



MINUTES:

All minutes are draft until approved at the next meeting

Commission Work Session Agenda

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

July 13, 2022

Swinomish Casino and Lodge, 12885 Casino Drive, Anacortes, WA 98221

Commissioners: Chair Mark O. Brown, Vice Chair Ken Bounds, Secretary Sophia Danenberg, Steve Milner, Michael Latimer, Laurie Connelly, and Holly Williams

Director: Diana Dupuis

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission will be holding their regularly scheduled commission work session in-person on July 13, 2022. In order to enter the building, the public must not exhibit symptoms of the COVID-19 and will be required to comply with current state law around personal protective equipment. Please note that this is a hybrid meeting, you are welcome to attend in-person or online. We ask for patience as we navigate these hybrid meetings and want to remind you that attending in-person will be the most reliable option at this time.

You may participate remotely by listening and/or watching using the following link:

Watch the meeting on TVW:

<https://twv.org/video/washington-state-parks-and-recreation-commission-2022071006/?eventID=2022071006>

Public Comment: This is a work session between staff and the Commission. The public is invited to attend, but no public comment will be taken. No decisions will be made by the Commission at the work session.

Time: Opening session will begin as shown; all other times are approximate.

9:01 a.m. CALL TO ORDER – Ken Bounds, Commission Vice Chair

- Call the Roll
 - Chair Mark O. Brown, Vice Chair Ken Bounds, Secretary Sophia Danenberg, Laurie Connelly, Michael Latimer, and Steve Milner
 - Holly Williams- *attending virtually*
- Introduction of Executive Leadership Team
 - Director Diana Dupuis, Deputy Director Mike Sternback, Administrative Services Director Laura Holmes, Parks Development Director Peter Herzog, Interim Operations Director Jon Crimmins, Communications Director Amanda McCarthy, Human Resources Director Becky Daniels, Policy & Governmental Affairs Director Owen Rowe, Interim DEI Director Melinda Posner, and Executive Assistant Becki Ellison
 - Assistant Attorney General Andy Woo
- Changes to agenda
- Logistics

- 9:05 a.m. DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION (DEI) UPDATE – Melinda Posner, Acting DEI Director**
- This presentation will provide the Commission with an overview of the status and next steps for developing the Washington State Parks DEI plan. This includes an update about the recruitment efforts to hire a permanent DEI Director, recent DEI accomplishments and an overview of the state Office of Equity’s Pro-Equity Anti-Racism (PEAR) Plan and Playbook.
- 9:38 a.m. BRANDING UPDATE– Amanda McCarthy, Communications Director and Stephanie McDermott, Brand and Creative Marketing Manager**
- This presentation will provide the Commission with an overview of the Washington State Parks branding refresh project. The presentation will include an overview of branding research, trends, vision, and next steps.
- 10:08 a.m. PASS PROGRAM UPDATE – Amanda McCarthy, Communications Director and Keri Murphy, Customer Service Manager**
- This presentation will provide an overview of the Discount Pass program, current challenges, and opportunities for future improvements
- 10:46 a.m. BREAK**
- 11:01 a.m. KUKUTALI PRESERVE UPDATE– Kukutali Management Board members**
- This presentation will provide the Commission with an overview of the co-ownership and co-management of Kukutali Preserve with the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community. The presentation will highlight recent projects and management issues.
- 11:55 a.m. LUNCH**
- 1:00 p.m. WWRP STATE PARKS CATEGORY PROJECT EVALUATION – Laura Moxham, Parks Planner**
- This presentation will provide the Commission with an overview of the results of the commission ranking (question number 10) of the proposed projects in the State Parks category of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program.
- 1:57 p.m. 2023-25 STATE GRANT APPLICATIONS – Laura Moxham, Parks Planner**
- This item provides the Commission an overview of the list of projects which staff will seek grant funding from the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) in the fall 2022.
- 2:26 p.m. BREAK**

2:40 p.m. 2023 COMMISSION MEETING LOCATIONS– Becki Ellison, Executive Assistant

- This item provides the Commission an opportunity to discuss the 2023 logistics regarding the possible dates, locations, and tours for the commission meetings.

3:21 p.m. EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM UPDATES

4:21 p.m. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Vice Chair Ken Bounds: “We will now enter into executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) for the purpose of discussing potential litigation with the agency's assigned legal counsel. The executive session is expected to end at 5:00 p.m.

5:00 p.m.

Vice Chair Ken Bounds: "Executive session is extended to 5:30 p.m.”.

5:30 p.m.

Vice Chair Ken Bounds: "Executive session ended at 5:30 p.m. No action was taken. We are now adjourned”.

