



DRAFT MINUTES

City of Oregon City
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

City Hall
625 Center Street, Oregon City, OR 97045

April 27, 2017

Attendance

Members: Lisa Novak; Bill Daniels; Chris Cook; Joyce Gifford; Roger Fowler-Thias; Mike Mitchell; Doug Neeley; Shawn Dachtler

Excused: Blane Meier

Staff: Phil Lewis, Community Services Director; Mike Day, Police Officer

Guests: Tom O'Brien, Hazel Grove/Westling Farm Neighborhood Resident

Regular Meeting

1. Call to order at 7:01pm
2. Introductions
3. Approval of minutes – March 23, 2017 Meeting Minutes: Approved
4. Citizen comments on issues and items not on the agenda - none
5. Presentations
 - a. Presentation – Filbert Run Community Involvement, Tom O'Brien
Hazel Grove/Westling Farm neighborhood resident Tom O'Brien presented historical information on the Filbert Run Park property and the efforts of neighboring residents to improve and maintain the property for community use. In 2012 and 2013 neighbors built a coalition of 60 volunteers who spent more than 400 hours to remove seventeen 40 yard dumpsters of debris, blackberries and invasive species from the site. Neighbors are noticing the conditions at the park beginning to worsen and would like to partner with the City again for site cleanup and minor site improvements. Mr. O'Brien additionally advocated for the City to complete the development work as outlined in the master plan. Christine Engelke, who lives within a block of the park, also spoke in support of developing the park as soon as possible.

6. General Business

- a. Willamette Falls Legacy Project – The first of three Transportation Access Summits relating to the WFLP was held the night prior. Lisa Novak gave an overview of the presentation and engagement activities. Two more meetings will be held in May and July. The public unveiling of the preferred conceptual plan is scheduled for June 3rd from 1-5pm at OMSI. Committee members gave comment regarding their experience at the WFLP site visit earlier in the month.
- b. Waterfront Master Plan – Planning for the design consultant RFP will begin during the month of May.
- c. Ermatinger House – May 1st is the anticipated construction completion for drywall/paint project. Working with the friends group on finalizing terms for operation of the facility. Working on the furniture selection and interpretive signage plans. The site should be open by June 23rd for the Oregon City Heritage Days which is a Rose Festival sanctioned event taking place on June 23-24, 2017.
- d. Latourette Park – The Latourette Park Core Team has been working on plans to make park improvements. They have recently connected with the National Park Service and are applying for a grant to facilitate public involvement and a conceptual master plan. Other partners for the project include the City, DePave, CAIS and Oregon City High School.
- e. McLoughlin to Canemah Trail Planning Project – RFP for the planning efforts to determine the best route for connecting the McLoughlin Promenade to Old Canemah Park and into Canemah Children's Park and Canemah Bluff. A consultant should be onboard sometime in June.
- f. Budget Discussion FY2017-19 – May 1st is the budget committee meeting for the upcoming biennium. A proposed budget will be presented at the budget meeting. Public comment will be heard during the meeting. The proposed budget includes funding to match City Commission goals related to parks and recreation. These primary goals for Community Services include deferred maintenance, strategies for long-term funding of parks and recreation services, funding for a replacement Park Operations Facility, the Waterfront Master Plan as well as developing and implementing an operations and maintenance plan for the Ermatinger House.
- g. Other General Business:

- a. Carnegie Library Park Sign – Bill Daniels presented information on an upcoming meeting planned with the Library Director Maureen Cole to discuss the signage at the Library and Carnegie Library Park. Bill stated that members of the McLoughlin Neighborhood Association initiated the meeting. Members of PRAC are interested in having PRAC representation when decisions are made. A motion was made to appoint Doug Neeley and Shawn Dachtler to represent PRAC at any upcoming ad hoc signage meetings as well as PRAC representatives for a facility renaming process for the park. The motion carried unanimously.

7. PRAC Member Reports

Roger Fowler-Thias: Pioneer Center trip registration opened a few weeks ago with most filling already. AARP tax help is complete and did over 400 returns totaling \$315,000. A basement drain line needs to be replaced. The seed to supper class is full. The medical equipment program has been discontinued and future clients will be referred to other agencies.

Shawn Dachtler: Shawn stated his concerns regarding equitable use of ballfields for boys and girls at Oregon City Park properties. He noted that this is currently not happening with one of the organizations using the parks. The organization is currently evaluating. He requested that maybe the City have a statement on rental forms for organizations to confirm their commitment to equitable field allocations for boys and girls sports when both genders are being served by the same organization.

Mike Mitchell: Mike reported that he spent a couple of hours at Clackamette Park and noticed the severe deferred maintenance backlog at the park. He noted that he feels the parks staff does a fantastic job of caring for the park with their current resources but that many projects are required including asphalt pathways and benches. The Oregon City Parks Foundation is working on three different grants. One is for native plantings at the Promenade, one for invasive ivy removal at Waterboard Park and one at the End of the Oregon Trail for a children's nature play area. The foundation has raised \$1,400 through bottle returns. They are hosting a SOLV ivy pull event at Waterboard Park on May 6th.

Joyce Gifford: Metro staff and Clackamas County Sheriffs recently cleared homeless camps in the Newell Creek area. Joyce also highlighted the tours by Three Rivers and PRAC Willamette Falls Legacy Project site visit.

Doug Neeley: JR ROTC are working with the Greater Oregon City Watershed Council to host a volunteer event at Abernethy Creek Park. Invasive plants were removed and snow berries will be planted during Oregon City Enhancement Day this coming Saturday.

Lisa Novak: Attended a tour on April 21st with Three Rivers. Lisa stated that she loves the history of Oregon City. She also enjoyed the PRAC Blue Heron site tour. She reported that the burned playground tunnel has been removed and a plywood barrier has been installed on either side of the tunnel location for safety. Phil Lewis notified the committee that the manufacturer for the equipment has gone out of business and other playground manufacturers will not take the liability of attaching their equipment to the existing structure. Staff are researching a permanent solution.

Chris Cook: Chris reported regarding current conditions at Chapin Park. The flooding has receded and kids had hopped the fence to play on the play equipment. Saturday was very busy with soccer and baseball. Phil Lewis reported that some quotes have been received to complete the drainage issues and that the flooding is present again after recent rains.

Bill Daniels: Bill shared his concerns regarding homeless issues at parks in the McLoughlin Neighborhood. MNA is working with Oregon City Police Department to address their concerns. They are researching options to limit malt liquor and fortified wines from being sold in the area to limit unwanted activities.

8. Staff reports

- a. Recreation update – Email for the monthly updates to PRAC members
- b. Park Operations Facility – Phil gave an update on the Park Operation Facility planning. A presentation was given at the April City Commission Work Session and will be presenting again in the near future after receiving feedback.
- c. Oregon City Enhancement Day – April 29th from 9am-12pm at Wesley Lynn Park.

9. Future Agenda Items: Strategy discussion for selling pocket parks to use for larger park acquisition in developing areas, Invite department heads to report on the successes and challenges of each of their areas of responsibility one each month for upcoming months, Funding strategies for parks and recreation – service district/special district presentation and discussion

10. Next scheduled meeting

May 25, 2017

11. Adjournment: 9:30pm