

**CITY OF MONROE
PARK BOARD MINUTES
May 19, 2011**

Call To Order

Chairperson Karin Coppernoll called the Park Board meeting to order at 7:02pm in the Parks/Public Works Conference Room.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Karin Coppernoll, Shawna Chamberlain, Ralph Yingling, Bill Kristiansen, Steve Whalen

Board Members Absent: Collette Reams

Agenda Revisions – None

Approval of Minutes - Motion was made by Ralph Yingling and seconded by Shawna Chamberlain to table Approval of the April 21, 2011 Minutes to the June 16 regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Audience Participation – None

Unfinished Business –None

New Business – The draft agenda for the June 16, 2011 regular meeting was discussed. Items to be added to the agenda include a general discussion on a park from the inventory list – *Currie View Park*, and review of *Section 3 of the Park Plan*.

Staff Reports/Updates –*Director's Report*- Mike Farrell shared with the Board the award plaque that the Department was recently given by the Baseball Players Association (BPA) for Outstanding Facility 2010 – Sky River Park, Monroe, Washington. He explained that two BPA tournaments were held last year for the first time as the Department expanded the number of tournaments held in our parks from three the previous year to twelve. The BPA is based out of Lexington, Kentucky and are a nationally-recognized youth baseball organization.

The Director also gave accounts of the list of events and tournaments that the Department supported and hosted during the past month including Egg Hunt, Sky Valley Little League Jamboree, Kids Fishing Day, 3 tournaments and 2 model boat races on Lake Tye.

Board Discussion

Cedar Grove Park – Mike Farrell gave a brief overview of the current features and uses of the park which mainly consists of a small childrens playground. This small, quarter acre-sized park was not generally-known to several of the Board Members. After pointing it out on a map, discussion centered around the small size of the park and that it was an example of the need to move away from developing several small-sized parks in a neighborhood development and more toward developing larger neighborhood parks that would serve a broader reach within a

development and also have opportunities for a diverse range of developed park features that would attract a wider range of residents.

Review Park Plan elements – Section 2 – The Board reviewed and discussed Section 2 of the current Park Plan Element of the City's Comprehensive Plan. Karin Coppernoll introduced the key points which were the public participation components – key person interviews, community, user groups and youth surveys and public workshops and recreation demands and needs. The Board began discussing what forms of public participation could be incorporated in the next update of the Plan. Karin Coppernoll stated that, whether the next updated is an extensive one or a scaled-down version with minor updates, a public process is important to the update, which was agreed by the rest of the Board. Steve Whalen stated that people in general have begun to notice more events held within the community. Karin Coppernoll noted that the Department has been successfully addressing several recreation programs and services goals in spite of the current economic downturn. Mike Farrell pointed out that the Department has worked hard on increasing and bringing in new events and tournaments that bring visitors to Monroe and also reaching out and partnering with other local community organizations on programs and services and that it has been a successful approach. This has been accomplished with a reduction of half of the department staffing over the last three years. Bill Kristiansen inquired about the potential of adding horseshoes facilities in one or some of the parks, noting that it may be something that multi-generations could enjoy. Karin Coppernoll also mentioned that it would be a good idea to utilize many, if not all of the same questions from the questionnaire used in the current plan (pg. 66 of the Appendix) which would provide a good comparison between the two time periods.

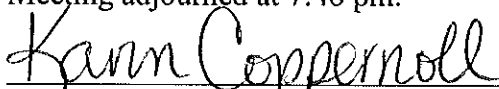
Agency Reports

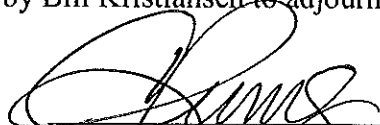
Planning Commission – No report

Monroe School District – Ralph Yingling reported that the School district has begun planning for the school consolidation that was approved by the School Board. He also reported that Fryelands Elementary School near Lake Tye Park had a recent break-in by youths and that the Police Department is investigating the incident.

Adjournment

Motion by Ralph Yingling and seconded by Bill Kristiansen to adjourn. Motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 7:48 pm.


Karin Coppernoll, Chairperson


Collette Reams, Secretary