

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: November 4, 2020
Location: Zoom Meeting
Facilitator: Gary Johnson
Note Taker: Wayne Hoofnagle

Committee Attendees:

Ayrault, Lisa (At Large)
Blanchard, Bill (Neighbors)
Gerrish, Bob (Dog Walkers)
Gerrish, Janice (At Large)
Hoofnagle, Wayne (Bicyclists)
Johnson, Gary (Dog Walkers)
Leach, Jeanette (Walkers)
Meredith, George (Walkers)
Meyer, Debbie (Neighbors)

Absent Committee Members:

Hall, Bill (Bicyclists) - Excused

Non-Committee Attendees:

Hughes, Joe (King County Parks)

Summary of Meeting Topics: A quorum was present.

King County Update (as reported by Joe Hughes):

1. Bike Jump removed - We remove the unauthorized bike jumps off of NE 140th. I had Jim lay down straw in the area that was disturbed to keep it from becoming too muddy.
2. Herbicide applied - Jim applied herbicide at known Yellow Arch Angel sites throughout the park. He also treated other invasive.
3. Illegal dumping - As Jim was spraying, he had a talk with the homeowner who was dumping Laurel and Himalayan blackberry clippings into Big Finn. The homeowner told him she was sorry and will remove the clippings. I believe all Laurel clippings have been removed. Our property agents were also notified.

4. Down trees - We cleared several down trees from the trail system from past wind and rain storms. I am also working on snagging or removing 4 more trees that are dead or dying and leaning toward properties that border Big Finn Hill Park.
5. Parking lot striping and gates – Most of the parking lot striping has been completed. Will finish striping when weather allows. All 4 service gates have been painted.
6. Potato farmer – Our Sheriff deputy served Big Finns potato farmers with “cease to operate” paperwork two days after our last “friends” meeting. He claims he feels bad about what he did and that he donated the potatoes to a local food bank?
7. Baseball – Baseball season is now over. We will be removing bases and will be locking up the dugouts and field gates.
8. Capital request to rehab entrance, baseball side – We are still in talks with capital. I have another meeting to discuss this matter later this month.
9. Restrooms – Restrooms will remain closed until further notice. We will be keeping 1 standard and 1 ADA porta potty unit onsite. We will also be keeping 1 handwashing station.
10. Beaver activity – We have started notching the beaver dam again on a routine basis. I have directed my staff to keep an eye out for new dams along the creek. We have notice beaver activity in new locations throughout the park. If you notice any new dams that may cause trail flooding, please let me or my staff know and we will add it to the areas to check daily.
11. WTA project - Due to covid we have had several district projects cancelled that require close contact. With that said, Melissa from our Back-County Trail Crew has schedule one project that was postponed earlier this year at Big Finn. The 30 ft. bridge behind field #4 built by Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance will be replaced. All the permitting and cultural reviews were completed last January. If no weather or Covid related issue arises, the work is scheduled for January 19th - 23rd and continuing again on January 26th – 30th.
12. Work party – Gary J. has scheduled a work party with “friends” member to complete the new trail connection on the north side and to close the trail leading to the old cross-walk. I will be creating some temporary signage to informed trail users of the upcoming change.
13. Seasonal last day – Shane and Sayvaun last day was October 31st. Also my staff is back on 8 hour shifts. Response time may be delayed.

Jeanette Leach asked about follow up on Northshore work that had been planned. Joe Hughes had not heard of any activity, this may be activity between Kirkland and Northshore? Also noted glass near baseball field.

Gary Johnson asked about Batting Cage. Joe Hughes said this is still moving forward; a

survey was sent out and is being summarized. General community support, but still in final planning stages.

Temporary sign for crosswalk change will be up weekend of 11/7. Joe Hughes to send a crew for this.

Project Summary:

Gary Johnson discussed the goals of getting a regular cadence of work. Maybe schedule a work effort every month or two? Also comment about how to get broader exposure.

Lisa Ayrault suggested projects to remove/kill the invasive holly/laurel spreading throughout the Park. She also commented on Bill Blanchard's idea of using the realtor/sandwich board to place near work site to inform people as they come by.

Debbie Meyer questioned if Gary Johnson had King County waiver forms for all work group participants to sign; and Joe Hughes committed to send the forms to Gary.

Gary Johnson reviewed Project Priority List

- 1) Close two trails made obsolete by new crosswalk and finish new trail connection. There is a work party 11/7/2000 to close the obsolete trails. Joe Hughes to send members of his King County team to place signage/barricade redirecting people to the new crosswalk.
- 2) Closure of various Eastside social trails. Some discussion on this. Joe Hughes reviewing trail on East side of Juanita Drive. This is a remnant left from the cross-walk addition, this will take some work to close. It was noted that bikers still use this, so uncertain if it needs closure. Another trail just to the East of the new 138th crosswalk to the gravel parking is not under review and will be left alone.
- 3) Address erosion problem on Halls Pass Mud hole between W10 and W11. Discussed section between W10 and W11. We can get gravel brought in but will need notice because this is not kept nearby. In general Joe Hughes needs two-weeks' notice of planned work party so he can schedule cultural review and resources. Looking at scheduling gravel and fill for Kiosk area.

Gary Johnson noted that he is looking at subsequent work party dates. We may tie them in after our quarterly meetings. George Meredith suggested monthly. We will need to revisit this.

Other Business:

- George Meredith: We need "No Parking" signs near new crosswalk. so cars don't block. Bill Blanchard again volunteered to take this request forward to the City of Kirkland
- Debbie Meyer asked Joe Hughes about the King County website contact as we have not heard back from Frana Milan all year. Joe committed to follow up on this. To avoid similar delays in 2021 with posting meeting dates and approved Minutes, the Committee agreed to request King County to post the full year of meeting dates on its website, welcoming everyone to attend and suggesting interested participants contact

a representative from their Interest Group on the posted Executive Committee Contacts list for meeting logistics and approved Minutes.

Meeting schedule for 2021. It is anticipated we may again need to meet via Zoom

Feb. 3, 2021 3-5 pm Zoom call

May 5, 2021 3-5 pm (Annual Meeting) Zoom call?

Sept. 1, 2021 3-5 pm Kenmore Library?

Nov. 3, 2021 3-5 pm Kenmore Library?

The next General Meeting of the FBFHPT Executive Committee is Wednesday, February 3, 2021, scheduled from 3 pm to 5 pm.

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:10 pm.