

City of Oregon City
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Virtual Meeting Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order around 7:00 pm

INTRODUCTIONS

Members: *Derick Cogle; Shawn Dachtler; Troy Bolinger; Alicia Hammock; Brent Haverkamp; Karin Morey; Jeff Sargent; Andy Crump*

Staff: *Kendall Reid, Parks and Recreation Director; Denise Conrad, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director; Kathy Wiseman, Senior Center Supervisor; Rochelle Anderholm-Parsch, Aquatic and Recreation Manager; Jonathan Waverly, Parks and Cemetery Maintenance; Pete Walter, Planning Department; Matthew Weintraub, Tourism Program Specialist*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the September 24, 2020 Regular Meeting

Brent Haverkamp moved to approve the minutes; Shawn Dachtler seconded.

All in Favor: Jeff Sargent; Andy Crump; Karin Morey; Derick Cogle; Shawn Dachtler; Troy Bolinger; Alicia Hammock; Brent Haverkamp

All opposed: none

Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no citizen comments.

GENERAL BUSINESS

2. Regional Parks Comparison

Kendall Reid, Parks and Recreation Director, opened by thanking Rochelle Anderholm-Parsch, Aquatic and Recreation Manager and Jonathan Waverly, Parks and Cemetery Maintenance, for conducting research on several parks throughout the state, noting that during a 2018 presentation, PRAC had asked for a regional comparison. Ms. Anderholm-Parsch began by explaining that the presentation was for informational purposes only and that no recommendations or actions were needed from PRAC at this time. Ms. Anderholm-Parsch went through a presentation that summarized nine data points compiled from 17 regional agencies with a population between 20,000 and 55,000. She shared data that showed where Oregon City fell when compared to these other agencies in population, 2018-2019 adopted budget, number of parks, total acreage,

expenditures per acre, FTE per agency, seasonal hires, acres to maintain per FTE, and acres to maintain per FTE and seasonal employees. Mr. Waverly completed the presentation by discussing the challenges for the Parks Department, including all the aspects associated with the City's homeless situation and the department's accomplishments, such as the new restrooms at Chapin Park and the continued development of the parks. Mr. Waverly noted that the relationships built with many community partners were helping them greatly to maintain the parks. A question and answer period followed a bit later in the meeting. Mr. Dachtler complimented the outstanding work on the report and encouraged getting this information on a work session with the City Commission. Kathy Wiseman, Senior Center Supervisor, pointed out the City's unique park system comes with significant issues that go beyond just the Parks Department but into the community as well. Further discussion included identifying the number of park hosts/volunteers, how FTE numbers were determined and recognizing the labor-intensive work the Cemetery/Parks Staff handles. Ms. Morey and Mr. Reid confirmed that this information needs to be presented in a joint work session with PRAC and the City Commission.

3. Heritage Stand Tree Nominations for Park Place Park

Lisa Novak, Park Place representative, but speaking as a citizen, wanted to say a belated thank you to Mr. Waverly, Staff and park hosts for how great Park Place Park is looking. She then asked for PRAC's support of the Heritage Tree designation for the entire White Oak stand, the Atlas Cedars and the White Oak in the center of the park and discussed the reasons for supporting this designation. Didi Dahlsrud, in a citizen comment, provided a brief history on what they have been doing at Park Place Park with the Heritage Tree nominations. She noted the many different people who have been involved and discussed some possible plans for the area. Ms. Dahlsrud concluded that labeling these trees as "Heritage" would not offer them more protection than they already have but will enable the community to apply for grants. Ms. Morey summarized a phone conversation she had with Jerry Herman, as his written statement was sent to the wrong place. After having discussions with both Mr. Waverly and Ms. Dahlsrud, Mr. Herman agreed with Mr. Waverly that the full stand of trees does not require designation, but also agreed with Ms. Dahlsrud on understory issues and individual trees. Mr. Reid continued the topic with a review of what happened at the last meeting when more information was requested. To provide that information, Mr. Waverly showed photos that illustrated some of the issues they were finding with the trees, including poison oak, proximity to a road/utility right of way and the playground. In addition, some of the more unique trees, having two trunks that had grown together, are weakly attached. Pete Walter, Planning Department, then provided a recap of the criteria and purpose of the Heritage Tree designation. He noted that the Natural Resources Committee wanted to emphasize that they based their original recommendation for designation on the criteria presented. Mr. Reid noted that the goal in bringing this back to PRAC was to make members aware of the issues with the health and location of the trees and to provide guidance on how

