

Friends of Big Finn Hill Trails – Meeting Notes

Mission The Friends of Big Finn Hill Park Trails promotes safe, sustainable, multi-use trails within a healthy, natural environment while fostering relationships and engaging the broader community.

March 15, 2017

Facilitator: Bill Blanchard

Notes: Jeanette Leach

Attendees: Janice Gerrish (At Large); Bob Gerrish (Dog Walkers); Gary Johnson (Dog Walkers); Mark Garnick (Mt Bikes), Troy Kasper (Mt Bikes) Bill Blanchard (Neighbors); Jeanette Leach (Walkers); George Meredith (Walkers); Troy Lester (King County Parks). Debbie Meyer (Friend of Friends); Jill Bartlett (Friend of Friends)

Not present: Nicholas Rhodes (at large); Joe Przychoden (neighbors);

Quorum present.

Review & Approval of Minutes: Minutes from February approved.

ACTION: Bill Blanchard to provide Nov, January and Feb minutes to Frana Milan so she can post them on the KC Parks website

Troy Lester of KC Parks –

a) Control of blackberries and herbicide

The herbicide Troy generally uses on blackberry has the active ingredient, Triclopyr. The commercial name is Vastlan. This is a selective herbicide that targets broadleaf weeds and blackberry, i.e. it gets the broad leaf plants and doesn't kill grasses. This product is used with an integrated approach by mowing, herbicide treatment, manual removal and replacement with native vegetation. Using the lowest levels, blackberry is generally treated after the canes have leafed out in the spring or in the fall after flowering and berries. All applications are performed with State licensed applicators and posted with State mandated warning signs (which may include closing the area to foot traffic until the product has dried). Troy expects to start treating the blackberry at Big Finn in late March or early April, depending on the weather. He has agreed to provide an alert to the Friends of Big Finn Hill Trails before application (perhaps the evening before) so the committee members can spread the word.

b) Juanita Drive Crossing – drainage issues have been identified that need to be addressed.

Annual Meeting for April 19 Gary J, Debbie M, Bill B

Format of Annual meeting

- a) Gary J is preparing a Powerpoint presentation with accomplishments and overview of plan
- b) Bill B will facilitate a panel discussion with Kevin Brown of King County Parks, Kirkland Park rep and Jon Pascal, Kirkland City Council on thoughts about future of Big Finn as a county park surrounded by the city. Mayor of Kirkland, Amy Walen will also be there. Bill does not yet have

confirmation from all invitees so will keep group informed. (Rod Dembowski declined as out of town). Bill will moderate.

- c) Landslide?
- d) Elections: See October 2016 minutes for those whose terms are up this year. Annual meeting committee will contact both Joe P and Nick R to confirm that they are still interested in participating. As per by-laws voting is within the interest group.

ACTION: Meeting at Bill's office TBD to review and finalize Annual meeting (date will be sent in Email).

Trail W47:

Concern was expressed about the lack of progress since approval of revisions proposed by Joe P in response to community feedback. Bill Blanchard volunteered to take over leadership of the project. Bill's leadership of the project was approved by a majority vote.

ACTIONS: Bill B will contact Joe P, and work with George M to complete the trail project.

Review of Phases In Trail Plan: most of May meeting will be dedicated to reviewing the status to confirm that projects are completed as presented in the Trail Plan approved March 2014 before moving on to other projects.

Next meeting (May). Walkers will facilitate continuing the alphabetical rotation.

- a) Feedback from Annual meeting
- b) Elections as per by-laws
- c) Review of the status of plan implementation phases.