

PARKS MEETING NOTES FOR FEBRUARY 8TH 2023

9:30 FIRESIDE ROOM

The meeting was hybrid and called to order by Ollie Iversen at 9:32 and there were no Zoom guests, yet joining us was Ramus, Marty's dog. There was a quorum of Marty Pease, Ken Lee, Martin Howard, Mike Bucy and Ollie Iversen. Also in attendance were Scott Thomas, Town Administrator, Mary Wohleb, Town Councilperson, and Ajah Eills Town Assistant Planner.

Public comments-There were no guests at the meeting.

Old Business

A. Rotary Grant Request-Marty Pease, La Conner Rotary Board Member, reported that Rotary's Grant Team had accepted the grant request and turned it over to the Rotary Board with their endorsement. The Board meets this Monday evening, February 13th, so we should be hearing about it next week.

B. Pavilion Permit Update- Ajah Eills, Assistant Planner confirmed the request for a building permit was sent in the week of February 1st to Skagit County. It should take from 6 to 8 weeks to be approved. Ken Lee was asked to move forward and contact the builder to give him this information.

C. Fish Slide Update-Brian Lease of Public Works said earlier this week that the concrete expert will be in Town mid to late March of this year, to look over the Fish Slide and we should then hear his analysis of what the slide needs and how to proceed very soon after.

D. Park and Port Fund-Ollie Iversen reported that some of the monies coming into Town including Sales Tax and Port revenue, are combined under The Park and Port Fund and these funds provide some maintenance on both. This information got Ollie to reach out to Aaron Reinstra, Fire Chief/Code Enforcement Officer to discuss the four boats of which, three are unpaid and tied to Town Floats, and one is on a trailer, unpaid in the boat launch area. Parks will be aware of this issue in the future and will contact Aaron Rienstra with any new information.

E. Trees on North First and Morris Streets-Martin Howard reported that trees planted next or thorough sidewalks have to have very specific roots so as to not damage the sidewalks. Ollie reported there are about 10 trees on North 1st and several on Morris which need to be taken out and or replanted with new. Marty Pease spoke up and asked why Parks is involved in street trees and made a good point. It was decided this is a Town Council issue and we, Parks would support planting new trees to replace the old ones.

New Business

A. Sound Rowers and Paddlers, human powered boats, held their annual race every First Saturday in February again this year. The change was to start at the Rainbow Bridge per usual, yet this year it went North in the channel to near the Highway 20 Bridge and back to the Rainbow bridge. As

there are about 100 entries, Ollie Iversen suggest he would contact the La Conner Chamber for next year and between the Chamber and Parks we could have something in one of the Parks, say Dirty Biter, to watch the race with others from Town. It was supported by all. Ollie will report back next month with his findings.

B. Ollie Iversen was contacted by Sunnie Eimpie, an area resident, who was a major donor to the Pioneer Parks music pavilion many years ago. She asked why the site was not used more for music and other viewing celebrations and Ollie could not answer her. Ollie opened a discussion about this and asked parks to put together some thoughts about what will work there and bring their ideas back next month.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:16

Ollie Iversen
Parks Commissioner