to proceed; some trees are fine and some, as identified, are concerning. Mr. Haverkamp asked if designating the trees would prevent necessary pathway maintenance. Mr. Walter responded that the subjective decision making would be done at the City Commission. Mr. Cogle asked if it were possible to develop the park and still cohabitate with the trees and what would be the financial impact. Mr. Waverly replied that, yes, they have had conversations about ways to work around the trees and there is always a possible financial impact. Ms. Morey asked if they needed to take a vote or postpone until City Commission approved the new Tree Removal Policy. Mr. Walter added that it should be within a month, but he could not answer that exactly. Ms. Morey then asked members if there was any disagreement with postponing the vote to support the designation of everything at Park Place Park as a Heritage Tree. Upon request by Mr. Haverkamp, Ms. Morey clarified her statement that only those trees designated on the presentation would be protected. No disagreement was noted, no motion was made.

4. Oregon City Film Trail Sign Location Update

Matthew Weintraub, Tourism Program Specialist, provided an update on the preferred location for the Oregon City Film Trail sign site. In a brief presentation, Mr. Weintraub provided three location options on the Promenade: two between 2nd and 3rd Streets and one past 3rd Street. He noted that all options are within the park property and, at PRAC's prior recommendation, the options will be brought before the McLoughlin Neighborhood Association in November. Mr. Weintraub explained that he provided three options because they are unsure of what they will find when they start digging on the site. Mr. Bolinger stated that, while not in disagreement with the locations, he was not comfortable providing his agreement without knowing where the locations were and what was nearby. Discussion followed to clarify the location of the options presented and to confirm what structures (benches, viewpoints) were nearby. Andy Crump moved to approve the placement options that Mr. Weintraub suggested, Derick Cogle seconded.

All in Favor: Jeff Sargent; Andy Crump; Karin Morey; Derick Cogle; Shawn Dachtler; Alicia Hammock; Brent Haverkamp

All opposed: none

Abstain: Troy Bolinger

Motion passed.

MEMBER REPORTS

No members provided reports.

STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Reid announced the exciting news that they will receive sealed proposals for Filbert Run Park, due October 23 by 4:00pm, and then they can begin the

construction process. He reported that the mother of Tyrone S. Woods visited the Park to see the memorial; progress is going well, and they are working on some change orders to go before City Commission for approval. At D.C. Latourette Park, there have been some Covid-related issues and delays. Mr. Reid noted that the deadline has been extended for receiving applications for vacant PRAC positions. Applications are tentatively scheduled to be reviewed at the December 3 Work Session. There will be no meeting in November, due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the next meeting will be on December 3.

Ms. Anderholm-Parsch announced that the Swimming Pool reopening was going smoothly and the spots for activities were full. Swim lessons will begin in November and spots are full for those as well. The Friends of the Ermatinger House will be hosting an event at the House called Tales and Tours, on October 31, featuring tours and readings by Rocky Smith, William Becker, and Dave McCloskey.

Ms. Wiseman noted that the current activities taking place outdoors, such as the Walking Club and AA group meetings, will likely be ending soon or moving to Zoom because of the weather. She emphasized the importance of the Meals on Wheels program and reassurance calls that are taking place, as isolation has been hard for this group. Coming up on Tuesday, they will provide a bus for their clients to go shopping or to appointments.

Mr. Waverly reported that Staff is working hard to weed-whack headstones at the Cemetery in preparation for Veterans' Day and are working with the Boy Scouts to see what can be done to place flags on the headstones. They are trying to knock out some of the project list items before the weather turns. Staff also helped install a sign at the library; the unveiling is coming soon.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

5. List of Future Agenda Items

- Tyrone S. Woods Memorial Park - 12/5/2019
- Cost Recovery Training
- Regional Comparison of Parks – 10/22/2020
- Parks and Recreation Funding
- Clackamette Park Master Plan
- Buena Vista House - 1/23/2020
- WES Good Neighbor Funds
- Joint Operations Center
- Willamette Falls Legacy Project
- Property Acquisition
- Dog Park - 9/24/2020
- Review Goals - 2/27/2020
- The Cove
- Heritage Tree Stand Nominations – 9/24/2020

Ms. Morey noted that there will be updates on Tyrone S. Woods Park at the next meeting as well as a report from the Dog Park Committee. Mr. Sargent commented that Lisa Novak and Bill Daniels decided to join the Dog Park Committee. The group will work with Mr. Reid to set up a meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:32pm by Chair Karin Morey