



Illahee Preserve Stewardship Committee Minutes

Tuesday, October 16th, 2018

6:30 – 8:00 PM in Kitsap Pavilion Building at Fairgrounds

1. **Welcome & Introductions:** Welcome Cedar Simmons of Leadership Kitsap
Attendees: Irwin Krigsman, Dori Leckner, Jim Aho, Cedar Simmons, Jon Buesch, John Plant, John Parvis, Judith Krigsman, Vic Ulsh
2. **Minutes from last Meeting:** Approved as corrected.
3. **Business**
 - a. **Update on properties along Illahee Road:** Board of County Commissioners ready to accept gifted properties. This process between Kitsap Bank and the BOCC is moving up the ladder and is scheduled for completion estimated to be around January.
 - b. **Leadership Kitsap:** Jim Aho met October 22, 2018, with Cedar Simmons, Kim, Rachael, Adrian, Chris from Leadership Kitsap to form a Community Partner Agreement-LK19 Team 1 with the Illahee Forest Preserve. Cedar is here tonight to talk to us about how her group will work with us and to explain how her group of 5 partners will reach a decision on which of the projects they will decide to accomplish. Cedar explained their focus will be on a project which will be sustainable. Some ideas which were floated were: Salmon Stream, Handicapped Trail and an Amphitheater.
 - c. **Timbers Edge** update: Jim Aho attended a meeting with Eric Baker, Jim Dunwiddie, Angie Silva, Mark Kuhlman, John Johnson, Steven Seago et al, to discuss possible solutions to the acquisition of 10.7 remaining acres of the Timbers Edge Development. A new appraisal of the parcel is in order. Suggestions on how to deal with a purchase of this parcel were discussed.
 - d. **Motorcycles in Preserve:** A discussion of motorcycles ended with a decision to just monitor this issue until it becomes a major threat to trail destruction.
 - e. **Homeless Camping Report:** John Parvis and John Plant and other volunteers reported that the current eyes on the issue are doing great. A deep gratitude was expressed by all attending for the amount of benefit these volunteers have given and succeeded in keeping things in such good order.

f. **Wetlands Trail:** Olympic College Amy Lawrence: Jim Aho gave a presentation that he presented to the RCO regarding the importance of sustaining and protecting the Wetlands within the Illahee Preserve and the headwaters stream of Steele Creek. Eight people signed up to get a hands on picture of what Amy Lawrence and her students from Olympic College might be engaged in a trail building project. Commissioner Ed Wolfe and Angie Silva attended.

g. **Kitsap County Parks' Report:** Dori Leckner Cable at the old Belden site; Public Works request to remove the guard rail; Address sign for Almira lot; Old gate mechanism on Thompson Lane; Homeless issues in the parks; Enforcement/Concerns issues in the park: Dori reported that homelessness has become very noticeable in the south end and law enforcement has been engaging in trying to defuse this situation. A focus has been Chico Salmon Park and with the upcoming Salmon Tours it is hoped that the homeless will be cleared from the park. 15 cubic yards of debris have been removed. Caution Tape to remain at the Beldon site. Public Works will remove the guard rail at Fuson and Dori will work with Public Works for an alternative plan to protect the preserve. Address signs pending. Thompson Lane gate will remain. Dori reported that 20 stewardship groups exist. Wayne Chase, Kitsap One, continues to be a great asset to use for park clean-up issues. Chainsaw training must be certified every two years with training desired in both North and Central Kitsap.

h. **Wildlife & Nature Reports:** Judith reported seeing unusual activity of dragon flies in the area of Thompson Lane.

i. **Anyone need a Thank You?** Judith will send Jim Fox another thank-you for the use of his porta-potty for work party events.

4. Issues / Concerns

a. Enforcement items – car & RV camping in Almira lot, dumping in parking lots, homeless camps in forest, dogs off-leash, dumping along Thompson Lane, brush picking, dog scoop, drug dealing, off-trail hiking, rogue trail building, fire wood poachers, plant thieving, paint ball, & motorcycles.

5. Adjourn

The Illahee Preserve Stewardship Committee meets on the third Tuesday of the month to discuss issues associated with the Illahee Preserve. The next regularly scheduled meeting of Illahee Preserve Stewardship Committee is **December 17th, 2018.**

NOTE: Illahee Forest Preserve, the non profit 501(c)(3) corporation, which supports the Illahee Preserve, meets the middle month of each quarter on the 3rd Tuesday of that month.