

PARKS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Date and Time: March 17, 2009 at 6:00 PM

Location: Conference Room A, Redmond City Hall

Members Attending: Richard Lance, Jeff Komer, Peter Seitz

Staff Present: Curt Peterson, Parks Operations Supervisor; C. Doty, Director; Tanya Swisher, Public Works Administration; Rick Torassa, City Arborist

Others Present: Shirlee Evans, Councilor; Katie Hammer, RAPRD; Trish Pinkerton, Redmond Spokesman;

DECISION ITEMS

Minutes: Richard Lance made a motion to approve the February 17, 2009 Parks Commission meeting minutes, Peter Seitz seconded the motion. All are in favor and the minutes were approved.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Soft Trails: C. Petersen gave a powerpoint presentation that included images of soft trails that were created by cyclists and pedestrians recreating off of the paved path. Therefore, the need for an authorized and marked soft trail has been identified. Providing this amenity will serve participants and still preserve natural areas. It is expected that both pedestrians and cyclists would utilize this type of trail. The trail should be wide enough to allow ease of passage. Contouring may be added for variety. A special type of soil would be used that would be sufficient for the usage and keep the dust down. The Redmond Trail Supporters (RTS) are interested in volunteering to assist with the development of this trail. COTA (Central Oregon Trail Alliance) members have expertise in building these types of trails and are willing to assist and teach RTS. Neighbors in that area of the canyon showed interest in participating in development planning and may need to be notified, however; this trail will run along the side that is not next to the homes. Next steps include assembling volunteers and developing a plan. Commissioners would like to see more images of the trails in the north canyon area. This discussion will continue at the next meeting.

American Legion: Images provided to show location of future restroom. Update provided on athletic fields. Vegetation is dormant and bases were put out in preparation for a tournament on April 16th-18th.

Fireman's Pond: Images provided to show progress of the irrigation project. Location of project is on the east side of the pond. Irrigation and grass are being added to be consistent with the other areas around the pond. Improvements will fulfill necessary requirements for water rights with COIC.

Arbor Day: R. Torassa announced information about Arbor Day/Week. The celebration will be held April 5th -11th. Four planned plantings include the police department (Boys and Girls Club), wastewater plant (Redmond Key Club), Umatilla (Home-school students) and Sam Johnson (T-Mobile). The City of Redmond was awarded, for the fourth time, Tree City USA recognition for 2008. Council will read a proclamation on March 24th and State Forestry will present the award at the April 14th council meeting.

Although the Tree Board, which is made up of the same members as the Parks Commission, has not been involved in the decision-making process of the downtown demonstration project, it was decided that the trees would be moved from their current location. A recent landscaping plan has not been distributed. P. Seitz commented on the potential issues of newly planted trees. In the beginning the limbs are too low for store fronts to be seen and the remedy was time.

Earth Day: April 25th at Sam Johnson will be the 4th annual Earth Day. See handout for further information.

Parks Budget: C. Doty distributed 4 handouts. Memo contains more detailed information. Tennis courts are 6-10 years old and need resurfacing to prevent the loss of an asset. This is normal wear and tear due to usage over time and the various weather conditions of Central Oregon. General Systems Maintenance covers areas such as irrigation, tree replacement, vandalism, supplies and picnic tables. Capital project, American Legion Phase II, is underway. It includes the restroom (see rendering), playground area and connector paths. However, the basketball and volleyball courts are not currently funded. There are contingency plans in place (land sales or swapping) to provide reserve funding, if necessary.

Pump Track: The Hugh Hartman site is no longer a property of consideration for the BMX park. There were more issues to mitigate than the city could manage. The site currently under review is the Frank Redmond park site at 2nd and Cascade.

Another option for the Bikers of Redmond is a pump track, which is a dirt course. This was brought to S. Evans' attention by the trail group and it is very popular with cyclists. Estimates between \$20,000 and \$40,000 have been quoted for constructing this type of park. Attention will need to be given to transitions between the skilled track and trail. A meeting with BOR is scheduled for Thursday, March 19th to present this option and get their feedback.

Shirlee inquired about the level of interest for a climbing wall. There is a local company with a global reputation that could build this type of a structure on the Frank Redmond site.

All members present are in favor of the pump track concept.

Parks Foundation: R. Lance read the bylaws and clarified that the Parks Commission is the Parks Foundation. A separate meeting will need to be scheduled once a quarter to function.

Canyon Master planning: R. Lance sketch was drafted by engineering and passed out to the commission.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parks Commission Meeting: The next scheduled meeting will be held Tuesday, April 21st.

The meeting was adjourned.

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

May, 2009.



Chairperson