



Fort Worden
State Park Conference Center

Fort Worden Advisory Committee

200 Battery Way, Port Townsend WA 98368

Website: <https://fwac.wordpress.com> or

<https://parks.state.wa.us/511/Fort-Worden>

Email: fwaccomments@gmail.com

Committee Meeting Minutes

September, 17, 2020, 12:00 noon

Members Present: Kevin Alexander, Isaac Bozeman, Harriet Cannon, Sandy Gessner-Crabtree, Kate Dean, Brian Hageman, Steve Reed, Owen Rowe, Joan Rutkowski, Valerie Stewart, Claudia Zysk

Guests Present: Janine Boire, David Given, Gary Cummings, Lisa Werner

Members Absent: Joan Best, Susan Cronshaw, Tom Ferrell

Indigenous Land Acknowledgement: *We acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional homelands of the S'Klallam people of the North Olympic Peninsula, and we are committed to working with all local tribes to help preserve and restore a healthy natural environment for future generations.*

I. Welcome members and guests

II. Minutes of July 22 were approved as amended

III. Public Comment: None

IV. Presentations

- **Fort Worden Collaborative, Janine Boire;** Update on the work of the Collaborative Group, working on both mid-and long strategies to keep the Park and its Partners viable. Looking at shared resources and marketing among other potential economic savings.
- **Friends of Fort Worden, Zan Manning**
 - New interpretive panels approved.
 - Small opening of interpretive trail on the 26th of Sep.
 - The new AmeriCorps positions will remove hemlock, sand mat, and work on interpretive programs.

- Restoration work has been started on the guard shack.
- Building 11 is getting new handrails and building 203 may be next.
- Trail work by volunteers is back
- **Centrum, Lisa Werner**
 - Fiddle Tunes group set up zoom fiddle tunes, many events online such as; Hot Strings, and Ukulele Online.
 - Started utilizing the studio space to release podcasts (Artists in Place, On Air, etc.)
 - Main goal is to keep the community involved virtually until in-person events can get back.
 - State Parks approved “Fort Words”, and art piece around the fort.

V. Fort Worden State Park Area Updates

A. Public Development Authority, Joan Rutkowski:

- Executive. Director Dave Robison is retiring from PDA.
- PDA is seeking members for 3 vacant seats on the board.
- Smoke from fires was making it difficult for many eateries due to outdoor seating from COVID.
- The overall season for PDA was not as slow as expected.

B. State of the Park, Brian Hageman:

- “Fort Words” art installation is utilizing areas of the Fort that have already been painted.
- Capital Projects: Building 305 (Makers Square), water and sewer lines
- Upgrading electrical systems for the park.
- Buildings 4 and 5 on Officers Row are getting repainted.
- Breaking ground on new campground restroom in the upper campground soon.
- This summer has had the highest number of day-use visitors ever. Ft. Flagler has had a 30% higher visitation rate even with all the group camps/shelters being closed.
- Budget: Revenue is higher than projected. If the season continues this way, parks may be in better shape than expected next year.
- Rangers have been remarkably busy with the increased visitation.
- State Parks opting to keep museums closed.
- State Parks took over campground check-in.
- There will be a focus on Dune protection in the near future. Some money from U.S. Fish and Wildlife should be coming in for that purpose.

VI. Mission of the FWAC: General review of the FWAC mission to advise State Park Management and provide public information. Past members David Given and Garry Cummings provided their institutional memory input. Thanks to both. Consensus is that the FWAC needs to a better job of keeping the public informed on issues related to the Park by providing more outreach. Further discussions will be held in future meetings.

VII. Search for 2021 At-large candidates will begin

VIII. Next meeting, November 22

IX. Meeting Adjourned at 2:05 pm