

**PARKS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

Date and Time: October 14, 2009 at 6:30 PM

Location: Conference Room A, Redmond City Hall

Members Attending: Gary Parks, Richard Lance, Jeff Komer, Cyndie Bell

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

Others Present: Katie Hammer, RAPRD

**DECISION ITEMS**

*Minutes:* Jeff Komer made a motion to approve the September 15, 2009 Parks Commission meeting minutes, Richard Lance seconded the motion. All are in favor and the minutes were approved.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

*Memorials:* Memorial Benches in the Canyon and other parks needs to be examined further. A plan for bench types (natural vs. metal), placement, plaques and inscriptions, etc. needs to be developed since there are more requests. The latest request received is from Elaine Salmonson who would like to place a memorial bench in the canyon in honor of her friend Sarene Crawford. There is a concern over placing such items in low visibility areas where vandalism is more likely. The commission would like to discuss this topic further. C. Doty and C. Petersen will prepare possible bench options and a placement plan for the next meeting.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Project updates:* C. Petersen provided a powerpoint presentation of the following:

Dry Canyon

- The stormwater project is underway. The drainage swale has been constructed in the canyon north of Antler Avenue. The line will be tied in as they progress and should be complete by next spring.

Off-Leash Dog Area

- Pictures of the Riverbeach Dog Park in Bend illustrate the close proximity of the dog park to trail. Curt and Tanya met with BMPRD who had no concerns over this juxtaposition. Their experience and dog behavior indicate that dogs are more interested in the activity they are engaged in either with other dogs within the area or their owners. BMPRD also felt that a 5 foot fence was sufficient and a top rail was not necessary, however, the top rail will add to the durability of the fence. Some of the parks in Bend are partially fenced and have still been successful as dog parks. They have also experimented with several different types of ground cover, but have found high quality wood chips to work the best. Grass turf is difficult to maintain because of the wear and tear and if it gets too high people are less likely to clean up after their dogs.

Separating the park into small dog and large dog sections is desirable. Bmprd began enforcement with park employees, but found it to be more effective once police patrol was hired. A strong public outreach campaign was also crucial in the opening of their dog parks. Volunteers are educated on how to communicate with park visitors.

Sam Johnson Park

- The tennis courts at Sam Johnson are complete. Before and after shots were provided. The skate park needs to become a priority.

American Legion

- The surveillance cameras are working well. One tagger was caught. The police are heavily patrolling the area and citing any offenders.
- Restroom plans are almost complete and will go out to bid soon. The deadline for completion, according to the grant, is the end of June. However, Public Works would like to have them complete for the opening of the summer season.
- The climbing boulders are subject to a more formal bidding process, but the specs have proven difficult to formulate.

Frank & Josephine Park

- Shirlee, along with volunteers, has been working at the Frank and Josephine Park. There is now a kiosk and a soft path was recently completed. The Bikers of Redmond have not been active lately, thus, there are no updates.

5th Street Reconstruction Project

- When the 5th Street Reconstruction is complete it will look very similar to 6th Street. The Spokesman covered the topic of trees along 5th Street very well. Trees will be replanted, but there will be much more diversity.

Budget

- C. Doty presented the Parks Budget and explained the ending of fiscal year 2008/2009. The debt service line is for the purchase of the Dunn/Eggleston property. Although SDCs can cover the payments for the next few years, there is a concern for the long term. R. Lance inquired about the payment discrepancy from last fiscal year to current. C. Doty will have to examine further.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is TBD.

The meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED by the Parks Commission and SIGNED by the Chairperson this 15<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2009.

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Chairperson 