

PARKS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

January 14, 2008 – 6:00 PM – Conference Room A, Redmond City Hall

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

Staff Present: Jeff Powers, Parks Division Manager; Curt Peterson, Parks Operations Supervisor; Rick Torassa, City Arborist; and Cynthia Hollerbach, Public Works Administration

Others Present: George Endicott, City Councilor; Katie Hammer, RAPRD; Trish Pinkerton, Redmond Spokesman

DECISION ITEMS

Minutes: Gary Parks motioned to approve the minutes of September 17, 2007 and Sue Marceau seconded the motion; the minutes were approved as written.

Convene Tree Board

Final Decision on Citizen Appeal Regarding Care of Black Walnut Tree at 35th and Reindeer: Tena and Bob Graybar filed a request to remove the heritage black walnut tree, since the fallen branches and walnuts have become a regular nuisance on their property. City staff evaluated the tree and followed with a recommendation to save the tree. The City has agreed to share the cost of trimming the tree with the Graybars. George Endicott suggested changing the tree ordinance and have the City take responsibility to maintain heritage trees. Gary Parks agreed the tree is worth preserving and it should be the responsibility of the City to maintain a tree that is for the public's benefit. Peter Seitz motioned to approve sharing the cost of class one pruning of the black walnut at SW 35th Street and Reindeer; Gary Parks seconded the motion. The motion passed. Parks staff will investigate heritage tree programs in place around the state and will bring back a recommendation to the Tree Board.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Vandalism – End of Year Report

Curt Peterson provided the 2007 summary of vandalism incidents, costs and pictures of City parks. Graffiti was removed from Sam Johnson, Fairhaven, and Bowby park structures, from the Highland Undercrossing and other City parks as well. Total costs including labor and materials were \$12,279.00 for all incidents. In the last four years, vandalism is costing taxpayers about \$10,000 - \$12,000/year. Costs are significant enough to require a line item in the budget for restitution. To date the Parks Division has received \$2,300 in restitution revenue to offset these costs. The Division also works with City Teen Court work crews on graffiti, abatement and park cleanup projects.

Master Planning Process for Central Canyon Community Park:

Planning Framework - The Central Canyon Community Park boundaries are from Highland Avenue north to Fir Avenue. The Parks Commission was asked to assist in the master planning of this dry canyon area; particularly the Dunn/Eggleston newly acquired lands. Although the City does not own the Becky

Johnson parcels, they will be considered in the planning process for the Central Canyon Community Park. Jeff asked members to recall requests for park amenities that the commission has considered over the years (i.e. dog parks).

Disposition of Structures on Property – Staff recommended that both the Bantz and Hahn houses should come down and the wood recycled as materials for adaptive reuse. The commission agreed and a motion was made to recommend removal of the Bantz and Hahn houses, to salvage the materials and to bring this recommendation before City Council for approval. George Endicott suggested adding parking to this area since discussions to put in fields and a new community center in the area where the bus barn is located dictates a need for more parking.

Dr. Beals donated 1/10 of an acre of his property along the canyon wall and down into the Dry Canyon. Jeff Powers noted there are other small properties in the canyon bottom that should be reviewed for potential purchase or donation.

General Review of Items to Consider in Master Planning

- Bus barn needs to be moved to outskirts of City of Redmond
- Proposed location of community center in place of bus barn will replace a ball field; so need to find a new location for the ball field
- BMX park
- Need for additional parking
- Dog park
- Possible acquisition of land south of skate park

Contract Status and Budget Report: American Legion Park

Jeff Powers provided an overview of the contract amount and how dollars are earmarked for specific amenities (i.e., trail, stairways, Hathaway Overlook Park, American Legion Park expenses). Jeff will provide a handout delineating these items at the next meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stack's Park Status - the park was turned over to the City with no use conditions; there was, however, an informal request to allow weddings

Review of Dry Canyon Vegetation Rehabilitation Projects – dead vegetation in the breaks in the canyon floor vegetation was burned and reseeded with mixed native seed mix

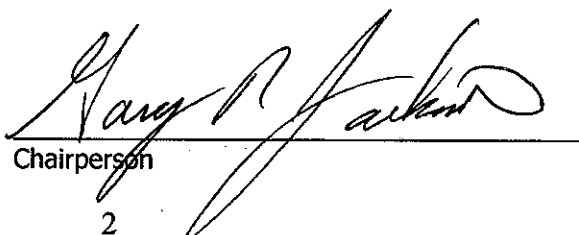
Proposed Downtown Street Trees and Landscape Area Additions – Jeff presented the concept to streetscape the triangular island created where Highland/Glacier feed into the Reroute

PUBLIC COMMENT

The meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED by the Parks Commission and SIGNED by the Chairperson this _____ day of

_____, 2008


Chairperson