5:30 p.m. ADJOURN

Commission Meeting Agenda

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

July 14, 2022

Swinomish Casino and Lodge, 12885 Casino Drive, Anacortes, WA 98221

Commissioners: Chair Mark O. Brown, Vice Chair Ken Bounds, Secretary Sophia Danenberg, Steve Milner, Michael Latimer, Laurie Connelly, and Holly Williams

Director: Diana Dupuis

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission will be holding their regularly scheduled commission meeting in-person on July 14, 2022. In order to enter the building, the public must not exhibit symptoms of the COVID-19 and will be required to comply with current state law around personal protective equipment. Please note that this is a hybrid meeting, you are welcome to attend in-person or online. We ask for patience as we navigate these hybrid meetings and want to remind you that attending in-person will be the most reliable option at this time.

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Time: Opening session will begin as shown; all other times are approximate.

Order of Presentation: In general, each agenda item will include a presentation followed by Commission discussion and then public comment. The Commission makes decisions following the public comment portion of the agenda.

In-Person Public Comment:

We will be accepting in-person oral public comment at the meeting. If you wish to comment at a meeting, please fill out a comment card and provide it to staff at the sign in table. The Chair will call you up to the front at the appropriate time.

Virtual Public Comment:

Virtual public comment will be accepted for our public meeting. To provide virtual comment you will need to be able to join the Attendee Web link from your computer (no phone option available). **Pre-registration is required.** To register email commission@parks.wa.gov by 5 pm on July 8th. Please provide the name you will be logging in under, contact phone number as well as the agenda item or general topic you will be speaking on. You will receive an email by noon on July 11th with specific instructions around virtual testimony.

Written Public Comment:

Written public comment will be accepted for all agenda items until 5 p.m. on July 8th by email or mail. Any comments received after the cutoff will be given to the commission before its next meeting.

Email: Commission@parks.wa.gov

Mail: WSPRC, Attn: Becki Ellison, PO Box 42650, Olympia, WA 98504.

You can find the agenda, agenda items and presentations on our website. <https://parks.state.wa.us/154/Commission-meetings-agendas>. The meeting minutes and recording will be loaded within one week after the meeting.

9:00 a.m. CALL TO ORDER – Mark O. Brown, Commission Chair

- Flag Salute - Nathan Anderson, Park Ranger 3, Deception Pass
- Call of the Roll
 - Chair Mark O. Brown, Vice Chair Ken Bounds, Secretary Sophia Danenberg, Laurie Connelly, Michael Latimer, and Steve Milner
 - Holly Williams – *attending virtually*
- Introduction of Executive Leadership Team
 - Director Diana Dupuis, Deputy Director Mike Sternback, Administrative Services Director Laura Holmes, Parks Development Director Peter Herzog, Interim Operations Director Jon Crimmins, Communications Director Amanda McCarthy, Human Resources Director Becky Daniels, Policy & Governmental Affairs Director Owen Rowe, Interim DEI Director Melinda Posner, and Executive Assistant Becki Ellison
 - Assistant Attorney General Andy Woo
- Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Statement
 - We respect and affirm tribal sovereignty and honor indigenous peoples whose traditional lands we occupy. The State Parks and Recreation Commission is committed to working with all Tribes to help preserve and restore a healthy natural environment for future generations.
- Recognition of State, Tribal and Local Officials
- Changes to the Agenda
 - Approval of the Agenda
 - **Motion by** Steve Milner approve the agenda as presented. Second by Laurie Connelly.
Approved unanimously as presented.
- Logistics
- Approval of minutes of previous meetings
 - April 13,14, 2022 – Work Session/Commission Meeting, Ilwaco
 - **Motion by** Ken Bounds approve the minutes as presented. Second by Michael Latimer.
Approved unanimously as presented.
 - June 1, 2022 – Special Meeting, Web/Olympia
 - **Motion by** Ken Bounds approve the minutes as presented. Second by Michael Latimer.
Approved unanimously as presented.

