

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

Friends of Big Finn Hill Park Trails (FBFHPT) Executive Committee General Meeting Minutes

Date: February 6, 2019
Location: Kenmore Library
Facilitator: Gary Johnson
Note Taker: Debbie Meyer

Committee Attendees:

Ayrault, Lisa (At Large)
Gerrish, Bob (Dog Walkers)
Gerrish, Janice (At Large)
Johnson, Gary (Dog Walkers)
Meredith, George (Walkers)
Meyer, Debbie (Neighbors)

Non-Committee Attendees:

Fitzpatrick, Tom (Proxy for Bill Hall, Bicyclists)

With Tom F as proxy for Bill H, a quorum was present.

Absent Committee Members:

Blanchard, Bill (Neighbors) – Excused
Kasper, Troy (Bicyclists) – Unexcused
Leach, Jeanette (Walkers) – Excused

Summary of Meeting Topics:

Committee approved the Minutes of the May 2, 2018, Annual Meeting and November 7, 2018, General Meeting of FBFHPT Executive Committee.

Due to the icy road conditions, no representation from King County Parks was in attendance. However, Joe Hughes sent the following **King County Parks update** prior to the meeting:

Big Finn Park:

The grounds crew finished back-filling behind fields #1 and #2 in preparation for the new outfield fencing. Both outfields will be hydro-seeded as needed.

New outfield fencing is now onsite and ready to be installed when weather permits.

When weather and Joe H's schedule allows, he will be picking up 12 cedar trees to fulfill the requirement of the tree removal permit.

The crew's focus this month will be getting all fields ready for baseball season, including fence repair, reinstalling the backstop padding, bases, etc.. Season starts March 1.

Eastside restrooms are scheduled to open March 1.

30-40 yards of wood chips were delivered to support Tiny Trees and future volunteer events.

Denny Creek:

Melissa and Brian of Back Country Trails led an adult WTA event along Denny Creek. In two weeks, they were able to install 75 steps, using about 500' of 4" x 7" timbers supplied from the Back Country Trails mill. Almost 10 yards of rock were used to complete the steps. They also built a 12' turnpike; put in a 14' retainer log; and refurbished an old 30' turnpike. The refurbishment was done by adding a culvert underneath the turnpike to improve water flow and refilling it with gravel to prevent water from pooling on top. In the area disturbed by the construction, they planted 100 bare root salmonberries, 50 bare root red elderberries, 50 bare root red osier dogwoods and 70 potted cedar trees. The trail is $\frac{3}{4}$ completed, and Melissa is hoping to return in May.

While the Committee appreciated these King County updates, it also was hoping to obtain updates on the following and look forward to them at the next meeting:

WTA work that was scheduled in mid November for Big Finn Hill Park.

At the November 7, 2018, FBFHPT meeting, Joe H asked the Committee to identify areas that could benefit from WTA help. One of the areas identified on the west side of the Park was the "southwest corner between intersection 62 and 134th Street". Rather than working in this area, the WTA group worked an area that had not been identified or discussed at the November meeting; namely, "north of 138th Place, closest to Juanita Drive". While it appears WTA did a fine job in this area, the Committee would like to know:

- Had a cultural review been done of that area; and
- When is work scheduled in the areas identified by the Committee?

FBFHPT Committee's long-standing ask of Melissa of the King County Parks Back Country Trails Team to review some FBFHPT projects, including a walk through of Hall's Pass

What is Melissa's availability?

Hall's Pass trail reroute from between the two cedar trees (one of which is now dead) on the north end of the trail

What has King County decided to do and when will it be done?

Rotten Logs of Bicyclist Jumps on Log Ride Loop and Hall's Pass

During the Park walkabout Joe and Wilson of King County Parks had with those available Committee members on January 9, 2019, (Debbie M and Bill H), King County agreed to remove the long-standing rotten log of the Log Ride Loop. As a result, what is King County's plan to remove and when?

Subsequent to the Park walkabout, it has come to the Committee's attention that an attempt by someone other than King County to partially remove the rotten log which is part of the bicyclist jump on Hall's Pass caused a safety issue. As a result, what is King County's plan to remove the log and when?

Updated maps

The map on the King County website for Big Finn Hill Park Trails does not include any intersection markers. What is King County's plan/process for updating maps?

Proposed Bylaw Revisions:

A number of revisions had been proposed by Bob G, Bill H and Debbie M throughout Articles I, II, III, IV and V of the Bylaws. Time permitted discussion and approval of all the proposed revisions except:

- Bob G's proposed additions to Article IV-Executive Committee, Section 3-Election of Officers to further clarify the nomination and voting process; and
- Debbie M's cut at providing some simplification, yet capturing clarification

The Committee agreed it wants to avoid onerous and punitive Bylaws which may discourage others from serving on the FBFHPT Executive Committee in the future. Debbie M was asked to send her cut at simplification/clarification to the Committee. All Committee members are asked to review and send their comments via email as the goal is to reach approval electronically and avoid more lengthy Bylaw discussion at another meeting. These changes will affect the nomination of new Executive Committee candidates and the voting process at this year's annual meeting. Once approval is received, Debbie M will incorporate all approved changes in a revised Bylaws document for posting on the King County website.

Remaining 2019 Meeting Dates:

The Committee agreed to the following meeting dates for the remainder of 2019:

- March 13, 2019 (to get us back on the every-other month schedule and since no meeting rooms could be found for March 6)
- May 1, 2019 (Annual Meeting)
- July 10, 2019 (to avoid any conflict with the July 4 holiday)
- September 4, 2019
- November 6, 2019

Committee Project Prioritization/Updates:

- Trail 47 (George M)
- Intersection markers (George M)

It was the consensus of the group to close these projects as completed among those of King County's "Big Finn Hill Park Trail Recommendations Plan". George recalled there was a King County "process" which should be followed before declaring any project of the Plan as completed so we are asking Joe H to please clarify for us at our next meeting.
- New signage (George M) – in accordance with King County's "Big Finn Hill Park Trails Recommendations Plan", trail directional signs are identified as part of the "New Signage" Phase 1 project. There was group discussion over the value/need for more signage in the Park, and the group would like to understand what priority King County places on this element of the project. To help determine the value/need for more signage, George proposed a subcommittee be formed to pilot directional signs on three of the Park's trails; namely, the Perimeter, Madrona and Mainline trails. Before proceeding, King County feedback/support is required.
- Future Tracking Format for Project Updates/Prioritization: As Gary J suggested, our focus for 2019 should be to "get it done". Towards that end, the group agreed a "living document" should be created of all projects in King County's "Big Finn Hill Park Trail Recommendations Plan" with a focus on completing the outstanding Phase 1 projects. After all and according to the Plan, "All tasks in Phase 1, which focus on improvements to existing trails, will be completed before Phase 2 and 3 tasks are initiated." This document would be used by the group to prioritize the projects with King County's input and to track issues, help needed and progress of each "lead" Interest Group so a determination can be made if more/other Interest Group participation is in order. George M/Debbie M agreed to draft a document for Committee consideration at the next General Meeting.

Other Business:

Next General Meeting is on Wednesday, March 13, 2019, from **7:30 pm** – 9:00 pm at the Kingsgate Library. The Kingsgate Library is located at 12315 NE 143rd Street, Kirkland, WA 98034.

Committee was reminded to send any agenda suggestions by Wednesday, March 6, 2019. Since this is the meeting prior to the annual meeting, the Committee also was asked to come prepared to discuss annual meeting agenda topics and to identify guest speakers to consider inviting. For those members who are unable to join this meeting, please email your input to the group or make sure your proxy is prepared to share at the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm.