

PARKS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

March 24, 2008 – 6:00 PM – Conference Room A, Redmond City Hall

Members Attending: Sue Marceau, Richard Lance, Gary Jackson

Staff Present: Curt Petersen, Park Operations Supervisor; Jeff Powers, Park Division Manager

Others Present: George Endicott, City Councilor; Shirlee Evans, Mary Clark, Terri Dowling citizens; Holly Howell, Assistant Planner, CDD; Katie Hammer, General Manager, RAPRD; Trish Pinkerton, Redmond Spokesman

DECISION ITEMS

Minutes: Gary Jackson requested that the minutes be amended to include the Commission's approval to remove the Bantz and Hahn houses from Central Dry Canyon Community Park. Sue Marceau made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, Richard Lance seconded, and the minutes were approved as amended.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Presentation on Proposed Eastside Trail Section and Potential Linear Park

Shirlee Evans gave a presentation on a proposed Linear Park and Trail Section located between N. Canal Blvd. and the new re-route on the east side of town, Holly Howell collaborated with Shirley in putting the Maps and Presentation together. Shirlee indicated that the trail would have several benefits and meet several established needs, including: commemorate the Frank and Josephine Redmond Home site; create the first section of the Pilot Butte Canal Trail, (this being consistent with the proposed City Trails Master Plan); create the potential for park facilities in an area that is park deficient; create the opportunity to establish partnerships with COID and local civic groups; and create east- west bicycle pedestrian linkages.

Shirlee presented maps showing the proposed trail segment and trailheads in relation to the proposed Trail Master Plan. Gary Jackson and Richard Lance had questions and concerns about pedestrians and bikers crossing the re-route to the east. George Endicott offered that the best opportunity to work with ODOT to create bike/ped friendly crossings would be when design discussions start on the Southern extension of the re-route. The goal is to have a draft trail use agreement and easement in place with COID by June of this year. The Historical Society has already expressed interest in helping create interpretive signage concerning Frank and Josephine Redmond.

Shirlee also presented a conceptual park plan for the 4 acres of parkland adjacent to the trail. The plan incorporated a fenced dog park as one of the amenities. Discussion

followed about the park amenity opportunities and limitations because of the linear nature of the potential park land.

Councilor Endicott urged that the trail segment and associated Historical Kiosk with interpretive information about the Redmond Home site and canal history, be completed and ready for public enjoyment in time for the Centennial Celebration.

Shirlee wrapped up the presentation by outlining the next steps in the process and reviewing the trade offs associated with the trail/park proposal. The major positives are that the proposal meets both Transportation and Parks Master Plan objectives, it is cost effective because ODOT owns the site and they appear willing to allow the park/trail development under a no cost agreement.

There were then questions about this park being included in the recently completed proposed Master Plan/Public Facilities Plan, Jeff Powers responded that the trail was included, but the park was not. Terri Dowling, who resides in the area of the proposed linear park, said that there are many families living in the area who miss having local park amenities, especially since the old Ray Johnson Park no longer exists. Gary Jackson offered that staff should be given the latitude to re-designate the area under discussion as park deficient so that a neighborhood park can be re-incorporated into the Master Plan/CIP before it is approved by City Council. Richard Lance made a motion to this effect and Sue Marceau seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

OPRD Local Government Grant Application – Legion Park

Jeff gave the Commission the City Council Staff Report detailing a \$360,000 grant application for Phase II improvements at American Legion Park. The grant seeks funding assistance to complete the flush restroom, embedded spray aquatic feature and other play equipment. Due to the complications associated with recirculated water the spray ground would utilize domestic water but it would be captured for re-use as irrigation water. Susan asked about maintenance issues associated with such systems and Katie Hammer said that RAPRD has had little problems with their systems which are very similar. Richard Lance moved that staff submit the grant application as proposed, Susan seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Update on Proposed Budget

Jeff reviewed the highlights of the proposed budget. Budget resources are down 43% primarily due to reduced SDC revenues. Consequently the list of proposed Capital Improvements for the upcoming FY is limited to a couple of projects and proposed acquisitions. Due to the City freeze on hiring there are no new positions proposed.

American Legion Park

The proposed flush restroom has many of the same design features as the Rotary Stage, plus is larger than other restrooms in the system and meets the code requirements associated with 92 parking spaces.

Jeff suggested that since the number of basketball courts within Redmond meets established population standards through 2030, that area of the park set aside for a court should be left as open space play area. Commissioners pointed out that this also allows for future flexibility.

One of the few remaining completion items is grass seeding throughout the park. This will be accomplished by mechanical slit seeding as opposed to hydro seeding. This seeding won't be done until some reasonable expectation of warmer temperatures. The infields and entrance area around the Legion Plaza have already been sodden with turf.

The report on recent park system Projects and Upgrades was tabled until the next meeting.

Review of Planned Arbor Day Activities

Curt provided a list of organizations involved in tree planting within the City parks during the first week of April.

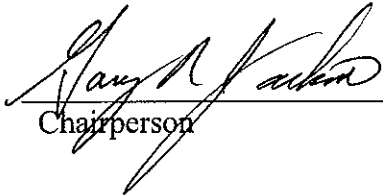
George related that he had heard some discussion about use of the former Eggleston and Bantz houses for museum purposes. Jeff will assure that appropriate reports on the residences are circulated and no action is taken until all with the City are in agreement

There was no further Public Comment.

The meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED by the Parks Commission and SIGNED by the Chairperson this

4/21, 2008.


Chairperson