9:10 a.m. VIRTUAL PUBLIC COMMENT – *general public comment and items on the agenda*

- Kathy Collins, Retreat centers
- David LeRoux, Miller-Peninsula State Park
- Dudley Ross, Miller-Peninsula State Park
- John Popinski, Miller-Peninsula State Park
- Debi Massey, Miller-Peninsula State Park
- Liam Antrim, Miller-Peninsula State Park
- Monty Vanderbilt, Fort Flagler
- Jeff Chapman, WWRP
- Pete Martin, Tekoa Trestle/Trail

9:37 a.m. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

9:59 a.m. COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Real Estate
- Legislative
- Budget
- Executive

10:08 a.m. DIRECTOR REPORT

10:17 a.m. BREAK

10:40 a.m. RECOGNITION

- Service Pins
 - Park Ranger Rickey Blank 50 years, Area Manager Jeff Wheeler 35 years and Park Ranger Robert Chalfant 40 years
- Gold Stars – Seamus Mulcah and Bryan Anyan
- Volunteer Program

Significant Volunteer Achievement

Bill Way (Lake Sammamish State Park)

As a board member for the Friends of Lake Sammamish, Bill has spent hundreds of hours working to create a new Comprehensive Trails Plan for the park. This plan is designed to increase accessibility and connectivity for all park visitors while working to protect the park's habitats. Bill is a tireless advocate for the natural environment and our parks. He is a creative person with a can-do attitude, who has done so much for the parks while making time to mentor others.

Lifetime Achievement

Debbie Berto (Lake Sammamish State Park)

As a founding member of the Friends of Lake Sammamish State Park, Debbie has volunteered with Washington State Parks for over 14 years. In that time, she has served on the Board of Directors for the Friends Group and improved her park through multiple projects. Debbie has led the effort to raise \$1.1 million dollars for an all-access playground for Lake Sammamish. She has also led multiple annual events for the community. Additionally, Debbie plays a key role in communications for the Friends Group and often writes and edits press releases.

11:21 a.m. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS – *Items not on the agenda*

- In-person public comments only

11:28 a.m. REQUESTED ACTION

Item E-1: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – State Parks Category – Project Evaluation

This item asks the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission to evaluate mission alignment and rank grant projects proposed for funding in the State Parks category of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

REQUESTED ACTION OF COMMISSION:

That the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission:

1. Approve the ranked project list for the WWRP - State Parks category projects as recommended by staff.
2. Authorize staff to submit the approved ranked project list to the Recreation and Conservation Office for inclusion in the WWRP State Parks project evaluation process.

ACTION:

Motion by Steve Milner to approve the staff recommendation as proposed in the Requested Action above. Second by Michael Latimer. **Motion passes unanimously as presented.**

11:53 a.m. REQUESTED ACTION

Item E-2: 2023-25 State Grant Applications

This item asks the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission to approve a list of projects for submittal for which staff will seek grant funding from the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) this fall.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

REQUESTED ACTION OF COMMISSION:

That the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission:

1. Authorize the Director or designee to seek funding from the Recreation and Conservation Office in the 2023-2025 biennium for the projects listed in Appendix 1
2. Authorize the Director or designee to defer applications for specific projects or pursue funding for projects through other grant categories if needed
3. Authorize the Director or designee to make necessary project scope and cost changes as project applications are prepared
4. Authorize the Director or designee to substitute projects in the alternates list in Appendix 1 for projects that are found to be infeasible through the detailed scoping process
5. Authorize the Director or designee to submit projects identified as alternates
6. Authorize the Director or designee to pursue small foundation grants, federal grants, and other time-sensitive grant opportunities that may arise through the 2023-2025 biennium

ACTION:

Motion by Ken Bounds to approve the staff recommendation as proposed in the Requested Action above. Second by Laurie Connelly. **Motion passes unanimously as presented.**

12:10 p.m. PRE-ARRANGED SPEAKER

- Jim van Löben Sels – MS2000

12:24 p.m. LUNCH

1:05 p.m. REQUESTED ACTION

Item E-3: Nisqually - Land Classifications Revision

This item asks the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission to approve minor adjustments to the land classifications at Nisqually State Park.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

REQUESTED ACTION FROM COMMISSION:

That the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission:

1. Adjust land classifications for Nisqually State Park as shown in Appendix 3.

ACTION:

Motion by Ken Bounds to approve the staff recommendation as proposed in the Requested Action above. Second by Sophia Danenberg. **Motion passes unanimously as presented.**

1:26 p.m. REPORT

Item E-4: Nisqually Property Transfer

This item reports to the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission on a proposal to transfer portions of Nisqually State Park to the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for future right-of-way purposes, and to transfer any ownership interest held by the Commission in Mashel Prairie Road to Pierce County (County). This proposal will be brought as a requested action to a future Commission meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ACTION:

Report only, no action taken

1:37 p.m. REPORT

Item E-5: Riverside State Park – Sontag Park-Transfer to Nine Mile Falls School District

This item reports to the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission on a proposal to transfer a portion of Sontag Park to the Nine Mile Falls School District. This proposal will be brought as a requested action to a future Commission meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ACTION:

Report only, no action taken

1:48 p.m. REQUESTED ACTION

Item E-6: Agency Request Legislation

This item requests the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission approval of policy options and delegation of authority to the Director's Office and the Legislative Committee to finalize agency request legislation and to submit the proposals to the Governor's Office for consideration.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

REQUESTED ACTION OF COMMISSION:

That the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission:

1. Delegate to the Director the authority to pursue the development of 2023 agency request legislation based on policy direction from the Commission.
2. Authorize the Director and designees to work with the Legislative Committee, the Governor's policy and fiscal staff, and relevant stakeholders, to develop legislative requests and submit them to the Governor's Office for formal review.

