

PARKS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

September 17, 2007 – 6:00 PM – Fire Station, 341 NW Dogwood Avenue

Members Attending: Gary Jackson, Susan Marceau, Gary Parks and Peter Seitz

Members Absent: Richard Green, Julie Price and Jon Wood

Staff Present: Chris Doty, Public Works Director; Jeff Powers, Parks Division Manager; and Curt Peterson, Parks Operations Supervisor

Others Present: George Endicott, Redmond City Council; Katie Hammer, RAPRD; Dave Olson and Crystal Hutchins, David Evans & Associates; Mary N. Clark, citizen; and Dana Bratton, Bratton Appraisal Group

DECISION ITEMS

Minutes: Gary Parks motioned to approve the minutes of July 16, 2007 and Susan Marceau seconded the motion; the minutes were approved as written.

Review and Recommendation on Draft 2030 Parks Master Plan and Public Facilities Plan Updates: An updated draft of the *2030 Parks Master Plan Update* was distributed to the Commissioners and minor revisions which were incorporated into the draft since the Commission Workshop were highlighted by Chris Doty and Jeff Powers. The primary change involved the fact that the 2030 population forecast for Redmond was updated from 58,000 to 59,099; as a result the proposed SDC was lowered to \$2,793.

There was discussion about the pros and cons associated with phasing in the SDC over two or three years. Chris Doty also reviewed the next steps in the plan approval process and indicated that the plan will be presented to the Redmond Planning Commission in an October workshop, with a hearing in November. Chris also reminded the Commission that the Parks Plan and associated SDC must be considered within the context of upcoming Public Facility Plans associated with the City Water, Wastewater and Transportation Divisions.

Gary Parks made a motion to accept the Draft 2030 Park Master Plan/Capital Improvement Plan, and recommend that the Planning Commission adopt the plan and associated SDC charge; Peter Seitz seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Proposal for Community Garden/Heritage Garden within Central Dry Canyon Park: Dana Bratton came before the Commission to propose that recently purchased park lands in the Dry Canyon, the former parcels owned by the Dunn and Eggleston families, be used, in part, as Community Garden or Urban Farms. Mr. Bratton distributed relevant literature to the Commission, discussed Redmond's historically rural character, and the fact that farming was a traditional use within the Canyon. He advocated that such a garden in Redmond be used as a teaching component and working museum rather than the traditional approach where families rent a garden plot for their own use and benefit. He also emphasized that he envisioned a garden that was predominantly cared for and planned by volunteers or a "friends group", thereby minimizing the need for city staff maintenance. The merits of an on-site Caretaker and examples of successful gardens in other public park systems were also discussed.

The Commission generally discussed the merits of the Canyon site vs. other potential sites for the Garden but generally felt that the garden proposal would be compatible with the park site. Jeff Powers suggested that such a proposed amenity be incorporated into the upcoming Master Planning process for the Central Canyon Community Park. Chris Doty suggested that Mr. Bratton discuss the proposal with other City officials as well in order to judge the level of support. Potential partners in such an effort were also discussed and include; the OSU Extension Service, the High School, FFA, and community service groups.

DISCUSSION ITEMS – Tree Board

Status Report – Highland/Glacier Couplet & Downtown Trees: Jeff relayed that ODOT had been in touch with the Division regarding dead and/or dying street trees on the Highland/Glacier couplet, and the plan was to replace approximately 30 trees under the initial planting warranty.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Park Project Update: Updates on park construction at the new American Legion Park and Diamond Bar Ranch Park were provided.

General Review of Summer Activities: Jeff briefly discussed this past summer’s activities, such as Munch N’ Movies and Music on the Green, and thanked everyone involved for making them successful.

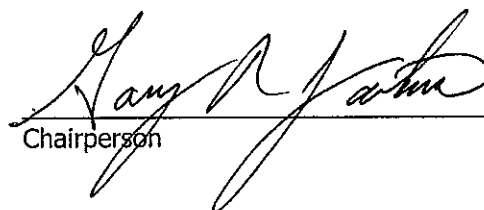
Options for October Meeting Date: Since the Planning Commission Workshop is scheduled for October 15, 2007; Jeff informed the Commissioners that they will be notified about an alternative October meeting date.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Mary Clark inquired about progress on establishing a park site for the Dog Park, and suggested that an acre of the former Dunn/Eggleston site might be appropriate. Jeff Powers reminded everyone that the two former prioritized sites will no longer work, and that the issue needs to be brought before the Commission again in the near future. Mary stressed that such a park was needed and beneficial and she was willing to help in any way.

The meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED by the Parks Commission and SIGNED by the Chairperson this 14th day of

January, 2007


Chairperson