



PARKS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

- Date and Time: 19 April 2011; 6:00 pm
- Location: Redmond Fire Station, Conference Room
- Commission Members Present: Gary Parks; Andy Hoffman; Gordon Wiseman; Jeff Komer; Cyndie Bell; Richard Lance; Shelly Neal; Shirlee Evans, Council Liaison
- Public Works Staff Present: Chris Doty, Director; Curt Petersen, Parks Operations Supervisor; Rick Torassa, City Arborist; Susan Bailey, Administration
- Media/Others Present: Cliff Liedtke, Oregon Department of Forestry; Katie Hammer, RAPRD; Trish Pinkerton, Redmond Spokesman; Shane Johnson

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 pm. The Commissioners and City staff provided brief introductions.

CITIZEN COMMENT

There were no citizen comments given at this time.

Parks asked to revise the agenda and move the Tree City USA presentation before the agenda decision items.

Tree City USA

Petersen introduced Cliff Liedtke of the Oregon Department of Forestry and noted that this is the 6th year the City has received the Tree City USA award. Doty noted that this presentation is being done at the Parks Commission, as they are the Tree Board for the City. Liedtke presented award materials to the Commission on behalf of the Arbor Day Foundation and the Oregon Department of Forestry. Liedtke noted that only 54 communities in Oregon receive this award and thanked the Commission for their participation.

DECISION ITEMS

Approval of 15 March 2011 Minutes

Lance moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Komer, motion unanimously passed.

Skate Park

Doty discussed the trial period for allowing scooters at the Skate Park and provided an overview of the process, noting the public hearing, safety issues, community support and etiquette. Doty reported that when the Skate Park was first opened there was a ban on scooters and bikes, however, the demographic for scooter users has changed. Doty stated that a survey of other local skate parks was done and that the City of Hillsboro allowed scooters. Staff provided several means to solicit feedback during the trial period including e-mail, text messaging, written correspondence and telephone. Doty also noted that data was gathered from Redmond Police and Fire Departments. Doty stated that based on the information received, the Skate Park could safely accommodate scooter use, allowing more people to utilize the facility.

Parks asked for questions and public comment on the matter. A member of the public noted that everyone appears to be getting along at the park. Doty noted that things could be done at the facility to make it a better place including signage indicating places where users should not loiter. A member of the public noted

concerns about bikes being allowed at the park. Lance noted that enforcement would be difficult and therefore the primary reason that bikes were not originally considered. Parks asked about helmet requirements at the park. Doty noted that it is recommended but not required. Parks stated that etiquette and ownership are primary concerns and that he concurred with the recommendations in the staff report. Lance stated that based on the feedback safety is not an issue and that the two user groups can co-exist. Bell noted that there was not a significant amount of feedback received. Additional discussion included age limits, skill level and the possibility of skateboarders mentoring scooter users. Doty stated that he would like to have the park designer return to discuss maintenance. Evans stated that she would like to see the park available for more users and would like to see continued improvements including later hours and something to accommodate users during the hottest part of the day. Doty noted that later hours could be considered as well as netting to provide shade.

Parks called for a motion. Lance made a motion to make a permanent change to the Skate Park rules to allow scooters, noting that bikes would still be prohibited. Bell seconded the motion. The Commission unanimously voted to allow scooters at the Skate Park. Petersen will update the signage at the park to reflect this change.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parks Update

Petersen gave an overview of the City's Arbor Week activities stating that six volunteer groups braved the weather to plant trees and shrubs. Petersen also reported that approximately one mile of the canyon trail north of the Maple bridge was improved by volunteers. Petersen noted that the parks are opening back up for summer including the restrooms and Little League facilities.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Dry Canyon Natural Trail Improvements (Shane Johnson)

Johnson gave an overview of the trail improvements that were completed. He noted that existing trails were improved citing concern over property lines and that the improvements created a good buffer between the canyon and private properties. Johnson stated he received great feedback on the improvements and thanked the Commission for their approval to work on the trails. Johnson asked for approval to work on other sections of the trail and to do monthly trail building and maintenance. Doty noted that a public hearing for the Canyon Master Plan would need to be held to let the public know what was being planned. Johnson will provide a written master plan and map for consideration. Johnson stated he would like to have signage and create a trailhead north of the Dog Park. Safety and volunteer liability was discussed. Evans stated she would like to see a master plan for the north end of the canyon and possibly south of Highland. Hoffman inquired if there were any issues that needed to be considered and Doty noted stormwater concerns. Doty discussed options for marketing the facilities in the Dry Canyon.

North Central Canyon Master Plan

Doty discussed the parking lot at the Dog Park in future plans and the possibility of a café/vendor area and community garden near the Dog Park. Doty also noted a round-a-bout concept to allow vehicle and pedestrian access to the park facilities. Doty will draft a concept plan for the next meeting including a picnic area, community garden and the proposed disc golf course. Doty discussed greenbelt areas and long-term landscape. Lance asked about restroom facilities and Doty noted they could be part of the vendor facility similar to Centennial Park. Doty reported that the existing house on the property is not usable in its current condition or location.

Lance inquired about the timeline to complete the proposed projects. Doty noted that the process would include meeting with a planner, creating the master plan, getting public input and Council approval. He stated that the parking lot could be expedited. Parks asked for additional comments or concerns. Wiseman stated he was comfortable with the design and could see the vision. Doty asked if there were specific items that could

be included in the land use process for approval of the parking lot. Evans suggested a picnic pavilion, play structure and community garden. The Commission discussed the disc golf course concept and Lance noted that there were no objections at the last meeting. Lance indicated that he would like public input regarding any safety concerns for a disc golf course.

Doty stated he will prepare a Council presentation to get approval on a Master Plan and to complete the components in pieces. Parks noted that the plan incorporates the Commission's philosophy within the geographical limitations of the canyon and the overall community view of the canyon. Wiseman asked if property owners along the canyon have provided input. Doty noted that the 1984 Canyon Plan and the Parks Master Plan solicited public comment.

Due to time constraints, the remaining items will be held until the next meeting.

Advertising Policy

City Code Updates

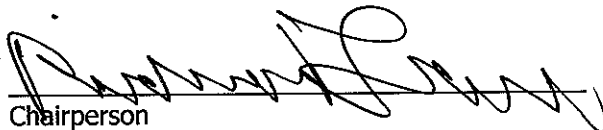
Geological Interpretative Center (Richard Lance)

Lance noted that he would like to solicit a vote on a conceptual plan for an Interpretive Center as an appropriate use in the long-term plan.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 17th, at 6:00 pm at the Redmond Fire Station.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

APPROVED by the Parks Commission and SIGNED by the Chairperson this 17th day of MAY, 2011.


Chairperson