walkway does not include the private property along the walkway. Ms. Water's-Riehl's comments are attached to these minutes to include her comment in the Commission's records.

Marianne Edain raised the question whether the City has any jurisdiction to enforce standards on maintenance of the bluff and critical areas. Fred Evander replied that the City has critical areas standards and the state Department of Ecology (DOE) publishes educational information on managing bluffs, and has held workshops in Langley in the past. The Commission members discussed that making educational information available to bluff owners would help in protecting bluffs. Fred and Kathleen agreed to enhance the current website information on bluff maintenance and to make sure the DOE educational brochures are available at the front desk at City Hall.

FUND BROCHURES & WISH LIST

The Commission decided that because of limited staff capacity to work on the brochures that Nancy and Tucker will work on a next draft of the brochures. Gail will provide her ideas on content for the brochures.

The Commission discussed focusing on the Parks Planning group for the November meeting. Cathy, Tucker and Nancy will be working on this group and focusing on fine tuning the parks wish list and identifying "shovel-ready" projects.

MIDDLE LANGLEY CONCEPT IMPLEMENTATION

The Commission discussed looking at grant funding through the Island County Conservation Futures program to implement the Middle Langley Concept to provide trail linkages between several Langley park properties and a wetland survey and enhancements. The Commission agreed to recommend this to the Council.

WHIDBEY ISLAND GARDEN TOUR GRANT

The Commission agreed to recommend to the Council applying for a grant from the Whidbey Island Garden Tour for the Langley Community Garden project. Cary Peterson explained that the grant request would be for approximately \$1500 to build a worm bin and hoop house and to complete the water infrastructure. The approval for this grant application will be on the October 18, 2010 city council agenda.

WORK PLAN REVIEW

The Commission reviewed the progress and status of their annual work plan:

- 1A. Designated land acquisition Fund
 - Council approved dedicated funds
 - Initial draft of brochures completed
- 2A. Park Management Plans
 - Short-term plans completed
 - Master calendar drafted and being reviewed by Public Works Director
 - Initial wish list/project list
- 2B. Volunteer Park and Trail Stewardship Program
 - Work parties completed at Langley Park and Generation Park with assistance of volunteers and the Langley Community Club
 - Master calendar analysis will identify volunteer needs
 - Possible resource for volunteer coordinator – Master Gardeners
- 3A & 3B. Trails/Trail Easements
 - List of potential trail easements, priorities and strategies drafted as working document
 - Priority identified – Middle Langley Concept
- 4A. Community Agriculture
 - Langley Community Garden successfully launched with 16 plots
 - Garden received a number of cash and in-kind donations for initial infrastructure
 - Anderson Family is adding a goat and chicken co-op on the farm

LANGLEY COMMUNITY GARDEN INVOICE

The Commission reviewed and recommended approval of an invoice for \$797.33 from the Gardeners Association for expenses irrigation supplies and the water bill. Gail Fleming made the motion to recommend approval; Cathy Waymire-Rooks seconded, and it passed unanimously.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Nancy Rowan wanted to express a great appreciation for the work done at Generation Park by the Langley Community Club, including the installation of the new swing.

Gail Fleming asked about the follow-up to the Commission's discussion and decision regarding the trail suggestion brought forward by Candace Jordan. Fred Evander commented that he will be following up with Candace now that he is back at work from paternity leave.

Gail asked about the follow-up on notifying the Northview Terrace residents about not dumping yard waste in the natural area behind the development. Fred replied that he drafted a letter to the residents and gave it to the Challis Stringer, Director of Public Works for review. Kathleen Landel commented that she spoke with Challis and the Mayor about getting this notification out through one of the Northview residents who was active in the Neighbor-to-Neighbor projects in the Northview. Fred noted that he will follow-up with Challis on next steps.

Gail requested, if possible, to sit on any meetings with the Whidbey Camano Land Trust regarding an Island County Conservation Futures grant application. It was discussed that Nancy and Gail would be included in any discussions.

