

present were: Shanti Loustaunou, Gail Fleming, Marianne Edain recording, Stan Berryman, staff, Frank Rose, Joann Quintana, and Moe Jerome of the Seawall subcommittee, Trilby Coolidge, Guy Burneko, public, and Stan Berryman, staff.

The meeting was called to order at 3:00

The minutes of the 6-14-17 meeting were adopted as written.

#### Seawall Park subcommittee discussion

Members of the Seawall Park subcommittee were present to discuss the working relationship between POS and its subcommittee. Gail summarized. It was agreed that the subcommittee should appoint a liaison to POS. There is no need for staff support, but Stan agrees to make himself available as necessary. Gail wants to be sure that the Seawall Park subcommittee members receive notice of the POS agendas. Gail will look into setting up a group email with the City for the subcommittee.

Joann asked if Planner Brigid had posted notices of Seawall Park committee meetings. She had not. That needs to be arranged with front office person Darlene.

Frank Rose recapped the history of the origin of the Seawall Park subcommittee. Former mayor Fred McCarthy had a focus on economic development, which he furthered by establishing the Arts Council, which then devolved a Seawall Park committee – which has now been made a subcommittee of Parks and Open Space.

The Seawall Park subcommittee reports to POS, which must approve its actions. The Seawall Park subcommittee defines its project areas and figures out the estimated cost of any projects. Joann wanted to be sure that there was no duplication of effort and emphasized working together. She felt that the 7-5-17 story in the Record did not quite capture the flavor of Seawall Park subcommittee chair Sharon Emerson's report to the city council and suggested that it would be good to bring the reporter up to date.

Marianne suggested inviting reporter Evan on a site visit.

Shanti reported very heavy usage of Seawall Park on a recent hot day.

There was discussion of what would be the best meeting day, and it was concluded that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month was still the best.

Moe listed the many groups who seemed to be involved with Seawall Park: POS, Main Street, the Garden Club, the Chamber of Commerce. Main Street has bought 3 telescopes.

Stan reported that 1 of the scopes is to be installed at Whale Bell Park, one at the Boy and Dog Park, and one along the Cascade Walkway.

Moe expressed concern about the ad-hoc actions of some of these other groups.

Marianne found the lines of communication unclear and suggested working to clarify those.

Frank brought up the \$7k grant for handrails at Hladky Park. The Arts Commission is considering how to use that. POS was not consulted.

It became obvious from the discussion that communication is a problem.

Joann suggested a Seawall Park agenda item: liaison with all of these groups.

Gail suggested that we post the Seawall Park subcommittee meetings at the post office.

Moe brought up the issue of the Tree ordinance, saying that Main Street is working on Frick Lane, pruning trees there to install lights.

Moe was unanimously appointed as liaison to Main Street.

Frank was unanimously appointed as liaison to the Arts Commission.

Joann will coordinate with Sharon about posting, agendas, etc.

#### Heron Rookery update

Intern Kelsey provided a map from State Fish and Wildlife which proved to be less than accurate. This led to much discussion of the map, the actual location of the rookery, the wetlands, the stream, and the neighboring cottonwoods. There was discussion of how to map these elements, how to assure the maps are correct. It was recommended that owners of properties containing any of these elements be provided notice.

#### Wetland Overlay map

Gail outlined the issue of what had been called wetland 'focus areas.' She contacted MRSC to see how other jurisdictions deal with this issue. Kelsey has created a version of the wetland focus area overlay map. She asked how useful Island County's wetland field indicators worksheet was. Marianne felt that it was not particularly useful. Kelsey has printed the North Bend city maps, 10 years apart. They show the shift over time from 'wetland focus area' to delineated wetland. This is to be expected, and is why wetland 'focus area' mapping is a good idea. Marianne suggested Kelsey contact the North Bend planner. Kelsey agreed to do so, and to ask for specific code language.

#### Tree Ordinance

Gail has decided not to pursue review and revision of the tree ordinance at this time, but to seek to convene a subcommittee for that specific purpose. The focus areas are: 1) development of more than one SFR and 2) when trees may be cut for development of an SFR. Gail will ask Barbara Seitle for a copy of the Woodside, CA tree ordinance for review as a possible example.

#### Other items – trails

Mr Kent Hanson has presented possibilities for trails, trail easements, and trail mapping. He prefers a tool called a Revocable License over a permanent trail easement. Mayor Tim has agreed to have the city be the holder of any Revocable License agreements and to hold the property owners harmless under such agreements. There was a suggestion that we consult with Doug Coutts of South Whidbey Parks & Recreation re continuity of trails from city to parks lands. Mr Hanson wants to bring the Island County commissioners into this project. He says he has volunteers willing to approach property owners. Joann suggested some form of open house, by invitation, hosted by the city, to introduce property owners to the concept. There was much discussion on the subject and how to approach it. It was concluded that POS would host the open house, that it would be done in the meeting room at city hall, that POS would provide maps, examples of Revocable License documents, and find someone who had in fact signed such a document to speak on their experience.

Shanti suggested checking with owners in Woodside, the Cedars, Al Anderson Road, and Upper Langley.

#### Other items – letter re dumping along The Highlands trail

Stan reported that he had produced such a letter and placed copies in the mailboxes of houses whose lots back onto the trail. The letter did not ask them to removed existing piles, but did ask that property owners refrain from any further dumping.

#### Other items – how to use the balance of the POS budget before year's end

It was agreed that the first priority is acquisition of the Noble Creek property and the second priority is restoration of the Middle Earth wetlands. Both of these are major projects which will require grant funding. Grants generally require some form of local match. We have to consider

how to provide such a match. We are looking at RCO and Conservation Futures as the most likely sources of grant funding.

Marianne agreed to contact Pat Powell to solicit her assistance as a paid consultant to craft an acquisition strategy.

Other items –

Ms Coolidge suggested that UW has a regular call for grant applications from municipalities wanting grad students to help organize their various Open Space programs. She suggested that Langley, via POS, explore the possibilities of soliciting such aid.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00.