

MARION COUNTY PARKS COMMISSION MEETING
October 26, 2006

ROUTINE BUSINESS: Jyll Smith called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Introductions were made.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jyll Smith, David Harrison, Mike Higgs, Robert Garrett, Doug Tookey

MEMBERS ABSENT: Wynn Cudmore

RECORDER: Tanya Beard recorded the meeting and Carol Ault transcribed the minutes.

GUESTS: R. Bruce and Sharon Brown

STAFF PRESENT: Tanya Beard, Russ Dilley, Jeff Bickford, Dan Connor-Sheriff's Office, Scott Norris-Legal Counsel

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Mike Higgs moved to approve the April 6, 2006 minutes. The motion was seconded.
Discussion: None
Results: Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - Mr. Bruce and Sharon Brown discussed Parkdale Park and presented the PC with surveys that were taken by the neighbors.

PARKS COMMISSION INPUT

Robert Garrett asked about his term ending date. Tanya explained that Robert's term ends December 31, 2006, but the PC would be glad to have him stay on. Due to the long commute, Robert Garrett said he wouldn't be renewing his term. Mr. Garrett thanked the PC for the opportunity to serve on the commission.

Jyll Smith's term will also be ending and she said she would like to continue serving on the PC as long as her supervisor approves it for that time away from work. Tanya will check with Jeff about the reappointment process.

PARKS RULES AND REGULATIONS DISCUSSION

The revised version of the Parks Rules and Regulations were distributed to each member. This version has been revised/reviewed by Scott from Legal Counsel, Dan Connor from the Sheriff's Office, and from Risk Management. They will go over this version once more and may have more comments/revisions before the final draft to make ordinances.

- Q. What is the fine for a Class A violation?
A. It varies. It is written in ORS Chapter 153.

Comment: Section 7-I – there was comment on the very long sentence in the middle of the section, starting with *Additionally*.....

Comment: Just before the word *Additionally*, strike the words *in said activity*.

Comment: Scott Norris said that some of the repetition in that long sentence could be taken out, but not break the sentence into shorter sentences. Scott will review it further.

Q. Who makes the ordinances?

A. Marion County Board of Commissioners. Scott Norris deals with the legality of it.

There was discussion over what is prohibited by state law, but no ordinance is in place. For example: It may not be illegal by statute to possess a firearm in the county park as long as it's not concealed, but if county ordinance prohibits it, there is not only the ordinance violation, but we also have the criminal statute.

Q. Question to Sheriff: Of the items that we are addressing in this ordinance-to-be, are there particular elements that are going to be most impact for your agency?

A. The biggest one is the “No Alcohol Ordinance”.

24.0, C. Vessels: The wording should be changed to say *No person twelve years or under* shall occupy

26.0 Violations – It is up to the BOC to decide how the funds are appropriated. It has to go into the General Fund. By ordinance they cannot be directed to a fund that is not a dedicated fund.

Q. Does the Sheriff's office monitor who is paying what?

A. The Justice Court monitors payment of the fines.

Q. Is there a way to monitor who is paying and who is not?

A. Yes. It is retrievable information and can be tracked.

Q. What currently happens if someone damages park property and gets caught?

A. If they are caught, the courts can order restitution.

There was discussion on park reservations and exclusive use of parks or facilities. Scott said that Section 5 would have to be rewritten in order for the Director to grant special leeway. ie; Joryville Park.

Section 7-A. It was suggested to remove *at Spong's Landing Park or Rogers Wayside*, and have it read: *No permit or reservation shall be refused or limited*,

Section 7-B. At bottom of Section 7-B, delete *of Spong's Landing Park or Rogers Wayside*

Suggestion: Switch Section 6 and Section 7 so Permit Procedures and Conditions immediately follows Section 5, Exclusive Use of Parks or Facilities. Everyone agreed.

Suggestion: Add to the Park Ordinance that it is required to have a copy of the permit with the person reserving the park. This will be added as Section 6-L.

Section 7-E. Change Sheriff protection to *security protection*.....

- Q. What was the result of the contact with the neighbors of the Spong's Landing Park area?
- A. Doug Garrett went out and talked to them last weekend. They were appreciative that they had their voice heard at the last PC meeting and that there was follow-up done by the Sheriff's office. The neighbor's biggest complaint was the lack of signage and not being able to enforce what's going on in the parks.

Comment: The Public Works Department placed some signs and the new ordinance should help with enforcing the problems in the parks.

- Q. What is the procedure in getting the word out about the new ordinance?
- A. Scott suggested talking with Sue McCracken to get a press release.

Comment: Dan Connor, Sheriff's Office, suggested that by marking the boundaries of the parks might help enforce the ordinance. Tanya said this has been an issue and that's where survey comes in. Tanya also said that, due to budgetary constraints, putting up fences around the parks is out. Tanya suggested putting up signs that say "Private Property" beyond this point.

Russ Dilley is working on putting lock boxes on the gates at Joryville, Spong's, and Scotts Mills Parks. There was discussion on the types of locks that would work best.

The following will be provided to Dan Connor at the Sheriff's Office: an email of each week's activities in the parks, a simple map of each park layout, boundary markers, and keys to the park entrances (272's).

