

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

**June 24, 2015
7 – 8:30 pm
Inglewood Presbyterian Church
7718 NE 141 St, Kirkland**

**MEETING MINUTES
APPROVED**

Action Items

Topic	Who
1. Correct May meeting minutes and circulate	Frana
2. Connect with KC Parks staff to schedule an ivy removal work party	Janice
3. Find location for July 22 meeting	Frana
4. Reserve picnic shelter by playground for Aug 20 meeting	John
5. Add agenda items for July meeting to Google doc	ALL

Next Meeting

Weds, July 22, 2015

7 – 8:30 pm

Kenmore Library

6531 NE 181st Street, Kenmore

Thurs, Aug 20, 2015

7 – 8:30 pm

Big Finn Hill Park (outside meeting! ☺)

Picnic shelter near the playground

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm.

In attendance:

Organizing committee: Janice Gerrish, Bob Gerrish, Joe Przychodzen, Jeanette Leach, Mark Garnick, Troy Kasper,

King County Parks: John Turner, Frana Milan

Community: Jill Bartlett, Neil Ostroff, Eric Basha, Paul Hanson

2. Meeting business

- a. Mark Garnick served as meeting facilitator, Frana took notes.
- b. A quorum was established.
- c. Meeting minutes
 - o May: approved as amended (correction needed: no Nat'l Trails Day booth at BFH in June)
 - o April: approved
- d. Updates

- o John rec'd a call from a parent saying his kid was the one building trails illegally, including a network on the east side of Juanita Woodlands (which the BCTC will remove in July); John suggested to him getting his kid in touch with Evergreen, but was discouraged because the parent didn't seem supportive of that. Suggestion to put the kid directly in touch with the mountain bikers on the organizing cmte. Suggestion to channel the kid's energy and trail building skills in a positive direction instead and not work on his own.

3. Communications

- a. FBFHT general email address (FOBFH@googlegroups.com): Cmte members should send an email to subscribe to email address and as such will be able to send emails out to all subscribers and to read all correspondence coming in over email. Works like a googlegroup subscription.
- b. How about subgroups for each of the 5 affiliations? Several affiliations have already set up their own affiliation-specific lists and those who haven't are encouraged to do so on their own, not tied to FOFBHT general email address.

4. Trail Project Planning and Implementation

- a. Eagle Scout project (Grant Heisey, Eagle Scout candidate – not present)
 - Nearing completion. Clarification that “completion” means that the project area doesn't need any further major work/work parties. There will always be maintenance/upkeep with any project, so the trails are never literally “completed”.
- b. Trail Markers
 - July 9th – MS interns event – working on eastside of park. John from KCP is contact person, Lina (Vol coordinator at KCP) will do on-site coordinating, expecting 40+ people.
 - o Pre-work: creating tags for locations and placing them
 - o Day-of coordination will be challenging to ensure that vols are getting signs in right places – will have to disperse them throughout site in groups of 3
 - o Good example of how GIS data could come in handy!
 - o Question about marker at #20 – is that an official trail? Yes.
 - o Event notification
 - Where should temp notification go? on east side of park?
 - Kiosk? John talked w/ KCP about installing a kiosk on east side of park. Suggested location - just outside of east entrance.
 - o When will west side marker installation happen? (there are 70+ post holes to do)
 - Dry season not good for installation, so suggestion is to continue when gets rainy again in a few months.
- c. South Trail project update
 - o Neil and Paul brought photos of the latest work
 - o Wood/turnpike in place, will be done this week
 - o Other muddy section is repaired already

d. BCT Crew update

- Coming in August – week and half in BFH Park
- John not sure what their work will be, nothing scheduled yet.
- Suggestions from this group??
 - Newer trail done last fall re-route (intersection 27 that goes to Evergreen bridge)...just as steep or steeper than it was and people are still cutting it, so could use some work. Possibly changing route of trail – more switchbacks, make less steep and keep people on trail.
 - South side of park:
 - Improving stairs (on the way to OO Denny)
 - Bridge improvements
 - Trail width control – is that something for BCT? Do they have techniques to make widened trail narrow/single-track? Replanting w/ natural vegetation or installing log borders.

e. Future trail projects

- Magic Log Ride (phase I) – one work party will complete work, which is more maintenance-y work. Suggestion to include trail narrowing techniques as part of work party.
- Start identifying Phase II projects??
 - What remains from Phase I?? (jumps in W31 in progress; rock garden in progress; sign markers in progress, so Phase I seems pretty much done)
 - General agreement that physical activity on Phase I projects wrapped up before digging in dirt on Phase II projects.
 - Fixing muddy spots is an ongoing task, so suggestion to re-categorize that as such.
 - Vote taken and approved to identify Phase II projects, after some discussion on sequencing (doing work on projects in progress vs. getting rolling on planning for new projects).
 - Hall Pass
 - Vote taken and approved to start planning.
 - Motion to nominate Troy as project lead. Vote taken and approved.
 - Orchard restoration: Apple trees back in the blackberry bushes, suggestion to install a bench.
 - General discussion about this project:
 - Suggestion to remember potential neighborhood concern that that area becomes a party location, esp if installing bench.
 - What's the experience at Jill's Bench? See some garbage there, but nothing else. Is open spot, so less attractive, deters illicit activities.
 - Work includes blackberry removal (biggest work element); apple tree pruning.
 - Vote taken and approved to start planning.

- Suggestion to walk area and come to next meeting w/ more of an idea of the work.
 - Motion to nominate Janice and Jeanette as co-leads. Vote taken and approved.
- f. Other projects??
 - Does KCP have water tank that fits on gator? It's hard to do projects right now w/o water.
 - KCP: maybe, but tank doesn't fit exactly on gator, so needs to be secured and prob can't go in too far. Also could use big garbage cans (4 can fit on a gator).
 - Suggestion to not plan on doing plantings now b/c it is a very dry dry season. Ferns are hardy, but concern w/ plant survival and it's hard to dig right now.
 - Ivy/invasives removal – both east and west sides have it. East side was given once-over removal, but ivy is coming back.
 - Janice would like to get a work party on the books, will need help/volunteers for the work
 - Committee members agreed that that type of project (habitat restoration vs. trails) doesn't need to go through FBFH Trails organizing cmte, but continued communication about it would be helpful.
 - Janice will work directly w/ KCP staff to schedule.

5. Next Meetings

- By-laws topics were shelved for a future meeting, due to time limitations and absence of Mike Dierken
- Confirmed for Weds, July 22
 - Joe as facilitator; who will take notes??
- Confirmed for Thurs, Aug 20 (at the picnic shelter near the playground in Big Finn Hill Park)
 - Troy as facilitator; who will take notes??