

CITY OF OREGON CITY
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
City Hall Commission Chambers
Thursday, June 22, 2023 at 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm.

INTRODUCTIONS

Members: *Tim Wuest, Ken Worcester, Timothy Lainhart, Emily Lisborg (remotely), Joseph Knauf (remotely), Joyce Gifford, Steve Williams (remotely)*

Staff: *Kendall Reid, Parks and Recreation Director; Denise Toyooka, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director; Jonathan Waverly, Parks and Cemetery Manager; Cecily Rose, Community Center Manager; Melissa Sebastian, Aquatic and Recreation Manager; Kyle Christoph (remotely), Facilities Manager; Kori Buth, Administrative Assistant.*

Guests: *Neelay Bhatt and Jason Elissalde with Next Practice Partners (remote)*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

City Recorder's office conducted audit and discovered prior minutes to be approved

1. Approval of May 25, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Approval of July 27, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Tim Wuest had question on heritage tree project and if there was any action taken on this. Kendall will need to check with Planning on the status.

Emily is going to send a link to heritage tree page in Planning area of website.

Approval of August 29, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Tim Wuest asked about the trail that was intended to connect the McLoughlin Promenade and Canemah Children's Park. That trail never came to fruition.

Timothy Lainhart motioned to approve all prior PRAC minutes.

Ken Worcester seconded the motion.

Roll call passed motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

PRESENTATIONS

Neelay Bhatt and Jason Elissalde from Next Practice Partners (remote from Indiana) present on the Parks Master Plan update.

Tim Wuest: What percentage does 401 survey respondents represent in the Oregon City population? 2.8% of 14,000 households.

Tim Wuest: How does Oregon City compare to the rest of the state as far as amenities? Neelay responded by saying these are customized to Oregon City, but cities of similar size have recommendations for 1 field for anywhere from 5,000-8,000 people.

Tim Wuest: Wouldn't classify Ermatinger House as a Specialty Park or Indoor Recreation area. Next Practice pointed out the definition of recreation and Melissa stated that she believes it is for Indoor Recreation, considering the programs we have involving it.

Emily Lisborg: Clarification on Regional Parks. Pointed out the Metro Property at Canemah should be included. Also mentioned the fenced dog park at TSW and how the presentation makes it appear as if it is serving more area than it actual is.

Ken Worcester: Pointed out that these are the existing conditions and not the recommendations. Neelay spoke on how this also doesn't identify the condition of the existing amenities.

Tim Wuest: Asked about clarification of 'water access'. Next Practice said that it is hard to identify how the community interprets each survey question, but the question was intended to mean water access as a natural outdoor water source.

Ken Worcester: Wonders if water access means visual or physical access. Kendall mentioned that the desire for water access will be kept in mind during the Clackamette Park Master Plan process.

Steve Williams: What does STEAM stand for? Science Technology Education and Math.

Tim Wuest: All of the 'Big Moves' are things that the general public can't see, aside from a Master Plan at EOT. Is there any vision that has been created from the survey or will this be worked on down the line? Neelay responded by saying that the visioning was previously worked on with staff but there are also individual areas and that is where the action and implementation plan comes into play. These Big Moves are directly tied to those action items.

Ken Worcester: Right away, it appears we're going out for a bond measure. Members of the community will just see that this process will raise taxes. Maybe word it in such a way that demonstrates that all funding strategies have been looked at, so that it is clear that it is combined with other financial options. Neelay mentioned that these big moves are meant to highlight the action steps

that would have the highest level of impact. Steve Williams agrees that a more expansive statement of funding will be much better received.

Kendall Reid: Once final draft is received and we identify further Big Moves and host our public engagement meeting, we will know better how to move forward to look at deferred maintenance and long-term growth.

Emily Lisborg: What was the total ticket price of the survey and analysis? Kendall responded saying that the Parks Master Plan budget is \$150,000.