Gail brought up a question on how the Priority Conservation Areas in the Parks, Open Space and Trails Element of the Comp Plan would be used and applied to planning projects. She related that at the recent joint Planning Advisory Board/City Council meeting that there was comment that the Priority Conservation Areas would be used in conjunction with the subdivision code. Fred commented that the Element was adopted by ordinance and that this question in terms of the subdivision code is still in-process.

Tucker Stevens announced that the Langley Community Club will be hosting its General Meeting and potluck on October 13, 2010 at 6:00 PM at the Langley United Methodist Church.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 pm.

The next regular meeting of the Parks and Open Space Commission will occur Monday, December 6, 2010 at 3:00 pm. Kathleen Landel recorded the minutes for the meeting.

Kathleen Landel

From: "Kathleen Waters-Riehl" <kwatersriehl@yahoo.com>
To: "Kathleen Landel" <assistant@langleywa.org>
Cc: "Richard Francisco" <richard_francisco@hotmail.com>; "Ruth and Dwayne Den Adel" <retailor@yahoo.com>; "Leanne Finlay" <lfinlay@halcyon.com>
Sent: Monday, October 04, 2010 10:42 AM
Subject: Re: Fw: Private property on Cascade Avenue Bluff

Kathleen,

Thanks, that will be to my point about documentation.

Kathleen

From: Kathleen Landel <assistant@langleywa.org>
To: Kathleen Landel <assistant@langleywa.org>; Kathleen Waters-Riehl <kwatersriehl@yahoo.com>
Cc: Richard Francisco <richard_francisco@hotmail.com>; Leanne Finlay <lfinlay@halcyon.com>; Fred Evander <landuse2@langleywa.org>; Nancy Rowan <nrowan04@langleywa.com>; Challis Stringer <pubwks@langleywa.org>
Sent: Mon, October 4, 2010 10:32:09 AM
Subject: Re: Fw: Private property on Cascade Avenue Bluff

Kathleen,

I forgot to mention that the correspondance on this issue will be shared at the next Parks & Open Space Commission meeting on October 11th. So, your concerns will be in the minutes from that meeting and part of the historical record. I hope that is helpful to address your concerns.

Kathleen Landel
 Special Assistant to the Mayor
 City of Langley
 P.O. Box 366, Langley WA 98260
 (360) 221-4246 x21

----- Original Message -----

From: Kathleen Landel
To: Kathleen Waters-Riehl
Cc: Richard Francisco ; Leanne Finlay ; Fred Evander ; Nancy Rowan ; Challis Stringer
Sent: Friday, October 01, 2010 7:06 PM
Subject: Re: Fw: Private property on Cascade Avenue Bluff

Kathleen,

Thank you for your suggestions. Below is the link to the minutes you referred to. Ms. Edain's comment was recorded under the section *Citizen Comments*. We do record comments as made by the citizen, to reflect their question or comment. After the fact, I would not be able to infer that Ms. Edain was speaking about city property. Ms. Edain's comment is followed by Fred Evander's comment that directs one to the public works director for further information about vegetation management on Cascade Walkway. I think that for someone looking at this in the future this would give the direction needed to get further clarification. That is what I did in following up on your email, and Challis was very clear that along Cascade Walkway the city oversees management of vegetation on city property only.

http://www.langleywa.org/documents/posminutes_06_14_10.pdf

As I mentioned, citizens sometimes comment on issues beyond the scope of the city's responsibility. I think in this instance the meeting discussion, as reflected in the minutes, direct the reader back to the Commission's focus which is city property and management by the public works department.

I hope this is helpful, and addresses your concerns.

Kathleen Landel
Special Assistant to the Mayor
City of Langley
P.O. Box 366, Langley WA 98260
(360) 221-4246 x21

----- Original Message -----

From: Kathleen Waters-Riehl
To: Kathleen Landel
Cc: Richard Francisco ; Leanne Finlay
Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2010 5:28 PM
Subject: Re: Fw: Private property on Cascade Avenue Bluff

Kathleen,

Thanks for the explanation. The only other comment I have is a request to change the minutes to reflect a citizen comment. And to clarify Ms. Edain's comment so that it is clear to a future reader of the minutes that she was speaking only about public property. It is very unclear in its present iteration.

