

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA COVER-SHEET
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From: Nancy Batchelder, City Recorder

- ☒ Regular Meeting Agenda Item ☐ Work Session Discussion Topic
- o Add to agenda for _____ meeting.
 - o Continue this item until _____.
 - o Item dismissed.

DATE: March 22, 2016

Title: Recommendation from the Parks and Commons Commission: Resolution regarding the Gerdemann Botanical Preserve

Item: At the March Parks and Commons Commission meeting they voted to forward the attached proposed Resolution to City Council for consideration.

This Resolution would allow the Yachats Trails Committee to use its resources for the maintenance and improvement of a section of the trail known as Jim's Loop within the Preserve in the same manner that it does the Public Trail on the condition that the section would be open to the public.

Related Goal: Provide or facilitate opportunities for self-growth, education, and participation in programs and projects that enhance quality of life.

Reference And Review Material:

Budget Impact:

Additional Information:

Attachments: Proposed Resolution as forwarded from the Parks and Commons Commission.

**CITY OF YACHATS
PARKS & COMMONS COMMISSION
PROPOSED RESOLUTION
To be approved by the Commission &
Forwarded to the City Council for Adoption
3.17.16**

Whereas, the Gerdemann Botanical Preserve (GBP) is a precious and unique feature of the Yachats Community, and

Whereas, GBP is under private ownership, nestled on 3.5-acres with a Conservation Easement protecting the Preserves biological resources, and

Whereas, there is currently only one trail that runs along the south edge of the garden that allows daily public access from sunrise to sunset, and

Whereas, though just outside the City's boundary, the City has invested in the public access trail within GBP and authorized it as part of the City's trail system, and

Whereas, there is strong interest in the Preserve by both neighbors and visitors alike, the City has provided some funding and the use of Trails Committee resources for the maintenance and improvement of the Public Trail; and

Whereas, in partnership with the Ford Family Foundation, and with financial participation by the City, improvements have been made to the trail section within GBP known as "Jim's Loop", making it handicap accessible, and

Whereas, Jim's Loop is currently only accessible by advance reservations, and

Whereas, Andreea Ghetie, the Preserve's owner, has offered to make Jim's Loop accessible to the public under the same conditions as the Public Trail, upon the condition that, as with the Public Trail, the Yachats Trails Committee will be allowed to assist in the maintenance and improvement of Jim's Loop, and

Whereas, Jim's Loop contains an abundance of rare Rhododendrons and other plants from around the world, not seen in any other part of the garden; and

Whereas, the Preserve established a successful docent program approximately six months ago that tends to many of the more technical tasks associated with the garden's maintenance; and

Whereas, providing access to Jim's Loop will significantly add to the Preserve's appeal and attendance;

Now therefore, the City of Yachats resolves to allow the Yachats Trails Committee to use its resources for the maintenance and improvement of Jim's Loop within the Gerdemann Botanical Preserve, in the same manner as the Committee maintains and improves the Preserve's Public Trail. However, this Resolution is conditional upon Jim's Loop being open to the public daily from sunrise to sunset, unless hazards or other similar

considerations warrant temporary closure for the safety of the Preserve's visitors or environmental resources.

Attest:

Ron Brean, Mayor

Nancy Batchelder, City Recorder