

PRESENT (P)

Washington State Parks

(P) Don Hoch
(P) Brian Yearout
(P) Janet Shonk
() Julie McQuary
(P) Dennis Mills
(P) Michael Hankinson
(P) Lisa Lantz

Ad-Hoc Committee

(P) Joyce Murray
() Linda Gough
() Bruce Brown
() Steve Severin
(P) Lt. Jerry Lawrence
(P) Sherryl Peterson
() Morgan Scherer

Consultants

(P) Bruce Dees, Bruce Dees & Associates
(P) Derrick Eberle, Bruce Dees & Associates
() Bethany Marsh, Bruce Dees & Associates

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

The meeting was held to present the preliminary master plan for the project and to gather comments from the community.

DISCUSSION

Bruce recapped the program and design criteria, explained the progress with the ad hoc committee, and presented the preliminary master plan. The public was then invited to ask questions and provide comments orally or on note cards. The following is a summary of key comments:

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Day Use Area

- Concern that bridging the saddle between the parking lot and the proposed shelter/kitchen/restroom may be expensive and may negatively affect the natural character of the area.
- Will the overhead height of the proposed shelter/kitchen/restroom be too massive? Would like to see architectural elevations of the proposed building.
- Consider reorienting the amphitheater so occupants can view the water.

Pocket Beach

- Will permits to complete the proposed beach work be possible?
- Include an outdoor shower area.

Parking

- Comment about the limited parking lot capacity now that the size is being reduced.
- Comment on the position of the Welcome Center in relation to the parking lot: would the other side of the parking lot make more sense?

Other Areas

- Can the beach erosion and sloughing near the existing restroom be stopped?
- Crosswalk needs to be considered across 106th Ave NW / Kopachuck Drive NW
 - Should be a priority due to the needs for kids to cross the road.

Funding

- State Parks' commissioners should be updated constantly so that they are not surprised by the final plan.
- This project should be on the State's priority list.
 - Need to influence the governor's budget.
 - In May, State Parks will address the commission with a review of all parks.
 - The commission will determine improvements based on need, amount requested, etc.

Forest Management Plan

- Would like to see more definition in the outline of the forest management plan.
- Reinstating camping should be considered for a later phase.
 - generate revenue
 - support local business
 - a return on investment (ROI) should be studied for this option
 - Counter comment: an improved day use area will draw more people to the area than camping

Phasing

- Do not phase plan construction but construct improvements proposed as a single phase. Potentially restore camping as a part of the second phase.
- In order to help justify funding, an entire ROI study should be completed for the park.

STAFF COMMENTS

- After public comments on funding and phasing, Michael said, "I think we need to prioritize the various elements in the master plan. What do we really need? What could we live without?"
- Brian mentioned that he was working with Bruce and park staff on a phasing approach. State Parks' intent is to ask for construction funds in the 2015-2017 and 2017-2019 biennia and complete the plan in two construction phases.

CONCLUSION

Overall, the plan was well received with many people expressing their approval. Bruce thanked everyone for attending.

These are the minutes as we understand them. If there are any additions or corrections, please contact Bruce Dees & Associates immediately.