Please let me know or forward me a copy of amended minutes when they are ready.

Thanks to you and Ms. Rowan for looking into this matter.

Kathleen

--- On **Thu, 9/30/10, Kathleen Landel** <assistant@langleywa.org> wrote:

From: Kathleen Landel <assistant@langleywa.org>
Subject: Fw: Private property on Cascade Avenue Bluff
To: "Kathleen Waters-Riehl" <kwatersriehl@yahoo.com>
Cc: "Nancy Rowan" <nrowan04@langleywa.com>, "Larry Cort" <landuse@whidbey.com>, "Challis Stringer" <pubwks@langleywa.org>
Date: Thursday, September 30, 2010, 5:21 PM

Kathleen,

I met with Nancy Rowan today and we discussed your question, and I also followed up with Challis Stringer. The statement you refer to was brought up by a citizen and was recorded as a citizen comment. We are not sure what Ms. Edain was referring too as the Cascade Walkway, but the city park management plans are for property that the city owns. In speaking with Challis, she said the the city holds a Critical Areas permit for cutting along the Cascade bluff on city property.

Sometimes citizens comment at meetings about issues that are beyond the scope of the city's responsibility. This may be the case in the comment made by Ms. Edain.

I hope this is helpful. Let me know if you have any follow-up questions.

Kathleen Landel
Special Assistant to the Mayor
City of Langley
P.O. Box 366, Langley WA 98260
(360) 221-4246 x21

Please forward this to Nancy Rowan, Chair: Parks and Open Space Committee

Dear Ms. Rowan,

I see that *Cascade Bluff* is mentioned in the minutes of the June 14, 2010 P&OS Committee meeting.

The paragraph that concerns me starts, "Marianne Edain raised a concern about the bluff along the Cascade Walkway and the need for a detailed plan for maintaining the steep slope" It goes on to describe her mention of a previous study by Elliott Menashe and that Fred Evander would look into finding the study, etc.

I am not clear if *Cascade Walkway*, as referred to in the minutes includes the sidewalk along the private property that belongs to myself and the Den Adels but think it may. Please remember this is private property and has no need for public concern. Seeing the bluff from the sidewalk is not tantamount to controlling private property with vegetation or roots meant to somehow hold the bluff in place. Mother Nature has been proficient in that regard since the planet came to be known to us. The only problem on the adjacent private property section of Cascade Avenue was caused by human error on the part of those who widened the road and built the sidewalk and railing several years ago. It was a tiny slide caused by the work, not nature.

Please get back to me at your earliest convenience regarding what the meaning of the minutes entailed regarding my private property. Thanks in advance.

Kathleen Waters



Langley Community Garden Project
Anderson Farm

INVOICE

Invoice Number: 2010-001

Invoice Date: 10/07/2010

Bill To:			
Name:	City of Langley, Langley Community Garden		
Address:			
City/State/Zip			

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Qty	Product Description	Amount Each	Amount
1	EcoTerra, Inc		
	PO Box 491		
	Langley WA 98260		
	--Irrigation supplies for Langley Comm Garden		600.02
1	City of Langley DOROTHY ANDERSON SCHUB		
	PO Box 366 1235 SCHUB		
	Langley WA 98260		
	--Jul/Aug 2010 water bill		197.31
		Subtotal:	
		Tax:	
		Shipping:	
		Grand Total:	797.33

Notes:
 10/7/2010 ABOVE EXPENSES HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY GARDEN BOARD TO BE PAID FROM CITY OF LANGLEY GARDEN FUND. MONIES IN THAT FUND ARE FROM PLOT OWNERS, SUPPORTERS, AND GARDEN PROJECT DONATIONS.

[Handwritten signatures]