

**MARION COUNTY
Parks Commission
Meeting Minutes**

Date: Thursday, January 19, 2023
Time: 3:00pm – 5:00pm
Location: Zoom or Willamette Conference Room at Public Works, 5155 Silverton Road NE

Present: **Members:** Wayne Rawlins, Bob Emanuel, Katy Waid, Herschel Sangster, Alton Hoover, Marisa Roskelley
Members Present Via Zoom: None.

Absent: Chris Teichroew, Steve Staten, Malcolm Aquinas

Staff: Tom Kissinger, Natalie Tomaszewski, Brian Nicholas, Commissioner Cameron

Guests: Jim Day – Canyon Weekly, Kathy Rogers

Quorum: Yes

ADMINISTRATIVE (Information/Discussion/Action)

Wayne called the meeting to order @ 3:04 p.m.

Member and Staff introductions: Members and staff were introduced.

Attendance/Rollcall: Done.

Agenda Changes: None.

Approval of November 17, 2022 minutes

Motion: Herschel made a motion to accept minutes with the noted changes. Al seconded.

Discussion: None.

Result: A voice vote is unanimous – motion passes.

Public Comment:

None.

Parkdale Project Update

Tom gave a brief overview of the previous Parkdale project update where a discussion of public outreach took place. Since that meeting, the plan has been reviewed and taken to the Board of Commissioners for review. That plan was then presented to the East Salem Service District (ESSD) Advisory Committee where Tom walked them through the process for the coming months with public surveys, notices and town hall meetings.

Future scheduled meetings regarding Parkdale include the regular service district meeting on the 24th, along with a town hall meeting on the 26th at People's Church.

The goal is to start sharing the plan with the community and to give them an opportunity to provide feedback. Tom then shared the Parkdale Hub where project updates, meeting information, survey results and information can be found for the park. He also went over the project amenities, goals and timeline for Parkdale.

Kathy clarified that the meeting on the 26th is not a town hall, but it's a nextdoor neighborhood monthly meeting. She commented that she loved the format for the Parkdale project page and stated that parking is a need for the seniors, disabled and mothers with small children. Kathy thanked Tom for everything he's done and for working with her on some of this stuff.

Katy asked if there was going to be a QR linked to webpage; Tom stated there will be and they are gathering emails for outreach as well.

Santiam Canyon Recovery Plan

Tom gave an overview of the public outreach portion of the Santiam Canyon. This project will also have a hub that shows the restoration, recreation side of things and maps, along with having some neighborhood meetings, local meetings with residents and a survey. This project will also have a hub but it wasn't done at the time of this meeting.

They are meeting with their communication consultant next week to help develop the survey and make sure its reaching the right audience, especially focusing on the two main groups which are the residents that live near these parks and the visitors who come from all over.

Tom discussed the Santiam Canyon Recovery Plan, which was sent for review last November, with the Commission. The next steps, after approval from the Parks Commission, would be a recommending approval to the Board of Commissioners with a public hearing and then adopting this as an amendment to the existing master plan. This adoption would open the door for grants because some of them require the plan to be part of an approved master plan.

Approval of the Santiam Canyon Recovery Plan

Motion: Al made a motion to accept the Santiam Canyon Recovery Plan and recommend it to the County Board of Commissioners. Bob seconded.

Discussion: Katy asked about the complementary and interdependent definitions in the grid; Tom stated there's things particularly on the restoration side that have to happen in sequence or together for access purposes. Katy asked about the walk in campgrounds; Tom explained that people park in the parking lot and walk into the campsite, like at North Santiam campground.

Marissa commented on the market assessment and low-income families; Tom stated that was something they could discuss in the future. She also stated that the document never mentioned parking for motorcycles; Tom commented that was a great idea and thanked her.

Katy asked if there were items within the plan that would be fleshed out at a later date, such as the ride sharing; Tom confirmed these would be fleshed out a later date.

Bob asked if there would be an update on the website for the parks since it just stated they're closed; Tom stated there will be a Hub for all the parks, just like Parkdale has, and it's in the work.

Result: A voice vote is unanimous – motion passes.

Parks Naming Procedure

Tom shared that the policy has been approved by the Board of Commissioners as of January 4th. The next step would be the implementation side of things.

Wayne gave an overview on the reasoning behind creating the Parks Naming Procedure.

Tom suggested utilizing the same subcommittee as before for any considerations for naming parks and the previous subcommittee members agreed to participate. Wayne stated that they have a list of names for the past considerations that they weren't able to accommodate.

Commissioner Cameron thanked the Commission for the work that was done on that process and it was received well by the Commissioners.

2023 Goals and Retreat

Wayne brought up the idea of a retreat for the Parks Commission to plan for future projects.

Tom commented that the Parks Commission has reached a point where they need to decide what to work on next and that gives staff a target to shoot for. Tom suggested having other organizations such as Oregon Recreation and Parks Association or other parks entities come talk to the Commission. This would be about a half day commitment. Wayne endorsed Riverbend park as a location to visit.

Katy commented that she would really like the lecture series idea or the tour of Riverbend. Tom shared that if they did Riverbend, they would take a tour of the facilities and the lecture series is whoever the Commission wants to hear from.

Wayne would like this to give the Commission the opportunity to share their thoughts without worrying about a time limit. Herschel commented that he would like to hear more about biking in Linn County.

Al talked about thinking about the Parks Commission as a business; Tom commented that Brian Carroll gave him language to talk about it as a foundation.

Katy commented that she would love to hear from people at state parks in our area, especially along 22 and would like to discuss pre wildlife conditions and what they are doing to plan for the increase in visitors.

Commissioner Cameron stated that was a great idea. He shared that there are other groups around Detroit such as the Detroit Lake Foundation and whether it be a joint meeting with State Parks and U.S. Forest Service.

Herschel suggested April-May for a timeframe; Katy seconded.

Marissa stated that the public would like a way to engage with the Parks Commission and suggested a QR code to ask questions, report a problem and make suggestions could be posted in the parks. Tom stated that could happen in the future.

Commissioner Roundtable

Bob is glad they are going to meeting for general discussion and outlook for the future.

Al loves the idea of a retreat and fleshing out a longer term view.

Herschel is very supportive of the goal setting concept to brainstorm. He also gave an update on the City of Keizer ODOT Microgrant for bike racks. He shared there is a life skills event with the Keizer Police Department in June and the City of Keizer is going to have a 40th celebration in June with all sorts of different activities.

Katy is excited about the retreat idea.

Marissa asked about bringing dogs to the retreat; Tom stated it just depends on the location.

Wayne asked if the County Commissioners town hall meeting in December had ever been rescheduled; Tom shared it was being reschedule and that's one of our public outreach meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10pm.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, March 16, 2023 @ 3:00 p.m.