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**Friends of Big Finn Hill Trails
 Organizing Committee Meeting**

**March 19, 2015
 7 – 8:30 pm
 Inglewood Presbyterian Church
 7718 NE 141 St, Kirkland**

MEETING MINUTES

Action Items

Topic	Who
1. Amend February notes and re-send	Frana
2. Notify group of onsite meeting with Grant	Mike C
3. Notify group of Backcountry Trails Crew work dates	Mike or Dennis
4. Send out doodle poll to identify future meeting dates	Troy

Next Meeting

Thursday, April 23
 7 – 8:30 pm
 Inglewood Presbyterian Church
 7718 NE 141st St, Kirkland

April agenda items identified at March mtg:

- a. Organizing committee operations: Continue discussing leadership roles and responsibilities
- b. Trail project planning and implementation

1. Meeting was called to order (7:05 pm) and introductions made

In attendance:

Organizing committee: Janice Gerrish, Nick Rhodes, Bob Gerrish, Bill Blanchard, Joe Przychodzen, Jeannette Leach, Troy Kasper, Mike Dierkan, Mark Garnick, Gary Johnson

King County Parks: Mike Crandell, Frana Milan

Community: George Meredith, Neil Ostroff, Paul Hanson, Dave Utela, Grant Heisey (Eagle Scout candidate)

2. Meeting business

- a. A quorum was established.
- b. The group reviewed the agenda and ground rules. No changes were made.
- c. The committee voted to approve amended meeting minutes from the February meeting.
- d. Updates / Info sharing for the good of the order...
 From MIKE:
 - o Potential volunteer project in SW section

Mike introduced Neil Ostroff, a neighbor who is interested in doing some trail work in the SW portion of the park (near OO Denny Park). Mike said there hasn't been work on the trails in that areas since 2001, and the area is very wet. Neil is interested in organizing some volunteer work days to do trail maintenance on about 200 feet of trail, he's estimating that it could be done in two work party days with 4 people per day. Mike expressed his support for this project. It is not a project that was part of the trails plan.

Next steps are for Neil and Mike to meet on site. Mike will notify the group of that date and also the work party dates, if the group can help out and also help recruit volunteers.

Neil also brought up the topic of improving connections of this area with the rest of the park. There is an unofficial trail through private property, but it isn't maintained. The trails plan notes that the topography in the area is steep and that there are other issues limiting trails in this portion of the part.

- Trail intersection markers
Mike said that he's got a location for sign assembly. Posts will be 4x4, made from milled cedar. Jeanette and George volunteered to start the assembly and installation and will recruit others once they've got an installation process streamlined.
- Unauthorized trail building
Mike said and others on the cmte also noted that there's been some unauthorized trail building going on in Juanita Woodlands. The Backcountry Trails Crew will be out at the end of the month and will work to undo those unauthorized trails.

From JEANETTE:

- Juanita Dr crossing (City of Kirkland project)
Expecting project to be approved in June for construction in 2016. It will involve some trail re-routing on both sides of the street, so the group should be ready to mobilize for when that happens.

3. Organizing Committee Operations

- a. FBFHT structure: defining leadership roles and responsibilities
 - Frana reviewed with the group some of the shared values about the park and its trails (based upon her reviewing the trails plan and past meeting discussions)
 - Protect the park's natural resources
 - Provide a sustainable network of trails, especially in terms of minimizing maintenance needs
 - Ensure safety for users
 - Connect trails / trail systems (including orientation)
 - Build partnerships for park and trail stewardship
 - Frana reviewed with the group some of the expectations and roles of the Friends of BFHT and the organizing committee
 - Be a good conduit to the community and park users
 - Be a key force in implementing plan
 - Ensure proper implementation of plan
 - Promote the park/volunteering to get more people involved and enjoying the park
 - The group discussed transitioning from having King County Parks as the organizer/facilitator/convener to becoming more of a participant and liaison role. There was

agreement about having King County Parks continue to facilitate for a few more meetings, but having cmte members take on some of the other tasks. Examples of tasks include:

- Setting the agenda and facilitating meetings
- Taking notes and distributing afterwards
- Coordinating meeting logistics and sending reminders
- ➔ Nick agreed to take notes at the next meeting
- ➔ Troy agreed to coordinate a doodle poll to identify meeting times for May, June, July meetings.

b. FBFHT by-laws

- There was a lot of discussion around how much time and energy to put forth on developing by-laws. Per agreement from a few meetings ago, the group decided to continue operating without by-laws under the same general structure as now. Mike Dierkan took a stab at revising the by-laws that Bob Gerrish drafted last year – a hard copy version was distributed and the doc lives online in the google docs. The group agreed to continue considering how to go about developing by-laws.

4. Trail Project Planning and Implementation

a. Eagle Scout Project project Grant Heisey, Eagle Scout candidate)

- Grant said that his troop leader approved his proposal, so he can move forward with the project
- Next step is to meet with Mike on site – Mike will notify the group of the date/time of that meeting.
- Goal is have the work party(ies) towards the end of May
- Since the group agreed to leaving the existing rocks where they are and use donated rocks from Freuling or another source, this work doesn't need to be coordinated with KCP's Backcountry Trails Crew's work, which will start at the end of March.

b. Backcountry Trails Crew work

- Anticipated to start at the end of March – Mike or Dennis will notify the group. They generally work Mon thru Thursdays.
- Projects include:
 - Juanita Woodlands undoing unauthorized trails
 - Redmond Ridge
 - BFH – E42-43 (east side of beaver pond)
 - BFH – turnpike project

5. Next Meeting

Next meeting will be 7 – 8:30 pm at the Inglewood Presbyterian Church, 7718 NE 141st St, Kirkland on Thurs, April 23.