

**Black Diamond Open Space  
Mountain Bike Facility - Advisory Committee  
Meeting #2 Minutes**

**Meeting details:**

May 22, 2014

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Lake Wilderness Lodge, Maple Valley

**In attendance:**

- Drue Hollifield
- Russ Moul
- Rick Zeleznik
- Todd Petrie
- Rick Heinz
- Mike Westra (sub for Bryan)
- Butch Lovelace (KCP Staff)
- Frana Milan (KCP Staff)

**Agenda:**

1. Review minutes
  2. Review agenda
  3. Discuss outstanding proposal items
  4. Next steps
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1. Review minutes: The group reviewed minutes from the 05/01/12 meeting and made no changes.

2. Review agenda: The group reviewed the proposed agenda and made no changes.

3. Proposal items left to discuss

i. Education Zone

The group envisions this as having two components: 1) a pump track geared toward little bikers, striders/beginners trails area, which would be located adjacent to the main trail entrance, just off the parking lot. This could be a “hang out” area for families. 2) an instructional area, which would be located on a flat site on the Summit Ridge property, not far off from the parking lot and could easily connect into existing trails (near Exodus trail). This area wouldn’t require much development, just flat cleared space.

There was general agreement around the concept of trail progression, so that the closer-in trails would be characterized by easier, low-risk, practice trails, and as one goes further into the site, the difficulty would increase

ii. Table Top

There was general agreement that although this feature could be located anywhere, it is best at the currently proposed location in the northeast corner, near the dual slalom and road climb trails.

iii. Pump Track

The main pump track would be more toward the interior of the site, featuring an open and flowy design, geared toward intermediates.

iv. Cross-country loop trail

All agreed that the cross-country loop trail should be a multi-use perimeter trail that incorporates criteria for student league races. The group discussed the pros and cons of one way and two way trails, considering things like how that affects design, intersections, orientation around the site to multiple destinations, and flow and trail user experience (having to pull over, approaching from behind, etc). There was general agreement that the trail should be two-way, with mountain-bike focused off-shoots or excursion trails that add length and feature types of experiences, but that there shouldn't be too many intersections with the main perimeter trail.

v. Volunteer recruitment

All agreed that recruiting volunteers will be more successful once they are able to 'sell the vision' of what the site will become, generating more excitement and getting people vested in the park. Evergreen agreed to take the lead, coordinating closely with local connections such as the members of the committee and their networks. The Backcountry Horsemen also agreed to promote volunteer opportunities and bring volunteer help. The group also discussed involved student league participants in everything from design to build.

4. Next steps

i. Next steps for Advisory Committee

The group agreed that King County Parks would summarize the concepts and features agreed to by the committee and send those around for comment. The group reviewed an outline of the structure of the recommendations report and decided to review and comment on it over email in June, with a goal of presenting to Parks management by the end of June. Once Parks management considers the recommendations and provides the go-ahead, Parks can start contracting for the YSFG grant for which Evergreen applied in 2013.

ii. Next steps for project

Mike from Evergreen discussed how they normally approach the design process for a project like this (establishing high-level concepts/objectives; researching on-the-ground conditions; assembling a design group to refine design; shopping design around among broader stakeholder group and general public; obtaining final sign-off and getting started).

Once approved by Parks to move forward (assuming there's also funding for design – Parks is checking on available of CPG resources), Evergreen will have staffer Bryan lead the data gathering of on-the-ground site knowledge. The focus will be the perimeter trail, including flagging out the footprint for the trail alignment. Another output would be a map showing that trail, plus general delineations for future phases. Construction for the perimeter trail would likely be covered by Parks' programmatic backcountry trails permit and could start this fall.