



PARKS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Date and Time: 21 February 2012; 6:00 pm

Location: Redmond Public Works, Warehouse Training Room

Commission Members Present: Gary Parks; Cyndie Bell; Jerry Boysen; Andy Hoffman; Richard Lance; Shelly Neal; Gordon Wiseman; Shirlee Evans, Council Liaison

Public Works Staff Present: Mike Caccavano, Interim Public Works Director; Curt Petersen, Parks Operations Supervisor; Susan Bailey, Administration

Media/Others Present: Heather Richards, CDD Director; Jack Nelson, HLC Chair

CALL TO ORDER

Parks called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of Minutes from 17 January 2012

Bell made a motion to approve the minutes as written; Second by Lance. The minutes were unanimously approved by vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Annual Council Update

Caccavano explained that Council has asked the Commissions to provide an annual updated on their activities. Caccavano will schedule a time and asked the Commission for their preference on dates. Richards noted that most Commissions do a 10 minute PowerPoint with time for questions, and that both the chair and staff participate. Caccavano will try and schedule a time next month and the group can discuss the specifics of the presentation at the April meeting.

2. Horse Riding in the Canyon Decision from Council

Caccavano stated that since the Council's decision to allow horses in the Canyon there has been more usage than before with some wear on the trail. He noted feedback from several groups expressing mixed reactions and that Council would like to give it a fair trial. Caccavano explained that there is temporary signage posted and that staff is working on permanent signage. Lance stated that he plans to attend the next Council meeting to read a letter as he believes that Council did not take the possible safety concerns as seriously as the Commission did. Wiseman arrived at the meeting at 6:10pm.

Parks addressed Lance's comments and stated that the Council was clear on their recommendation and weighed all of the information to make their decision. Hoffman asked about waiting on permanent signage until a final Council decision is made. Petersen noted that staff has received several comments regarding signage and Caccavano noted that we need to evaluate the issues before finalizing signage. Boysen stated that current signage has too much information and that trail users are not taking the time to read all of the verbiage. Lance noted that trail etiquette is still essential.

3. Trail Review from OPRD State Trails Coordinator

Caccavano explained that Rocky Houston from OPRD will be looking at our trails and will provide some feedback including etiquette rules for multi-use trails used in other communities.

UPDATES/PRESENTATIONS

1. School House Presentation (H. Richards)

Richards provided an historical overview of the Old Redmond Schoolhouse and noted the recommendation for preservation from the Redmond Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC). Richards explained that the house was designated as a "Site of Historic Significance" by the City Council in 1986 and that the structure was initially used as a school house for about 6 months before it was relocated to the current site in 1976.

Richards provided an architectural assessment and associated costs, noting that the house would maintain structural integrity if moved. Richards explained that the HLC recommends issuing an RFP to keep the structure on the current site. She noted that historic preservation could be combined with a vendor/concession type component. Richards explained that the RFP would include vendor presence, hours, product and preservation of historical integrity. She indicated that the City would contribute to the restoration of the property.

Richards asked that if the Commission was in agreement that they make a motion to direct staff to move forward with the RFP process. Parks noted previous discussions for the area as café, restroom, rental for bikes, disc golf, etc. Bell stated that she would like to see that the project is attractive and fits the Canyon area. Richards noted that design requirements could be put in the RFP. Richards indicated that costs for the site development have not yet been budgeted for.

The Commission discussed preserving the interior integrity and the requirements for restrooms. Parks noted a location closer to Antler Avenue for visibility and access to parking.

Parks called for comments from the Commission. Bell stated that she would need to see the full plan; however, is in favor of the plan as long as it enhances the park, the house and the City, and provides functionality. Boysen sees this as great opportunity to provide services in the area and would fully support the project. Wiseman asked for examples of other historic sites being used for commercial ventures. Richards noted that "adaptive re-use" projects are common and that Evergreen School would be a similar type project.

Nelson explained that the HLC spent a significant amount of time discussing whether or not to move the house closer into town. They determined that the house was best suited for the current location and that there may be outside groups willing to help raise funds.

MOTION: Lance moved to direct City staff to issue an RFP to restore the Old Schoolhouse as a vendor/restroom facility for Area A of the North Central Dry Canyon Near Term Utilization Plan. He noted that he would like the RFP to address the restroom issue and detail how the outdoor space would be utilized. Bell seconded the motion. The Commission unanimously approved the motion by vote.

Richards and Caccavano will work together on the RFP. Boysen noted that he would like to see the house restored to its original time period for both the exterior and interior theme. Richards clarified that the HLC recommends keeping the house where it is and Bell suggested that respondents could specify the location in the RFP.

2. Parks Update (C. Petersen)

Petersen updated the Commission on the lead paint issue at the Sam Johnson Park play structure, noting that the structure is 22 years old. Petersen will be getting bids for a new structure. Caccavano explained that he was contacted by the media and that lead sampling has been done; staff will follow up on this issue.

Petersen explained that the Pumice Staircase is done and that they are waiting to do the asphalt connection to the trail by the first of May. Petersen noted that the culvert at the west side of the soft trail has been completed, as well as a new kiosk at the south end of the trail by the Quartz well house. Petersen stated that little league tryouts are starting and they will be opening the flush restrooms.

Lance stated that the Parks Foundation is getting ready for Earth Day on April 21st, and that they received another river trip donation. Tickets for the raffle will be available mid-March. Evans explained that Earth Day events will include City volunteer projects and a community garden through RAPRD. Lance noted that Earth Day is a fundraising event for the Foundation. Evans asked that the Commission help sell raffle tickets.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. RAPRD/Parks Foundation Roles and Relationships**
- 2. City Code Update for Parks**
- 3. Signage and Advertising Policies**
- 4. North Canyon Master Plan Considerations/Canyon Access Plan**

Parks discussed planning for future agenda items including the strategic plan and the development of tasks that are specific to the Parks Commission.

Parks noted a conflict with next month's meeting; the meeting will be moved to Monday, March 19th.

ADJOURN

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, 19 March 2012 at the Public Works facility at 243 E. Antler.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 7:02pm.

APPROVED by the Parks Commission and SIGNED by the Chairperson this 19th day of March, 2012.



Chairperson