

MEETING MINUTES

**Friends of Big Finn Hill Trails
Organizing Committee Meeting**
June 12, 2014; 7-8:30 pm
Kenmore Library, 6531 NE 181st Street

APPROVED at 07/17/2014 meeting

Action Items

Topic	Who
Bylaws: Review bylaw examples (distributed by Frana) and come prepared to next meeting to talk about this group's bylaws <ul style="list-style-type: none">Review different sections online, find examples, bring an outline	All
Bring note taker from King County Parks for next meeting	Frana/Mike
Post meeting agendas on website in advance of meetings	Frana/Mike
Review example mission statements and group expectations to come to the next meeting ready to draft this group's mission statement	All
Send out Doodle poll to organizing committee for meeting date preference	Frana/Mike
Reserve space for meetings	Frana/Mike

1. Introductions

Attendees

Organizing Committee: Jill Falman, Janice Gerrish, Bob Gerrish, Mark Garnick, Troy Kasper, Bill Blanchard, Joe Przychodzen, Jeanette Leach

Community: George Meredith, Dave Utela, Bill Hall, Scott Edison, Tom Fitzpatrick, Debbie Meyer

King County Parks: Frana Milan, Mike Crandell

2. Meeting business

Frana reviewed ground rules and the meeting agenda.

3. Committee Governance and Operation

The group discussed how it would like to govern meetings and make decisions. After discussing how the meetings would operate and the extent to which non-organizing committee attendees could participate, the group made the following decisions:

- Operate using informal Robert's rules (emphasis on informal)
 - Includes approval of minutes and basic operations (i.e. motion to discuss or move forward on an issue)
- There is no quorum unless at least one representative from each of the 5 affiliations is present
 - Voting may be submitted via email, text, etc. in advance of the meeting
 - Alternatively, a proxy for a missing representative is allowed if an organizing committee representative is not able to attend the meeting; the representative is responsible for coordinating this arrangement in advance

- One vote per user group will be counted (1 vote per 2 representatives)
- The organizing committee voted 5–3 to keep all meeting discussions open to any community member who attends. To close discussion, the organizing committee will motion to close and then the committee will vote on the topic when appropriate.

4. **Role and mission of the Friends-of group**

To start out the meeting, the group was reminded it will not have the authority to make a change to the trails plan. However, the role and mission of the Friends of group is still being shaped. Each organizing committee member shared expectations of his/her individual participation in the group as well as expectations of the friends of group.

Expectations of participation in group (as individual)

- Inform and solicit feedback from the neighbors about the Friends of group
- Participate in the process to help implement the plan
- Lead outreach and input
- Lead volunteer activities/work parties
- Get as many people involved as possible
- Nurture cohesive group to work together
- Provide input to outreach activities
- Gather support and participation to get people out on the trails
- Delve into the dog issue
- Represent respective user group
- Be a conduit to neighbors and keep them informed

Expectations out of the Friends of group

- Be a cohesive group working together to be a good conduit of the community
- Ensure proper implementation of plan (one ditto)
- Implement the plan that was passed (four dittos)
- Be organized to communicate and coordinate activities of various user groups
- Get organized to get people to help / to be involved with the park (one ditto)
- Promote the park to get more people to enjoy the park
- See people working together with healthy sustainable forest to support the committees goals and decisions
- Address other items of interest not addressed in plan (one ditto)
- Be a watchdog for plan implementation
- See people working toward healthy and sustainable forest and trails

There was not enough time to begin drafting a mission statement for the group. However, Frana passed out example mission statements and encouraged everyone to look for other organization's statements to come to the next meeting ready to draft this group's mission.

5. **Education Session**

Mike Crandell provided an educational session on Resource Area IV – the King County Parks area that covers Big Finn Hill Park among other resource areas. Mike has a work crew composed of himself, 3 FTEs, and 5 seasonal employees (March-Oct). The total work crew hours total approx 9,096 hours for the year.

Mike showed a map of Resource Area IV that does not include Marymoor Park, but includes Big Finn Hill. Most of his crews' time (3000-3500 hours) is spent at Big Finn, but time allocation varies by year. Maintenance work includes prepping the ball fields, mowing the lawns, raking the leaves, bathroom maintenance, etc. Other sites include Cottage Lake, Redmond Ridge, and natural resource lands (Bear Creek). The number of sites that they take care of is growing, but his group is limited in the number of hours they can provide. They prioritize work based on safety, basic maintenance, prepping for scheduled use, restrooms, mowing, and then everything else.

Mike's group will help with the implementation of the Big Finn Hill Trails Plan. There are a few relevant projects in the works: There is an assessment of Madronas that is expected to take place in July. A new bench has been constructed and they are waiting to determine a location for it. New signage is in fabrication. A prototype has been done in plywood. There will be 5 or 6 signs to place in addition to "you are here" plaques to be placed at intersections.

6. Next Steps

The group will set-up two meetings for the summer (aim for 1 a month) to be held at 7pm. The group suggested considering a location away from the Kenmore traffic if possible. Frana will look into the Inglewood Presbyterian church on 141st for free meeting space.