

**PARKS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

Date and Time: September 16, 2008 at 6:00 PM

Location: Conference Room A, Redmond City Hall

Members Attending: Gary Parks, Sue Marceau, Richard Lance

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

Others Present: Katie Hammer, RAPRD; Trish Pinkerton, Redmond Spokesman; JoAnn and Mike Sticka; Walt and Norrie Taylor

**DECISION ITEMS**

Minutes: Richard Lance made a motion to approve the August 19, 2008 Parks Commission meeting minutes, Sue Marceau seconded the motion, and they were approved.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Parks Master Plan: Central Canyon Planning: Highland to Antler is the focus of planning at this time with an emphasis on the Dunn/Eggleston property. The Bailey plans from the late 1990s should also be used as a guide in considerations. It will need to be reconciled with the Master Plan to fill in what is missing. North of Highland to Greenwood is enhancement. The Johnson donation is currently being discussed. The parties are working on identifying the deed restrictions such as passive use of the area (which in inline with the comprehensive plan). Some buildings are included and usage needs to be determined. The barn has a community amenity possibility.

There is an area next to the current skate park that was marked for a roller hockey/ice skating rink. The Commission discussed making it a soccer field instead. Everyone is concerned over the need to add parking and the fire access road that runs through the center of the canyon. Citizens may think that it is a public access road. Although Curt would rather have the road hug the canyon wall, he assures that it would be gated. Richard suggested that any park connections be restricted to pedestrian/bike traffic only.

Parking for the 3<sup>rd</sup> softball field is same as parking for Bowlby Field. Overflow parking during events such as tournaments is located at American Legion and the high school.

One option of traffic flow at the Spud Bowl area is to close off Cascade and have people enter at 15<sup>th</sup> Street and Black Butte.

Richard suggests that restroom distribution should be wherever the highest concentration of people would be. The bathroom at Bowlby is not up to code and Curt is looking to build a concession/restroom in its place.

A possible location for the BMX area would be in the canyon south of the tennis courts. The disadvantage to this location is that most prefer for it to be visible to the public for safety reasons. However, Katie indicated that more parents tend to be in attendance at this type of sport and may deter other negative activities in the park. Locating the bike area to close to the skate park may cause conflict.

A play structure needs to be redone. What age group does the Legion playground serve?

Sue mentioned the need for some type of structure for wedding type events. It could possibly be located at the new Johnson donation site. Hollingshead Barn and Aspen Hall at Shevlin Park were mentioned as examples.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Bikers of Redmond (BOR):* A group of young bike riders and their parents have formed to develop the Bikers of Redmond. Their purpose is to initiate and propel the development of a BMX park. Their first meeting was held Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. They expressed their desire to build a BMX park similar to the skate park, but on a larger scale. The BMX park would need to be 15,000-20,000 square feet or roughly double that of the skate park. A central, highly visible, bicycle accessible location is desirable, but not adjacent to a residential area. Some sites mentioned are the vacant property adjacent to Highland and Rimrock and the south east corner at Hugh Hartman, neither of which the city owns. The park would have concrete structures, but may initially start out with dirt jumps until enough money could be raised. They would like for the city to have a similar role as the skate park and donate property for the bike park. All city property is under consideration. The Parks Commissions should brainstorm some possible sites between now and BOR's next meeting (not limited to the canyon). Chris encouraged them to work with the Parks Commission, which they intend to do once a plan has been formalized. Chris also shared the skate park experience with them. He provided costs and what it included and did not include. BORs next scheduled meeting on is October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 4pm in Conference Room B, City Hall.

*Parks Manager Position:* The city is reevaluating its open positions and more information will come in a few weeks. Thus, this position has not been filled.

*American Legion park:* Rotary is hosting a dedication event for the pavilion on October 4, 2008 from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. The soccer fields are not quite ready to be opened this fall and Katie doesn't see a great need for it at this time. The commission sees fit to postpone opening the fields until spring.

*Off-Leash:* Neighbors that live close are in favor of it and are willing to help.

*Park Ordinances:* If you would like to participate, there is a survey on the website inquiring as to whether or not the park ordinances need to be changed to include a daytime curfew of school aged individuals.

*Dry Canyon Trail Extension:* Chris Doty provided an update on the Dry Canyon Trail grant. Since ODOT is sponsoring the grant with federal money, administration of the contract is limited by the city. Knife River is the contractor. They will be constructing the trail from Highland to Quartz as well as staircases at Spruce and Obsidian. The Pumice staircase may be eliminated due to cost overrun.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Katie recapped the RAPRD meeting regarding the community center that was held at Hugh Hartman. Neighbors closest to the Quartz location were invited to the discussion. About 35 out of 150 were in attendance. Due to the overwhelming opposition, on September 22<sup>nd</sup> the RAPRD Board will be voting to remove the Quartz site from consideration for the community center.

Joanne Sticka thanked the commissioners for their time. She provided a copy of the letter that she and Mike Sticka had sent previously. It expressed their concern over inappropriate uses of canyon land, including the community center. They are in favor of a community center, but not in the canyon. Mr. and Mrs. Sticka would also like for the public to receive adequate awareness. The Canyon Development Committee is dormant, but the Stickas would be interested in becoming involved in such a committee. Current development is focused on the Canyon Trail, Dunn/Eggleston area and new high school. Thus, development of the Quartz site will not take place immediately. Also, the advertising of projects is required to go through a process and input is requested throughout.

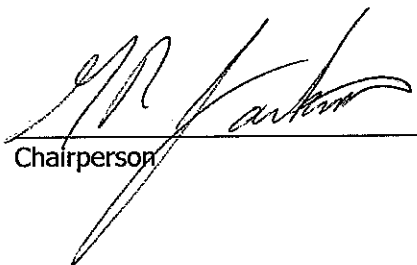
Richard inquired about what the Stickas would like to see in the Quartz area. They prefer to preserve its current natural state, but are aware of the master plans. Mrs. Sticka suggested interpretive signs, historical kiosks and preserving juniper trees (as indicated in a 1999 plan).

Chris Doty explained the 1997 Master Plan that was developed for this area. It includes trailhead parking and a play structure. Mrs. Taylor is interested in knowing if the plan includes some type of trespassing protection for the neighbors who own property in the canyon. Curt was interested in any suggestions she might have to offer towards the types of protection. Her response is that signs may not be necessary, but some type of barrier is desirable.

Mrs. Taylor reminded the Parks Commission of a study that was conducted in 1998/1999 by JT Atkins. The result was a vision statement. She will provide copies of that documentation. It is not known at this time whether or not the statement was included in any of the Master Plans.

The meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED by the Parks Commission and SIGNED by the Chairperson this 21<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2008.

  
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Chairperson

