

PARKS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Date and Time: July 21, 2008 at 6:00 PM

Location: Conference Room A, Redmond City Hall

Members Attending: Gary Jackson, Gary Parks, Peter Seitz, Richard Lance

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

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

DECISION ITEMS

Minutes: Gary Parks made a motion to approve the May 19, 2008 Parks Commission meeting minutes, Richard Lance seconded the motion, and it was approved.

Meetings: It was unanimously agreed to move the meetings from the third Monday of each month to the third Tuesday of each month.

Park Naming: Richard Lance made a motion to name the "Paul Hathaway Memorial Overlook Park," Gary Parks seconded, and it was approved.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A Diamond in the Rough: Richard Lance presented a PowerPoint presentation on potential uses of the Canyon in the (former Dunn/Eggleston property area), including:

- Museum – Highlighting the Canyon’s agricultural and geological past
- Botanical Garden
- Sculpture Park

A subcommittee may need to be formulated to assist in the research of these ideas and how to fund them. The Commission would also need to work with the Arts Council and Historical Society where necessary.

Central Canyon Development: Chris Doty passed out a map and aerial of the canyon. There are many in the community with interest in contributing to the ideas for the former Dunn/Eggleston area. Chris submitted a draft plan from Councilor Nygren to the Commission for consideration. Although it is not widely known, it should be noted that the structures currently at this site do not necessarily have to stay in their respective locations. It would be ideal for the Commission to pen the master plan. Until a new Parks Division Manager is hired, focus should be narrowed down to a few deliverables.

The Council's decision to direct storm water to the north of Black Butte into the canyon was communicated to the Commission. It has not been designed, but a dry river bed that parallels the trail may be ideal. A pond may also be needed for overflow. It became evident that the Parks Commission has not been made aware of developments in the city that require the use of park property. The Commission expressed a great desire to be involved in future discussions of this nature. Reimbursement to the Parks Division may need to be considered in future plans to obtain park property for non-park purposes.

Project Updates: Jeff Powers distributed a summary of updates on capital improvement projects, general park projects and planning and policy issues. He also has a summary of recommendations on the structures in the canyon. The following are additional contributions to the previously mentioned documents:

- The next step regarding the structures is to declare them as surplus to Council. Once this is complete, plans to demolish, remove or relocate can proceed. One suggestion for the old school building is to restore it to its original floor plan. This would simplify maintenance and enhance its historical perspective.
- The dog park will be a 2-3 acre parcel that will utilize the canyon wall as one of its boundaries. Initial parking will most likely be located at the soccer fields/skate park with signage to direct visitors to the park, since the current driveway needs to be regraded for safety. One design option for accessibility is a mini roundabout. A temporary trail could be constructed next to the Bantz house for a more direct route to the dog area.
- American Legion Park soccer fields could be opened for play this fall if the Commission sees fit. The letter and agreement should be coming soon from State Parks for the \$250,000 grant for Council to sign. There is concern about the ability to match funding since the market is slow. However, there is a reserve to help. The Commission desires to provide a restroom with a concession stand, but would like an estimate for further discussions. One idea to recover costs is to rent out the concession stand. There is still an interest in providing a bike rental service. The corner lot that is for sale is zoned as OSPR and may be an opportunity for this type of service. Some potential buyers for the Fields' house are interested in negotiating, which would allow access to the park.
- A declaration is needed for the Paul Hathaway Memorial Overlook Park. There is not enough funding to develop both the park and the staircase. The staircase needs to be built first.
- The Frank Redmond Homesite Park is a popular trail head concept. There is Urban Renewal money to assist in the development of this park. The goal is to have this site ready for the city's anniversary in July of 2010.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Higbee Office Expansion: An emergency access road is required with the expansion of the office. A gravel road, 20 feet wide, will run through the park along preexisting paths. To reiterate, it became evident that the Parks Commission has not been made aware of developments in the city that require the use of park property. The Commission expressed a great desire to be involved in future discussions of this nature. Reimbursement to the Parks Division may need to be considered in future plans to obtain park property for non-park purposes.

Sam Johnson is no longer sponsored by T-Mobile.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Katie Hammer announced that the Majestic Summit plan was approved by the RAPRD Board and work will begin in September.

RAPRD continues to move forward with the Community Center. A citizen survey will be distributed during the first week of August. RAPRD is working with the Parks Commission and City Council on identifying a location.

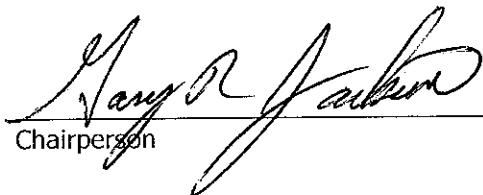
Dog Days of Summer concert is coming up on August 16, 2008.

George Endicott announced updates on the Centennial Park. Changes submitted at the open house have been made by the consultants. The rendering that was submitted did not clearly differentiate hardscapes, and so, other renderings have been made available. Grass is being limited due to foot traffic and the pergola area will be expanded to increase the amount of shade. The need to hold events have been considered and accommodations have been made. The landscape architecture has not been finalized.

The meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED by the Parks Commission and SIGNED by the Chairperson this 19th day of

August, 2008.


Chairperson

