
BENTON COUNTY NATURAL AREAS & PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

**June 12, 2024
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

**Avery Parks Building
360 SW Avery Ave**

Committee Members Present: David Smith, John Turner, Phil Hays, Bryce Downey, Elizabeth Spatafora, Carol Walsh, Miles Phillips and Ben Watts.

Committee Members Absent: Kevin Chambers, and Duncan Rothe.

County Staff Present: Jesse Ott, Natural Areas, Parks & Events Deputy Director;
Adam Stebbins, Natural Resources Coordinator; Leanna Buck,
Recorder.

I. BUSINESS

A. Approval of May Minutes (5min)

Phil moved to approve the minutes as amended and Bryce seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Action Items- Jesse (5min)

Jesse had asked the Board to think about the North Albany Shelter and let him know what kinds of ideas everyone has for replacement or remodel of the shelter. In the North Albany Master Plan, it talks about tearing down and replacing the shelter, he would like to save it and remodel it but would like the board to give their input on what they think about the replacement or remodel of the structure. It would be much cheaper to remodel vs. replacing with a new one. If it's a remodel we would have to go back and revise the master plan. The board leaned heavily toward the remodel of the shelter.

C. McBee Logging Plan - Adam (20min)

Adam reported that Trout Mountain Forestry completed an assessment of the park in November of 2023, which will make it easy to add McBee to our Forest Stewardship Plan as an Addendum. One element of the assessment was the identification of a fairly large stand across the highway from the campground that is ready for logging. With the need to get the park open for day-use as soon as possible, Adam is recommending a plan to log the tract, and also take out some trees to clear space for a new day use parking lot. Adam has a logger lined up to do the work. Phil moved to proceed with a phase 1 logging plan to prepare the day use parking lot and

thin the other stand. No logging will be done within the rest of the campground during phase 1. Carol seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

D. Jackson-Frazier Boardwalk Replacement Update - Jesse (10min)

Jesse talked with engineer Dave Conklin today and he will have designs for us to review for the first time this Friday June 14th. Jesse also talked about the two big appropriations that we currently have for this department. We have \$400,000 dollars for the Court House for community engagement and site analysis. The next one is for 1 million dollars for the replacement of the boardwalk. Nothing will be done with this project until we know that we have the money.

E. Comprehensive Plan Update - David (15min)

David talked about the 2012 plan that is currently in place. He feels that it is time to update this plan and suggests that the re-writing of this plan should be lead by the Parks Advisory Board. This would take approximately a year to do. He would like to form a small sub-committee of this group to put together the documents. Elizabeth suggested that this should become a living document and be updated every year. Bryce, Carol, and John will meet with David and discuss the next steps.

F. Disc Golf Expansion Update - Bryce (10min)

Bryce reported that two of the largest tournaments just happened here in Oregon and both went very well. Currently the armature worlds are going on with three locals playing in it in Kansas. Bryce did some drone footage of Anderson Park and will provide the footage to the board at one of the future meetings.

G. Ft. Hoskins Historical Interpretation Committee Update - Phil (10min)

No updates at this time.

H. Park Project Updates - Jesse (10min)

Jesse reminded everyone that we are in the process of planning for the County Fair and it is all consuming of the staff. Concrete is going in this week at North Albany for the restroom. There is another building going up at the at the Fairgrounds currently and should be finished soon.

III. MEETING ADJOURNMENT ~ 7:58pm

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