ACTION:

Motion by Ken Bounds to approve the staff recommendation as proposed in the Requested Action above. Second by Laurie Connelly. **Motion passes unanimously as presented.**

2:30 p.m. BREAK

2:50 p.m. REQUESTED ACTION

Item E-7: 2023-25 Operating budget

This item asks the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission to 1) approve the 2023-25 operating budget request to submit to the Office of Financial Management (OFM).

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

REQUESTED ACTION FROM COMMISSION:

That the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission:

- 1) Authorize the Director to submit a 2023-25 operating budget request to the Office of Financial Management (OFM) for approximately \$258.5 million as recommended by staff in Appendix 2.
- 2) Authorize the Director to make ~~wording~~ changes, technical corrections, and changes to dollar amounts in the operating budget submittal as needed to finalize the submittal.
- 3) Authorize the Director to submit an operating budget supplemental if one is requested because of a special legislative session called by the Governor or the Legislature.

ACTION:

Motion by Steve Milner to approve the staff recommendation as proposed in the Requested Action above removing the word “wording” from #2. Second by Laurie Connelly. **Motion passes unanimously as proposed with changes.**

3:23 p.m. REQUESTED ACTION

Item E-8: 23/25 Capital budget

This item asks the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission to approve budgeting assumptions, structure, and the overall magnitude of capital funding to request to help guide development of the agency’s 2023-25 capital budget request.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Sue Gilman

REQUESTED ACTION OF COMMISSION:

That the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission:

1. Approve the staff recommended 2023-25 capital projects, priority order, and funding level as listed in Appendix 4.
2. Authorize the Director to submit a capital budget proposal to the Office of Financial Management per the 2023-25 Capital Budget instructions generally consistent with Appendix 4; allowing the Director to make minor modifications due to refinements in project scopes and cost estimates.

ACTION:

Motion by Laurie Connelly to approve the staff recommendation as proposed in the Requested Action above. Second by Ken Bounds.

Amendment to the motion by Laurie Connelly to amend staff’s requested action to insert a new project immediately following the project titled “Fort Columbia – Replace Sewer Treatment Plant” in the operationally critical category in Appendix 4. The new project should be titled “Mt Spokane State Park - Replace Chairlift #1” with a cost of \$3.1 million. Second by Steve Milner. All those in favor: Mark Brown, Laurie Connelly, Steve Milner, Michael Latimer, and Sophia Danenberg. All those opposed: Holly Williams and Ken Bounds. **Amendment passes 5 to 2.**

Amendment to the motion by Steve Milner to amend staff’s requested action to insert a new project titled “Goldendale Observatory Rooftop Access and Observation Gallery” at a cost of \$2 million in the Priority category in Appendix 4. Targeted project completion to occur in the ‘23 ‘25 biennium subject to unforeseen barriers and availability of resources. Second by Laurie Connelly. **Amendment passes unanimously.**

Amendment to the motion by Steve Milner to amend staff’s requested action to modify the scope of the “Palouse to Cascades Trail Structural Repairs” project to add a first phase of construction opportunistically targeting work in the Malden to Rock Lake section of the trail in addition to design and permitting and to adjust the associated project cost as determined by staff. Second by Laurie Connelly. **Amendment passes unanimously.**

Call for the main motion by Laurie to approve the staff recommendation as proposed in the Requested Action above. Second Ken Bounds. **The main motion passes unanimously.**

4:37 p.m. REVIEW FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

4:41 p.m. ADJOURN

BE 7/14/2022

A recording is retained by WSPRC as the formal record of meeting. The recording is accessible on the park's website approximately one week after the meeting - [Commission meetings & agendas | Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission](#)

The services, programs, and activities of the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission are covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you need special accommodations to participate in this meeting, please contact the commission assistant Becki Ellison at (360) 902-8502 or becki.ellison@parks.wa.gov. Accommodation requests should be received at least five business days prior to the meeting to ensure availability. Please provide 7-day notice for requests to receive information in an alternative format and for ASL/ESL interpretation.