OPEN HOUSE AT PARKDALE SKATE PARK - Discussion

Several residents attended the meeting and shared their input. At the Open House meeting at Parkdale Park, there was discussion of several ideas, some of which came from the students in the schools in the area. Just about all of the residents want to get rid of the dirt and leave it as natural as possible, with walking paths. The residents do not want a skate park. Another resident shared concerns of unsupervised youth that are using disrespectful language and actions to other children and adults while at the BMX track in this park. Another main concern is protecting the wetlands at the back of the park property.

The PC will discuss these concerns and get back to the residents of the area of Parkdale Park. The only other skate park is in downtown Salem. There were two issues concerning the park. One was the issue of what should be done with the park, and the other was how to deal with people who don't use the park appropriately. Suggestion was to put the paths, picnic tables, and playground in now and later phase in the skate park area.

There are a couple things to consider in this matter. One is the \$15,000 that the BOC earmarked for this sort of development and the other is a grant application has been sent in requesting funds to match the money we already had to build a skate park. The grant will be decided on in December. This grant is specific to Parkdale and a skate park. It was suggested to hold another public hearing regarding the development of Parkdale Park. Any additional issues will be deferred until after the grant has been presented in December.

REVIEW PRIORITY PROJECT LIST; CREATE UPDATED LIST FOR NEXT 5 YEARS.

- Parks Capitol Improvement Plan: The development funds that parks has for 2007-08 have been allocated to the parks master plan since the parks master plan is from 1978. The new plan will include feasibility studies, public input opportunities and much more. It will be a 12-18 month process to complete the plan. Once complete, the Master Plan will be presented to the BOC for their approval.
- Macleay Property: Macleay is managed by Marion County Environmental Services. It is an old landfill that closed in the mid-to-late '70's. It then acted as a transfer station through the mid-to-late '80's, then was shut down once the Salem-Keizer Transfer Station opened. Some zoning changes would have to take place through the Planning Department before this could be turned into a park. The total acreage is approximately 60 acres. There have been two proposals for this property. The first proposal was for a power company's lineman Olympic games. The second proposal was for a rifle range for the Sheriff's department. Both of these proposals got turned down. The PC asked that a field trip be arranged to look at the property before making a recommendation.

MOTION: A motion was made to allow the Department to go ahead with the zoning prospects on Macleay Property. The motion was seconded. All were in favor.

UPDATES

- Minto Timber/land exchange is no longer an option because they found someone who would give them money for the property rather than exchange timber for the land. Should their deal fall through, we will be next on the list.
- False Brome is a noxious grass that is in Minto Park off Highway 22. We have a contractor that will be working from the inventory provided by Tanya to do a lot of abatement in that area. There are approximately 30 acres of False Brome on our properties.
- Advisory Board Training will be December 1, 2006 from 8:30-12:00pm in the Senator Hearing Room at Courthouse Square. 555 Court Street NE. The PC is invited and encouraged to attend.
- Seasonal Closures: Minto, Niagra, Bear Creek, North Fork, Salmon Falls, Spongs Landing, Scotts Mills, St. Louis Ponds, and Aumsville Ponds will be closed for the Season. The rest rooms will be locked.
- Spongs Landing Park: The rebar was removed, the No Trespassing sign was put on the gate, the Keizer Point of Interest sign was installed. Since the park is closed, Russ will be working on removing the fire pits that are within the shelters and will be replaced with concrete BBQ's that will sit next to the shelters.

- Roger's Wayside: The BMX track is done and the sign will be installed soon saying "No Alcohol Allowed". There was only one complaint about an ATV driving on the track, but since the boulders have been placed, it doesn't seem to be a problem anymore. There will be locking bollards installed so they can be moved for our truck to enter if needed. There were a few dying trees removed and the wood was donated to the Juvenile Department.
- The signs at Santana Park were vandalized with graffiti and Russ sprayed them with the Vandal-proof coating and the graffiti peeled right off. Russ will do this to all the signs this winter during the closure of the parks.
- Amenity improvements: Russ would like to improve the BBQ pits and the picnic tables at the parks that need it. Russ showed a picture of trash containers that he will have the Juvenile Department build.
- Eagle Scout Projects: Alan Haley's Son did the work at Auburn Park to install the Fall Zone, concrete pad for picnic tables, and the backstop. Two Scouts worked at Bonesteele Park: One of the Scouts connected the Woodland Trail to the Prairie Trail and almost all the way across the back of the park with a new trail. The other Scout did some trail work and also built two raptor perches. Another Eagle Scout candidate wants to also work on the trails and build a couple Owl boxes.
- Auburn Park: The playground is in. The picnic table is in. The next phase will be to spray for broad leaf. Compost will be delivered and the Juvenile crew will spread it and seed the lawn.

DETERMINE DATE AND TIME FOR NEXT PC MEETING

- **Tuesday, January 23, 2007, 9am – 12pm– Juvenile Market Place – 3100 Center Street.**
- **Agenda for next meeting will be sent out once it is finished.**

<p>MOTION: A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded. Results: The motion was passed. Meeting adjourned at 12:15 pm.</p>