Tim Wuest: Is the needs assessment going to be addressed to the public? Kendall responded saying that the Public Engagement event will be July 11th and that we will be gathering as much community feedback as possible. Tim's suggestion was to put a title on the website regarding event.

GENERAL BUSINESS

PRAC Parks Tour will be scheduled for Wednesday, July 26th. We will be meeting at City Hall, with transportation provided by the Pioneer Center staff. We will visit Clackamette, Jon Storm, Sportcraft Landing, TSW, Waterboard, Chapin, Park Place, Hazelgrove, and Wesley Lynn Parks.

PRAC Bylaws language being updated to add 'with consensus of the group'.

STAFF REPORTS

Kendall spoke on Parks Master Plan Public Engagement meeting on July 10th. HappiFeet app was launched on May 30th and we are hopeful that the community will utilize that as a resource. Planning Commission public hearing on June 26th to discuss Clackamette Park Master Plan. Volunteer Recognition Event at Pioneer Center will be held on July 25th at 7:00 PM. PRAC received invitations. We are also launching the revision of the SDC Methodologies that will tie into the Master Plan and CIP Plan.

Denise Toyooka reported on Cemetery Restroom Renovation. Grading has been completing for the asphalt of the new parking lot lay and the pouring will happen very soon. Had to remove older light pole near shop and tracer wires were not viable. Will gain new, more efficient light. PGE will energize the meter to the building on June 28th. Potential delays will be gates and striping and final inspection will happen in July. WESGNA contract extension for Cumming Group was approved on June 21st and will do site tour next week to continue work at River Access.

Jon Waverly reported that three Parks Maintenance seasonal staff have been added to the crew and they are in the middle of training and onboarding.

Shelters had 20 rentals last weekend! May 29th Memorial Day service at Mountain View Cemetery was an enjoyable success. Slurry Sealing will happen at both Chapin Park and the Cemetery and that will hinder use of the parking lots during those times. Both spray parks are operational and RV Park is fully open. Jon extends his appreciation for the support at Budget Committee meetings.

Melissa Sebastian is heavy in the onboarding process for new staff. Heck week is happening as all certifications are being updated. Preparing for camps and summer schedule beginning on Monday, June 26th. Wading Pool will open for the day on Friday, June 23rd. With continuing Co2 shortages, the plan is to open the wading pool one day per week and monitor usage as time goes on. Ermatinger Field Trip programming brought in 337 students. The first Concert in the Park is July 13th. Tim Wuest asked about securing any shade options for the wading pool. No shade options have been looked into.

Cecily Rose reported on The Social Services Programmer role that has been narrowed down from 11 candidates. Hopeful that the official offer is completed by end of day Friday, June 26th. Still waiting on County and West Linn contracts. Some COVID funding is dissipating, but an additional \$15,000 in funding has been secured for transportation. County lay-offs will effect that transportation program, so it is anticipated that our transportation needs will increase. Summer programming and registration through Clackamas Community College looks great. Community rummage sale is planned for August 11st. Building projects are moving forward. One of the three ballroom sliders has been installed and the building hardware has been replaced, which has helped with ADA accessibility. Reception Desk reconfiguration will be taking place soon.

MEMBER REPORTS

Joyce Gifford mentioned how nice VFW looks.

Timothy Lainhart mentioned that parks are looking great and gave kudos to the crew that got Rivercrest spray park reopened so quickly after some flooding.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Address and revisit by-laws (meeting hours, indication of info vs. action agenda items, how to address public comments, etc)

NRC partnership for Bee City

SDC Methodology Update

Sidewalk chalk use in public parks/spaces

Volunteer Opportunities

Community Garden at Pioneer Center

Park Development Goals/Park Designs

Parks Master Plan
Parks and Recreation Funding
Clackamette Park Master Plan
WES Good Neighbor Funds
Joint Operations Center
Willamette Falls Legacy Project
Property Acquisition
The Cove

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING – July 26th, 2023

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned around 7:40 PM.