



MARION COUNTY PARKS COMMISSION MINUTES OF THE MEETING

September 12, 2017, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

North Santiam Room at 5155 Silverton Road NE, Salem, Oregon

Members Present: Sandy Grulkey, Marty Heyen, George Moeller, Wayne Rawlins, Ben Williams, Kyleen Zimmer

Members Absent: Ryan Mann

Public/Guests: None

Staff Present: Russ Dilley, Brian May

ADMINISTRATIVE (Information/Discussion/Action) Call to Order: 10:00 a.m.

Approval of July 11, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Marty made a motion to approve the July 11, 2017, meeting minutes as submitted. Kyleen seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Public Input

None.

Commission Member Announcements and Upcoming Events

Sandy said attended a Neighborhood Watch meeting in Scotts Mills, and talked about the Parks Master Plan (PMP) and the need for community input, which was well received. She said she spoke about their problem with vandalism which required the county park to close early last year and told community members they all had to take responsibility for contacting the Sheriff's Office when they saw something happening. Sandy said the sheriff's deputy who was attending the meeting thanked Sandy and the parks commission. She said she also attended the Scotts Mills City Council meeting where she introduced the Safe Parks Zone and spoke about the PMP, and asked for the council's input. She said attended the next city council meeting and over 100 people attended because the topic was safety in the park. Sandy said the captain of the Neighborhood Watch spoke that she is in favor of investigating a Park Safe Zone. She said community members want to see the turnout on Crooked Finger Road removed because there is some thinking that it is used for parking when the park is closed. Sandy said she is also spearheading an effort to raise funds to replace the damaged park sign with one that represents the environment, pioneers, and immigrants. She said about 400 people viewed the eclipse from the park and it was very well controlled.

Marty said September is National Preparedness Month. She said she is a member of Marion County CERT and experts are predicting that there is a 40-50% chance that a major earthquake will occur within the next 50 years. She reminded everyone they should have 2-3 weeks of food and water stored in the event this happens.

George announced that this is his last meeting. He said he has a bucket list of travel plans and wants to do this while he still can. Russ presented George with a certificate of recognition for his 10 years of service on the Marion County Parks Commission. George said during his tenure the commission did the PMP, which was a big undertaking, and created the Bear Creek Campground. He said the campground was a great accomplishment and acknowledged Russ' push to make that happen. George said the board of commissioners' focus on parks was also much appreciated. He wished everyone good luck on their future service on the commission.

Wayne thanked Russ and Brian for the parks tour, and said he was thankful there weren't wildfires in any of the county parks. Kyleen said she was sorry she missed the tour and has been visiting the parks on her own.

Ben gave an update on the Butteville Landing. He said the community launched a capital campaign and has raised about \$12,000 and submitted grant requests to the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund, Oregon Community Foundation, and Schwemm Family Foundation. He said the Juvenile crew has done clean-up and brush removal and when grant funding becomes available they will be ready to proceed. Kyleen asked what was intended from this project. Ben said they have engineering plans for a walkway, seating/picnic area, and eventually a gangway and boat ramp. He said the project has received a lot of support from the public works director, parks staff, and the parks commission.

NATIONAL FITNESS CAMPAIGN PRESENTATION

Brian and Russ presented a video from the National Fitness Campaign, which highlighted a proposed partnership with Marion County for a Community Fitness Court. After some discussion, the commissioners agreed that a fitness court would be better suited for a City of Salem park such as Riverfront, which would provide better traffic patterns as it is closer to the downtown corridor.

MASTER PLAN DISCUSSION

The commission continued to review and update the previous list of recommendations for individual county parks within the Parks Master Plan. The remaining parks not reviewed at the previous meeting were discussed and listed projects were appropriately marked as completed, deferred or removed. By the end of the discussion, all parks had been reviewed.

FUTURE TOPICS / EMERGING ISSUES / OTHER BUSINESS

Staff Updates

- Russ said the seasonal staff was continuing to accomplish many projects that were sorely needed. Buildings were getting a fresh coat of paint, older faded signs were being replaced with new signs, and sign posts were being painted. Due to fee collection boxes being stolen along the North Fork Corridor, seasonal staff was scheduled for later shifts in order to remove the fee boxes at night. Staff would then replace the boxes during the morning shift. The Bear Creek Camp host unexpectedly quit at the end of July and a temporary host was found for a two week period. As of now, there is no host at the campground and staff is making regular rounds to accommodate the campers.

Other Business

There was no other business from the commission.

Future Topics

- Discuss Parks Master Plan
- 2018-19 Budget Recommendations

ADJOURN: 11:45 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: November 14, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. in the North Santiam Room (1st Floor) at Public Works.