

Present were Gail Fleming, Shanti Loustaunou, Socorro Rodriguez, staff Stan Berryman
audience: Guy Burneko, John Lawson
Marianne Edain recording

The meeting was called to order at 3:00.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Ms Marilyn (Shanti) Loustaunou was confirmed as a new member of the POS.

Mr John Lawson, representing the Langley Community Club reported on planning for Generation Park. The Community Club proposes to add a play structure and eventually a picnic shelter. The plan is to move the existing fence to enclose more of the land within the park. The existing play structure does not meet the standard for a public facility and needs to be replaced. The park and its facilities are insured by the city.

Socorro asked about the park name, which the POS had agreed last month to change to Tucker Stevens park.

John Lawson explained that the present name is based on the presence of a generator on that property.

Socorro said she had spoken with Tucker's widow, and she prefers Tucker Stevens Generation Park.

John Lawson would like to the city to apply for grants to develop the park and to replace the current sign.

The Commission suggested consulting Doug Coutts of the South Whidbey Parks & Rec commission, who has been quite helpful in the past and has encyclopedic knowledge of grants and permits. The process for grants is that John Lawson would solicit grant applications, which would be filled in to the best of the Community Club's ability, and then presented to Stan for actual submittal under the city's authority.

Gail asked about the whale sculpture which was discussed last month. She is aware of a chain-saw art whale at Dan Prewitt's residence. She suggested asking Mr Prewitt and/or the sculptor for a price estimate for something similar at the park. She also asked if this was something which might be sponsored by the Arts Commission.

John Lawson agreed to consult with Dan Prewitt.

Gail agreed to speak with Susan Berta of the Orca Network.

Stan agreed to speak with Frank Rose of the Arts Commission.

John Lawson will report on progress at the July meeting.

On the subject of trails, it was agreed that the Cedars trail is a great deal of work and cost for a relatively small return. Guy Burneko has been foraging for walkable trails around Langley for some years and would like to schedule a site visit to the city's property on Coles Road. There was much discussion of the Coles/Crawford Road trail network. It was agreed to schedule a special meeting to conduct a field trip to the area.

Gail agreed to consult with Walt Blackford of PSE

Marianne agreed to contact Linda and Leonard Good, who have long lived in that area and are quite familiar with the trails.

The site visit is scheduled for Thursday, 6-16-16 AT 1:00 PM. Participants will meet at the turnout on Coles Road just past the entrance to the sewage treatment plant. Participants are encouraged to wear somewhat protective clothing, and to bring gloves and pruners.

On the matter of grants, all of the larger grant deadlines have now passed. The only grant application currently pending is WEAN's application to the Garden Tour for funds for the plant salvage program.

While the RCO grant application deadline has passed, it is agreed that POS will, when the comp plan review and update is finished, submit the comp plan element to RCO to establish eligibility for the next round of grants. It was brought up that we need to develop a work schedule and timeline, and that such items should be added to the meeting minutes as "Parking Lot Items", dealing with long range planning.

Gail reported on the City Council's review and intent to amend the trails section of the Parks, Open Space, and Trails element of the comp plan. Evidently the council would like to give greater emphasis to trails by shifting them to the Transportation element. The council believes this may provide access to more grant funding options.

The POS commission is concerned that trails are interconnected and integrated into the POST element, and that moving just the trails section could drop important elements of that integration. There was also concern expressed about over-simplification, which could water down the plan. The commission agreed on several points that Gail would convey to the council in a letter.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00.