

PARKS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

July 17, 2006 – 6:00 PM – Fire Station, 341 NW Dogwood Avenue

Members Attending: Gary Jackson, Richard Green, Susan Marceau, Gary Parks, Peter Seitz, Jon Wood

Members Absent: Julie Price

Staff Present: Jeff Powers, Parks Manager; Chris Doty, Public Works Director; Cynthia Hollerbach, PW Admin Assistant

Others Present: George Endicott, City Councilor; Ron Gregory, Steve Cohn, Greg Currie, BLM Prineville; Trish Pinkerton, Redmond Spokesman; Joe Rainin, KFXO-TV; Ben and Stephony Duda

DISCUSSION & DECISION ITEMS

Minutes: Susan Marceau motioned to approve the minutes of May 15, 2006 and Peter Seitz seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as written.

Recap of June 26th Annual Parks Tour: Regarding the trees planted on the west side of Quince Park and the potential to block mountain views, George Endicott and Susan Marceau commented that this would not be a problem for quite some time based upon the expected growth of the trees. Jeff Powers and Gary Jackson agreed that the matter should come before the Tree Board for a formal response.

Jeff Powers clarified that the City does own the property just over the berm at Diamond Bar Ranch and the City will be cleaning up this area.

Redmond Caves Update and Proposed BLM/City Redmond Caves Sign: Ron Gregory, Greg Currie, and Steve Cohn from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Prineville, provided an update and presented a draft entrance sign for the Redmond Caves. Ron Gregory distributed a hand out of background information and a summary of combined costs to date. The BLM, City of Redmond, and the USDA/Forest Service have contributed combined costs of \$120,641 primarily for development of a park master plan, archaeological services, and fencing. Clean up efforts have continued over the last 4-5 years and the fencing has helped to mitigate the refuse problem.

Greg Currie presented draft signage for the park -- "Redmond Caves Natural Community Park." BLM staff recommends putting up a park sign now to give the site a name and identify it for the community. The sign would be placed at the interim entrance off Airport Way. When asked if a sign would enhance activity to the site, BLM staff responded that the site will get traffic regardless of the sign and added that the area is more than a vacant site. Several other suggestions were made as follows: placing a kiosk of the preliminary master plan at the site; have informative pamphlets available; add acknowledgement of the Native American tribes on the sign; and replace the word park with 'site' to keep expectations in line with development plans for this site.

Clean up of the Redmond Caves is planned as the local event for National Public Lands Day. Volunteers are needed and welcomed for the September 30th event. Pamphlets and posters publicizing the event will be made available closer to the scheduled date. BLM would like to install the new City/BLM park sign after this event. George Endicott suggested having the Mayor announce the clean up at a council meeting several weeks ahead of the event.

Citizen Proposal for Dog Park: Stephony and Ben Duda of Redmond asked the Parks Commission to create a fenced off-leash dog park similar to Bends. Bend's dog park is about 3 fenced acres, double gated, grass, trees and high desert area; picnic tables; water in summer; poop bags; garbage barrels. The Parks Commission encouraged the Dudas to find more Redmond residents to support the idea and in the meantime, staff will reevaluate current park property as possible sites. With the urban growth boundary expanding, a proposal for a dog park should have a better chance of succeeding as these lands become available.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Capital Improvement Project Update:

- Restroom footings were poured at Diamond Bar Ranch Park and West Canyon Rim Park
- The Developer at Diamond Bar Ranch Park has paved the basketball court and trail
- Chris Doty and Jeff Powers are scheduled to meet with David Evans & Associates to review the Ray Johnson draft master plan; Chris Doty would like to have some amenities in the park by Spring 2007

The meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED by the Parks Commission and SIGNED by the Chairperson this

Aug 14 day of _____, 2006


Chairperson